



# Status of Children Act 1978

Reprinted as in force on 1 February 2004

Reprint No. 1C\*

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This Act is reprinted as at 1 February 2004. The reprint shows the law as amended by all amendments that commenced on or before that day (Reprints Act 1992 s 5(c)).

The reprint includes a reference to the law by which each amendment was made—see list of legislation and list of annotations in endnotes. Also see list of legislation for any uncommenced amendments.

Minor editorial changes allowed under the provisions of the Reprints Act 1992 have also been made to use aspects of format and printing style consistent with current drafting practice (s 35).

This page is specific to this reprint. See previous reprints for information about earlier changes made under the Reprints Act 1992. A table of reprints is included in the endnotes.

**Also see endnotes for information about—**

- **when provisions commenced**
- **editorial changes made in earlier reprints.**

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Queensland

# Status of Children Act 1978

## Contents

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		Page
<b>Part 1</b>	<b>Preliminary</b>	
1	Short title . . . . .	3
1A	Application of Act . . . . .	3
1B	Act binds all persons . . . . .	3
2	Definitions . . . . .	4
2A	Meaning of parentage testing procedure . . . . .	4
<b>Part 2</b>	<b>Status of children</b>	
3	All children to be of equal status . . . . .	5
6	Protection of executors, administrators and trustees . . . . .	5
7	Recognition of paternity . . . . .	6
9	Filing of certain instruments with Registrar-General . . . . .	7
10	Declaration of paternity . . . . .	8
11	Order requiring evidence to be given about paternity or parentage testing procedure to be carried out . . . . .	9
11A	Parentage testing procedure reports . . . . .	10
12	Inadmissibility of acknowledgment of paternity or certified copy as evidence in criminal proceedings . . . . .	11
<b>Part 3</b>	<b>Parentage of children</b>	
<b>Division 1</b>	<b>Application</b>	
14	Application . . . . .	12
<b>Division 2</b>	<b>Parentage presumptions of children conceived by fertilisation procedures</b>	
14A	Interpretation for div 2 . . . . .	13
15	Artificial insemination—Presumption as to status . . . . .	13
16	Implantation procedure—Presumption as to status where donor semen used . . . . .	14
17	Implantation procedure—Presumption as to status where donor ovum used . . . . .	14
18	Donor of semen used in artificial insemination of certain women . . . . .	16

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<b>Division 3</b>	<b>Other parentage presumptions</b>	
18A	Parentage presumptions arising from marriage . . . . .	16
18B	Parentage presumption arising from birth registration . . . . .	17
18C	Parentage presumption arising from court finding . . . . .	17
18D	Paternity presumption arising from acknowledgments . . . . .	18
18E	Paternity presumption arising from cohabitation . . . . .	18
<b>Division 4</b>	<b>Other provisions about presumptions</b>	
18F	Rebuttal of presumptions . . . . .	18
18G	Resolution of conflicting presumptions . . . . .	19
<b>Part 4</b>	<b>Miscellaneous provisions</b>	
19	Approval of forms . . . . .	19
20	Regulation-making power . . . . .	19
21	Numbering and renumbering of Act . . . . .	19
<b>Part 5</b>	<b>Transitional provisions</b>	
<b>Division 1</b>	<b>Transitional provisions for Status of Children Act 1978</b>	
22	Documents executed before commencement of Act . . . . .	20
23	Intestacies taking place before commencement of Act . . . . .	20
<b>Division 2</b>	<b>Transitional provision for Status of Children Amendment Act 2001</b>	
24	Proceedings . . . . .	20
<b>Endnotes</b>		
1	Index to endnotes . . . . .	21
2	Date to which amendments incorporated . . . . .	21
3	Key . . . . .	22
4	Table of reprints . . . . .	22
5	Tables in earlier reprints . . . . .	22
6	List of legislation . . . . .	23
7	List of annotations . . . . .	23
8	List of forms notified or published in the gazette . . . . .	26

## **Status of Children Act 1978**

[as amended by all amendments that commenced on or before 1 February 2004]

**An Act to remove the legal disabilities of children born out of wedlock and to declare with respect to the parentage of children**

### **Part 1 Preliminary**

#### **1 Short title**

This Act may be cited as the *Status of Children Act 1978*.

#### **1A Application of Act**

This Act applies to a person, whether or not—

- (a) the person—
  - (i) was born in the State; or
  - (ii) was born before or after the commencement of this section; or
  - (iii) is a child; or
- (b) the person's father or mother has ever been domiciled in the State.

#### **1B Act binds all persons**

This Act binds all persons, including the State, and, so far as the legislative power of the Parliament permits, the Commonwealth and the other States.

