

CHAPTER 717C

BESTIALITY

Referred to in [§331.307](#), [364.22](#), [701.1](#), [717F.4](#), [901C.3](#)

717C.1 Bestiality.

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1. For purposes of [this section](#):

a. “Animal” means any nonhuman vertebrate, either dead or alive.

b. “Sex act” means any of the following conduct that is not the practice of veterinary medicine under [section 169.3, subsection 13](#), an accepted animal husbandry livestock management practice under [section 169.3, subsection 1](#), an accepted practice related to the insemination of animals for the purpose of procreation, or an accepted practice related to conformation judging:

(1) An act between a person and an animal involving physical contact between the sex organ, genitals, or anus of one and the mouth, sex organ, genitals, or anus of the other.

(2) Any touching or fondling by a person, either directly or through clothing, of the sex organ, genitals, or anus of an animal or any insertion, however slight, of any part of a person’s body or any object into the vaginal or anal opening of an animal except for veterinarian advised care of the animal.

(3) Any insertion, however slight, of any part of an animal’s body into the vaginal or anal opening of a person.

(4) Advertising, offering, selling, transferring, purchasing, or otherwise obtaining an animal with the intent that the animal be used for sexual contact in this state.

(5) Organizing, promoting, conducting, or participating as an observer of an act involving conduct described in subparagraph (1), (2), or (3).

(6) Knowingly permitting conduct described in subparagraph (1), (2), or (3) to occur in any premises under the person’s ownership or control.

(7) Photographing or filming obscene material, as defined in [section 728.1](#), depicting a person engaging in conduct described in subparagraph (1), (2), or (3).

(8) Distributing, selling, publishing, or transmitting obscene material, as defined in [section 728.1](#), depicting a person engaged in conduct described in subparagraph (1), (2), or (3).

(9) Possessing with the intent to distribute, sell, publish, or transmit obscene material, as defined in [section 728.1