## 2 Definitions

In this Act—

***marriage*** includes a void marriage and a voidable marriage that has been annulled by a court.

***nominated reporter*** means the person nominated by a laboratory to prepare a parentage testing procedure report in relation to a parentage testing procedure carried out at the laboratory.

***parentage testing order*** see section 11(2)(b).

***parentage testing procedure*** see section 2A.

***parentage testing procedure report*** see section 11A(1).

***prescribed court*** see section 18C(1)(a).

***prescribed overseas jurisdiction*** has the meaning given by the *Family Law Act 1975* (Cwlth).<sup>1</sup>

### 2A Meaning of ***parentage testing procedure***

- (1) A ***parentage testing procedure*** is a physical or other test carried out on a person involving the application of medical science for the purpose of obtaining evidence about paternity.
- (2) A parentage testing procedure includes the taking of tissue, fluid or other bodily sample from a person and the scientific examination of the samples.
- (3) The following medical procedures are also parentage testing procedures—
  - (a) red cell antigen blood grouping;
  - (b) red cell enzyme blood grouping;
  - (c) human leucocyte antigen tissue typing;
  - (d) testing for serum markers;
  - (e) DNA typing.

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<sup>1</sup> See the *Family Law Act 1975* (Cwlth), section 4 (Interpretation) and the *Family Law Regulations 1984* (Cwlth), section 39B(2) (Extension of provisions of Act).

## **Part 2                      Status of children**

### **3                      All children to be of equal status**

- (1) For all the purposes of the law of the State, the relationship between every person and the person's father and mother shall be determined irrespective of whether the father and mother are or have been married to each other and all other relationships shall be determined accordingly.
- (2) The rule of construction whereby in a document, in the absence of a contrary expression of intention, words of relationship signify only legitimate relationship is abolished.
- (3) For the purpose of construing a document, the use, with reference to relationship of a person, of the word 'legitimate' or 'lawful' shall not of itself prevent the relationship from being determined in accordance with the provisions of subsection (1).

### **6                      Protection of executors, administrators and trustees**

- (1) For the purposes of the administration or distribution of an estate or of property held on trust or of an application under Part 4 of the *Succession Act 1981* or for any other purposes, an executor, administrator or trustee is not under any obligation to inquire as to the existence of any person who could claim an interest in the estate or the property by reason only of the provisions of this Act.
- (2) Action shall not lie against an executor of the will or administrator or trustee of the estate of any person or the trustee under a document by any person who could claim an interest in the estate or property by reason only of any of the provisions of this Act to enforce a claim arising by reason of the executor, administrator or trustee having made any distribution of the estate or of the property held upon trust or otherwise acted in the administration of the estate or property held on trust disregarding the claims of that person where at the time of making the distribution or otherwise so acting the executor, administrator or trustee had no notice of the relationship on which the claim is based.

## **7 Recognition of paternity**

- (1) The relationship of father and child and any other relationship traced in any degree through that relationship shall, for any purpose related to succession to property or to the construction of a will or other testamentary disposition or of a document creating a trust or for the purpose of an application under Part 4 of the *Succession Act 1981*, be recognised only if—
  - (a) the father and mother of the child were married to each other at the time of its conception or at some subsequent time; or
  - (b) paternity has been admitted (expressly or by implication) by or established against the father in his lifetime and, if that purpose is for the benefit of the father, paternity has been so admitted or established while the child was living; or
  - (c) a declaration of paternity has been made under section 10 after the death of the father of the child.
- (2) In a case where by reason of the provisions of subsection (1) the relationship of father and child is not recognised at the time the child is born, the occurrence of any act, event or conduct that enables that relationship and any other relationship traced in any degree through it to be recognised shall not affect any estate, right or interest in real or personal property to which any person has become absolutely entitled, whether beneficially or otherwise, before the act, event or conduct occurred.
- (3) Where the event that enables a relationship to be recognised under subsection (1) is a declaration of paternity made under section 10 after the death of the father, the declaration shall, for the purposes of subsection (2), be taken to have been made immediately before the death of the father if the declaration is made in consequence of an application therefor made before the death of the father or within 6 months (or such further time as the Supreme Court upon application duly made in that behalf allows) after the death of the father.

**9 Filing of certain instruments with Registrar-General**

- (1) A document mentioned in section 18D or a copy of it certified as prescribed may, in the prescribed manner and on payment of the prescribed fee (if any), be filed in the office of the Registrar-General.
- (2) The Registrar-General shall cause indexes of all documents and copies filed with the Registrar-General under subsection (1) to be made and kept in the Registrar-General's office and shall, upon request made by or on behalf of a party to a document so filed or a child referred to therein or a guardian or relative of that child, cause a search of any such index to be made and shall, if the Registrar-General is satisfied that the person making the request has a proper interest in the matter, permit that person to inspect a document or copy so filed.
- (3) Where the Supreme Court makes a declaration of paternity under section 10 or revokes a declaration so made or a court makes an order under section 14 or 16 of the *Maintenance Act 1965* or annuls an order so made, the registrar of the Supreme Court or clerk of the court shall forward to the Registrar-General an office copy or, as the case requires, a certified copy of the declaration, revocation, order or annulment and upon receipt thereof the Registrar-General shall file the copy as if it were a document of the kind referred to in section 18D.
- (4) Where the Registrar-General refuses a request—
  - (a) to cause to be made a search of any index made and kept in accordance with subsection (2); or
  - (b) to permit a person to inspect a document or copy filed in accordance with subsection (1);the person aggrieved by such refusal may make an application to the court for an order calling upon the Registrar-General to show cause why the request should not be granted.
- (4A) The application shall be supported by an affidavit of the facts.
- (4B) An order made pursuant to subsection (4) shall be returnable before the court on the date and at the time specified therein and shall be served upon the Registrar-General.
- (4C) Upon the return of the order the court may, if the Registrar-General fails to show good cause against it, make

the order absolute but otherwise may discharge the order and in either case may make such other orders including an order as to costs as the court thinks fit, but an order for costs shall not be made against the Registrar-General if the court is satisfied that at the time of the refusal of the request, the Registrar-General had reasonable grounds therefor.

(4D) The Registrar-General shall comply with the terms of an order absolute made in accordance with subsection (4C).

(5) In this section—

*registrar-general* means the registrar under the *Births, Deaths and Marriages Registration Act 2003*.

## 10 Declaration of paternity

(1) A person who—

- (a) alleges that any named person is the father of her child; or
- (b) alleges that the relationship of father and child exists between him and another named person; or
- (c) having a proper interest in the result, wishes to have determined the question whether the relationship of father and child exists between 2 named persons;

may apply to the Supreme Court for a declaration of paternity and that Court may, if it is proved to its satisfaction that the relationship exists, make such declaration whether the father or the child or both of them is or are living or dead.

(2) Where a declaration is made under subsection (1) after the death of the father or child, the Court may at the same or a subsequent time make a declaration determining for the purposes of section 7(2) whether any and if so which of the requirements of section 7(1)(b) have been satisfied.

(3) Where a declaration is made under subsection (1) and it is made to appear to the Court that new facts or circumstances have arisen that have not previously been disclosed to the Court and could not by the exercise of reasonable diligence have previously been known or if for any other reason the Court thinks it desirable so to do, the Court may revoke the

declaration and thereupon that declaration shall cease to have any force or effect.

- (4) The Court shall not make or revoke a declaration under this section unless the Court is satisfied that, so far as is reasonably practicable, all persons whose interests are or may be affected by the declaration or revocation are represented before or have been given the opportunity of making representations to the Court upon the subject matter of the proceedings.
- (5) For a criminal proceeding, a declaration having effect under this section is conclusive evidence of the matters contained in it, unless the contrary is established.

## **11 Order requiring evidence to be given about paternity or parentage testing procedure to be carried out**

- (1) This section applies to a proceeding in relation to an application under section 10.
- (2) The court may make the following orders—
  - (a) an order requiring a named person to give evidence material to any question in issue in the proceeding;
  - (b) an order directing a named person to submit himself or herself or a child or adult mentioned in subsection (4)(b) or (c), within the time stated in the order, to the carrying out of a parentage testing procedure on himself or herself or the child or adult (a *parentage testing order*).
- (3) The order may be subject to conditions.
- (4) A parentage testing procedure must not be carried out on a person under a parentage testing order unless—
  - (a) if the person does not have impaired capacity and is an adult or is a child who is 16 or 17 years—the person consents to the carrying out of the procedure; or
  - (b) if the person is a child who is under 16 years or is a child who is 16 or 17 years with impaired capacity—the child's parent or guardian or a person exercising parental responsibility in relation to the child consents to the carrying out of the procedure; or

- (c) if the person is an adult with impaired capacity—a person who may exercise powers in relation to personal matters for the adult under a power of attorney under the *Powers of Attorney Act 1998*, or a guardian for the adult under the *Guardianship and Administration Act 2000*, consents to the carrying out of the procedure.
- (5) If a person fails to take any step required of the person for giving effect to a parentage testing order, the court may draw whatever inferences from that fact the court considers appropriate in the circumstances.
- (6) For subsection (5), a person is taken to have failed to take a step required of the person for giving effect to a parentage testing order if the person—
  - (a) is named in the order; and
  - (b) fails to consent to a parentage testing procedure being carried out on—
    - (i) himself or herself; or
    - (ii) a child or adult mentioned in subsection (4)(b) or (c) named in the order.
- (7) However, the person is not liable to any penalty in relation to the contravention.
- (8) In this section—

***impaired capacity*** means capacity that is impaired capacity under the *Guardianship and Administration Act 2000*.

***personal matter*** means a matter that is a personal matter under the *Powers of Attorney Act 1998*.

## **11A Parentage testing procedure reports**

- (1) The nominated reporter must prepare and give to the court a report in the approved form in relation to information obtained as a result of the carrying out of a parentage testing procedure under a parentage testing order (a ***parentage testing procedure report***).
- (2) The report must be prepared in accordance with the requirements prescribed under a regulation.

- (3) The report may be received in evidence in a proceeding under this Act.
- (4) A party to the proceeding—
  - (a) with leave of the court, may; or
  - (b) if the court directs, must;  
ask the nominated reporter to give a written statement explaining or expanding on any statement made in the report.
- (5) The nominated reporter must comply with the request.
- (6) The statement given in compliance with the request is taken to form part of the report.
- (7) If a report is received in evidence, the court may make an order requiring the nominated reporter, or any person whose evidence may be relevant in relation to the report, to appear before the court and give evidence in relation to the report.
- (8) The court may make an order under subsection (6)—
  - (a) on its own initiative; or
  - (b) on the request of a party to the proceeding.

## **12 Inadmissibility of acknowledgment of paternity or certified copy as evidence in criminal proceedings**

- (1) An acknowledgment by a person that he is the father of a child made for the purposes of section 25 of the *Registration of Births, Deaths and Marriages Act 1962* or section 18D of this Act shall not be admissible in criminal proceedings against that person as evidence to show that he has had or has attempted to have carnal knowledge of the mother of the child.
- (2) Notwithstanding section 18 of the *Registration of Births, Deaths and Marriages Act 1962* and section 18B of this Act, a certified copy of an entry of the name of the father of a child purporting to be made or given under section 22 of the *Registration of Births, Deaths and Marriages Act 1962* or a law of the Commonwealth, a State or a prescribed overseas jurisdiction shall not be admissible in criminal proceedings against the person whose name is so entered as evidence to

show that he has had or has attempted to have carnal knowledge of the mother of the child.

## **Part 3                      Parentage of children**

### **Division 1                Application**

#### **14            Application**

- (1) The provisions of division 2 apply—
  - (a) in respect of a pregnancy referred to in section 15, 16 or 17, whether the pregnancy occurred before or after the passing of the *Status of Children Act Amendment Act 1988* and whether or not it resulted from a procedure carried out in Queensland; and
  - (b) in respect of any child born as a result of a pregnancy referred to in section 15, 16 or 17, whether or not the child was born before or after the passing of the *Status of Children Act Amendment Act 1988*.
- (2) Nothing in any provision of division 2 affects the vesting in possession or in interest of any property that occurred before the passing of the *Status of Children Act Amendment Act 1988*.
- (3) Divisions 3 and 4 apply to happenings before or after the commencement of the divisions.

*Example of a 'happening'—*

The registration of the birth of a child.

## **Division 2                      Parentage presumptions of children conceived by fertilisation procedures**

### **14A      Interpretation for div 2**

- (1) A reference in this division to a married woman includes reference to a woman who is living with a man as his wife on a bona fide domestic basis although not married to him.
- (2) A reference (however expressed) in this division to the husband or wife of a person—
  - (a) is, in the case where the person is living with another person of the opposite sex as his or her husband or wife on a bona fide domestic basis although not married to that other person, a reference to that other person; and
  - (b) does not, in that case, include reference to the husband or wife (if any) to whom the person is actually married.

### **15      Artificial insemination—Presumption as to status**

- (1) A reference in this section to a fertilisation procedure is a reference to the artificial insemination of a woman where the semen used for the artificial insemination—
  - (a) was produced by a man other than her husband; or
  - (b) was a mixture of semen, part of which was produced by a man other than her husband and part of which was produced by her husband.
- (2) Where a married woman, in accordance with the consent of her husband, has undergone a fertilisation procedure as a result of which she has become pregnant—
  - (a) the husband shall be presumed, for all purposes, to have caused the pregnancy and to be the father of any child born as a result of the pregnancy; and
  - (b) any man, not being her husband, who produced semen used for the procedure shall, for all purposes, be presumed not to have caused the pregnancy and not to be the father of any child born as a result of the pregnancy.

- (3) A presumption of law that arises by virtue of subsection (2) is irrebuttable.
- (4) In any proceedings in which the operation of subsection (2) is relevant, a husband's consent to the carrying out of a fertilisation procedure in respect of his wife shall be presumed but that presumption is rebuttable.

**16 Implantation procedure—Presumption as to status where donor semen used**

- (1) A reference in this section to a fertilisation procedure is a reference to the procedure of implanting in the womb of a woman an embryo derived from an ovum produced by her and fertilised outside her body by semen produced by a man other than her husband.
- (2) Where a married woman, in accordance with the consent of her husband, has undergone a fertilisation procedure as a result of which she has become pregnant—
  - (a) the husband shall be presumed, for all purposes, to have produced the semen used for the fertilisation of the ovum used in the procedure and to be the father of any child born as a result of the pregnancy; and
  - (b) the man who produced the semen used for the fertilisation of the ovum used in the procedure shall, for all purposes, be presumed not to have produced the semen and not to be the father of any child born as a result of the pregnancy.
- (3) A presumption of law that arises by virtue of subsection (2) is irrebuttable.
- (4) In any proceedings in which the operation of subsection (2) is relevant, a husband's consent to the carrying out of a fertilisation procedure in respect of his wife shall be presumed but that presumption is rebuttable.

**17 Implantation procedure—Presumption as to status where donor ovum used**

- (1) A reference in this section to a fertilisation procedure is a reference to the procedure of implanting in the womb of a

woman an embryo derived from an ovum produced by another woman and fertilised by—

- (a) semen produced by the husband of the first mentioned woman; or
  - (b) semen produced by a man other than the husband of the first mentioned woman.
- (2) Where a married woman, in accordance with the consent of her husband, has undergone a fertilisation procedure as a result of which she has become pregnant—
- (a) the married woman shall be presumed, for all purposes, to have become pregnant as a result of the fertilisation of an ovum produced by her and to be the mother of any child born as a result of the pregnancy; and
  - (b) the woman who produced the ovum from which the embryo used in the procedure was derived shall be presumed, for all purposes, not to be the mother of any child born as a result of the pregnancy; and
  - (c) where the semen used for the fertilisation of the ovum from which the embryo used in the procedure was derived was produced by the husband of the married woman, the husband shall be presumed, for all purposes, to be the father of any child born as a result of the pregnancy; and
  - (d) where the semen used for the fertilisation of the ovum from which the embryo used in the procedure was derived was produced by a man other than the husband of the married woman—
    - (i) the husband shall be presumed, for all purposes, to have produced the semen and to be the father of any child born as a result of the pregnancy; and
    - (ii) the man who produced the semen shall be presumed, for all purposes, not to have produced the semen and not to be the father of any child born as a result of the pregnancy.
- (3) A presumption of law that arises by virtue of subsection (2) is irrebuttable.

- (4) In any proceedings in which the operation of subsection (2) is relevant, a husband's consent to the carrying out of a fertilisation procedure in respect of his wife shall be presumed but that presumption is rebuttable.

### **18 Donor of semen used in artificial insemination of certain women**

- (1) Where semen is used in a procedure of artificial insemination of a woman who is not married or of a married woman otherwise than in accordance with the consent of her husband, the man who produced the semen has no rights or liabilities in respect of a child born as a result of a pregnancy occurring by reason of the use of semen unless, at any time, he becomes the husband of the child's mother.
- (2) The rights and liabilities of a man who becomes the husband of the mother of a child born as a result of a pregnancy referred to in subsection (1) are the rights and liabilities of a father of a child but, in the absence of agreement to the contrary, are restricted to rights and liabilities that arise after the man becomes the husband of the child's mother.

## **Division 3 Other parentage presumptions**

### **18A Parentage presumptions arising from marriage**

- (1) A child born to a woman while she is married is presumed to be the child of the woman and her husband.
- (2) If a child is born to a woman within 44 weeks after her husband dies, the child is presumed to be the child of the woman and her deceased husband.
- (3) If a child is born to a woman within 44 weeks after her purported marriage is annulled, the child is presumed to be the child of the woman and her purported husband.
- (4) A child is presumed to be the child of a woman and her former husband if—
- (a) when they are married, they separate, resume cohabitation on a single occasion and, within 3 months

after resuming cohabitation, separate again and live separately and apart; and

- (b) after the dissolution of the marriage, but within 44 weeks after the cohabitation ends, the child is born to the woman.
- (5) A presumption under this section is rebuttable.

### **18B Parentage presumption arising from birth registration**

- (1) If, under a law of the Commonwealth, a State or a prescribed overseas jurisdiction, a person is named as a child's parent in a register of births or parentage information, the person is presumed to be the child's parent.
- (2) The presumption in subsection (1) is rebuttable.

### **18C Parentage presumption arising from court finding**

- (1) A person is presumed to be a child's parent if, while the person is alive—
  - (a) a court of the Commonwealth, a State or a prescribed overseas jurisdiction (a *prescribed court*) expressly finds that the person is the child's parent; and
  - (b) the finding is not altered, set aside or reversed.
- (2) The presumption in subsection (1) is irrebuttable.
- (3) A person is presumed to have been a child's parent if, after the person dies—
  - (a) a prescribed court expressly finds that the person was the child's parent; and
  - (b) the finding is not altered, set aside or reversed.
- (4) The presumption in subsection (3) is rebuttable.
- (5) In this section, a reference to a court finding includes the following—
  - (a) a declaration under section 10 of this Act;

- (b) an order under the *Maintenance Act 1965*, section 14 or 16;<sup>2</sup>
- (c) another court declaration or order that a stated person is a stated child's parent.

### **18D Paternity presumption arising from acknowledgments**

- (1) A man is presumed to be the father of a child if—
  - (a) under a law of the Commonwealth, a State or a prescribed overseas jurisdiction, the man signs a document acknowledging that he is a stated child's father; and
  - (b) the document is not annulled or otherwise set aside.
- (2) The presumption in subsection (1) is rebuttable.

### **18E Paternity presumption arising from cohabitation**

- (1) A child born to a woman is presumed to be a man's child if, during the period starting 44 weeks and ending 20 weeks before the birth, the man and woman cohabit, but are not married.
- (2) The presumption in subsection (1) is rebuttable.

## **Division 4 Other provisions about presumptions**

### **18F Rebuttal of presumptions**

A presumption under this part that is rebuttable is rebuttable on the balance of probabilities.

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<sup>2</sup> *Maintenance Act 1965*, section 14 (Court may order unmarried father to maintain child) or 16 (Court may order payment of preliminary expenses etc.)

**18G Resolution of conflicting presumptions**

- (1) If presumptions under this part are relevant in a proceeding and 2 or more of the presumptions conflict and are not rebutted, the presumption appearing to the court to be the most likely to be correct prevails.
- (2) However, if the conflicting presumptions include a presumption under section 18C(1), the presumption under section 18C(1) prevails.<sup>3</sup>

**Part 4 Miscellaneous provisions****19 Approval of forms**

The chief executive may approve forms for use under this Act.

**20 Regulation-making power**

- (1) The Governor in Council may make regulations under this Act.
- (2) Without limiting subsection (1), a regulation may be made about—
  - (a) the carrying out of parentage testing procedures under a parentage testing order; and
  - (b) the preparation of parentage testing procedure reports; and
  - (c) fees.

**21 Numbering and renumbering of Act**

In the next reprint of this Act produced under the *Reprints Act 1992*, the provisions of this Act must be numbered and renumbered as permitted by the *Reprints Act 1992*, section 43.

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<sup>3</sup> Section 18C (Parentage presumption arising from court finding)

## **Part 5                      Transitional provisions**

### **Division 1                      Transitional provisions for Status of Children Act 1978**

#### **22                      Documents executed before commencement of Act**

- (1) All documents executed before the commencement of this Act shall be governed by the enactments, rules of construction and law that would have applied to them if this Act had not been passed.
- (2) Where a document to which subsection (1) applies creates a special power of appointment, nothing in this Act shall extend the class of persons in whose favour the appointment may be made or cause the exercise of the power to be construed so as to include any person who is not a member of that class.

#### **23                      Intestacies taking place before commencement of Act**

The estate of a person who dies intestate as to the whole or any part of the person's estate before the commencement of this Act shall be distributed in accordance with the enactments and rules of law that would have applied to the estate if this Act had not been passed.

### **Division 2                      Transitional provision for Status of Children Amendment Act 2001**

#### **24                      Proceedings**

The Act, as in force immediately before the commencement of this section, continues to apply to a proceeding started before the commencement.

## Endnotes

### 1 Index to endnotes

	Page
2 Date to which amendments incorporated . . . . .	21
3 Key . . . . .	22
4 Table of reprints . . . . .	22
5 Tables in earlier reprints . . . . .	22
6 List of legislation . . . . .	23
7 List of annotations . . . . .	23
8 List of forms notified or published in the gazette . . . . .	26

### 2 Date to which amendments incorporated

This is the reprint date mentioned in the Reprints Act 1992, section 5(c). Accordingly, this reprint includes all amendments that commenced operation on or before 1 February 2004. Future amendments of the Status of Children Act 1978 may be made in accordance with this reprint under the Reprints Act 1992, section 49.

### 3 Key

#### Key to abbreviations in list of legislation and annotations

Key	Explanation	Key	Explanation
AIA	= Acts Interpretation Act 1954	(prev)	= previously
amd	= amended	proc	= proclamation
amdt	= amendment	prov	= provision
ch	= chapter	pt	= part
def	= definition	pubd	= published
div	= division	R[X]	= Reprint No.[X]
exp	= expires/expired	RA	= Reprints Act 1992
gaz	= gazette	reloc	= relocated
hdg	= heading	renum	= renumbered
ins	= inserted	rep	= repealed
lap	= lapsed	(retro)	= retrospectively
notfd	= notified	rv	= revised edition
o in c	= order in council	s	= section
om	= omitted	sch	= schedule
orig	= original	sdiv	= subdivision
p	= page	SIA	= Statutory Instruments Act 1992
para	= paragraph	SIR	= Statutory Instruments Regulation 2002
prev	= previous	unnum	= unnumbered
prec	= preceding	SL	= subordinate legislation
pres	= present	sub	= substituted

### 4 Table of reprints

Reprints are issued for both future and past effective dates. For the most up-to-date table of reprints, see the reprint with the latest effective date.

If a reprint number includes a letter of the alphabet, the reprint was released in unauthorised, electronic form only.

Reprint No.	Amendments to	Effective	Reprint date
1	1988 Act No. 64	6 October 1988	23 August 1994

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Reprint No.	Amendments included	Effective	Notes
1A	2001 Act No. 17 (amd 2002 Act No. 34)	1 September 2002	
1B	2002 Act No. 74	1 April 2003	
1C	2003 Act No. 31	1 February 2004	

### 5 Tables in earlier reprints

Name of table	Reprint No.
Comparative legislation	1
Obsolete and redundant provisions	1
Renumbered provisions	1

## 6 List of legislation

**Status of Children Act 1978 No. 30**

date of assent 8 June 1978

commenced 1 January 1979 (see s 1(2))

amending legislation—

**Status of Children Act Amendment Act 1988 No. 64**

date of assent 6 October 1988

commenced on date of assent

**Status of Children Amendment Act 2001 No. 17 pts 1–2, s 3 sch (this Act is amended, see amending legislation below)**

date of assent 11 May 2001

ss 1–2 commenced on date of assent

remaining provisions commenced 1 September 2002 (2002 SL No. 222)

amending legislation—

**Justice and Other Legislation (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 2002 No. 34 ss 1, 74 sch 6 (amends 2001 No. 17 above)**

date of assent 16 August 2002

commenced on date of assent

**Discrimination Law Amendment Act 2002 No. 74 ss 1–2, 90 sch**

date of assent 13 December 2002

ss 1–2 commenced on date of assent

s 90 commenced 31 March 2003 (2003 SL No. 51)

remaining provisions commenced 1 April 2003 (2003 SL No. 51)

**Births, Deaths and Marriages Registration Act 2003 No. 31 ss 1–2, 59 sch 1**

date of assent 23 May 2003

ss 1–2 commenced on date of assent

remaining provisions commenced 1 February 2004 (2003 SL No. 360)

## 7 List of annotations

**Title** amd 1988 No. 64 s 3; 2001 No. 17 s 4**PART 1—PRELIMINARY****pt hdg** ins 1988 No. 64 s 4**Short title****s 1** sub 2001 No. 17 s 5**Application of Act****s 1A** prev s 1A ins 1988 No. 64 s 5

om R1 (see RA s 36)

pres s 1A ins 2001 No. 17 s 5

**Act binds all persons****s 1B** ins 2001 No. 17 s 5

**Definitions**

s 2           amd 1988 No. 64 s 7  
              sub 2001 No. 17 s 6 (amd 2002 No. 34 s 74 sch 6)

**Meaning of “parentage testing procedure”**

s 2A          ins 2001 No. 17 s 6

**PART 2—STATUS OF CHILDREN**

pt hdg       ins 1988 No. 64 s 6  
              reloc 2001 No. 17 s 3 sch

**All children to be of equal status**

s 3           amd 2001 No. 17 ss 7, 3 sch

**Presumption as to parenthood**

s 5           om 2001 No. 17 s 9

**Protection of executors, administrators and trustees**

s 6           amd 1988 No. 64 s 8; 2001 No. 17 s 3 sch

**Recognition of paternity**

s 7           amd 1988 No. 64 s 8; 2001 No. 17 ss 10, 3 sch

**Evidence and proof of paternity**

s 8           om 2001 No. 17 s 11

**Filing of certain instruments with Registrar-General**

s 9           amd 2001 No. 17 s 3 sch; 2003 No. 31 s 59 sch 1

**Declaration of paternity**

s 10          amd 2001 No. 17 ss 12, 3 sch

**Order requiring evidence to be given about paternity or parentage testing procedure to be carried out**

s 11          sub 2001 No. 17 s 13

**Parentage testing procedure reports**

s 11A        ins 2001 No. 17 s 13 (amd 2002 No. 34 s 74 sch 6)

**Inadmissibility of acknowledgment of paternity or certified copy as evidence in criminal proceedings**

s 12          amd 2001 No. 17 s 3 sch

**PART 3—PARENTAGE OF CHILDREN**

pt hdg       ins 1988 No. 64 s 9

**Division 1—Application**

div hdg      ins 2001 No. 17 s 14(1)

**Application**

s 14          ins 1988 No. 64 s 9  
              amd 2001 No. 17 s 16

**Division 2—Parentage presumptions of children conceived by fertilisation procedures**

div hdg      ins 2001 No. 17 s 14(2)

**Interpretation for div 2**

- prov hdg** sub 2001 No. 17 s 15(1)  
**s 14A** (prev s 13) ins 1988 No. 64 s 9  
 amd 2001 No. 17 s 15(2)  
 renum and reloc 2001 No. 17 s 15(3)  
 amd 2002 No. 74 s 90 sch

**Artificial insemination—Presumption as to status**

- s 15** ins 1988 No. 64 s 9

**Implantation procedure—Presumption as to status where donor semen used**

- s 16** ins 1988 No. 64 s 9

**Implantation procedure—Presumption as to status where donor ovum used**

- s 17** ins 1988 No. 64 s 9

**Donor of semen used in artificial insemination of certain women**

- s 18** ins 1988 No. 64 s 9

**Division 3—Other parentage presumptions**

- div 3 (ss 18A–18E)** ins 2001 No. 17 s 17

**Division 4—Other provisions about presumptions**

- div 4 (ss 18F–18G)** ins 2001 No. 17 s 17

**PART 4—MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS**

- pt hdg** ins 1988 No. 64 s 10

**Approval of forms**

- s 19** (orig s 13) renum 1988 No. 64 s 11  
 sub 2001 No. 17 s 18

**Regulation-making power**

- s 20** prev s 20 (orig s 14) renum 1988 No. 64 s 11  
 om R1 (see RA s 40)  
 pres s 20 ins 2001 No. 17 s 18

**Numbering and renumbering of Act**

- s 21** ins 2001 No. 17 s 18

**PART 5—TRANSITIONAL PROVISIONS**

- pt hdg** ins 2001 No. 17 s 18

**Division 1—Transitional provisions for Status of Children Act 1978**

- div hdg** ins 2001 No. 17 s 18

**Documents executed before commencement of Act**

- prov hdg** sub 2001 No. 17 s 8(1)  
**s 22** (prev s 4(1)–(2)) amd 2001 No. 17 s 8(2)–(3)  
 reloc and renum 2001 No. 17 s 8(6)

**Intestacies taking place before commencement of Act**

- prov hdg** ins 2001 No. 17 s 8(4)  
**s 23** (prev s 4A (orig s 4(3))) renum 2001 No. 17 s 8(5)  
 reloc and renum 2001 No. 17 s 8(6)

**Division 2—Transitional provision for Status of Children Amendment Act 2001**  
**div 2 (s 24)** ins 2001 No. 17 s 19

**SCHEDULE**

om R1 (see RA s 40)

**8 List of forms notified or published in the  
gazette**

(The following information about forms is taken from the gazette. Because failure to notify or publish a form in the gazette does not invalidate the form, it may be necessary to check with the relevant government department for the latest information about forms (see SIA s 58(8)).5(c)).

**Form 1 Version 1—Parentage Testing Procedure Affidavit by/in relation to donor**  
pubd gaz 30 August 2002 p 1550

**Form 2 Version 1—Parentage Testing Procedure—Collection of bodily samples**  
pubd gaz 30 August 2002 p 1550

**Form 3 Version 1—Parentage Testing Procedure Report**  
pubd gaz 30 August 2002 p 1550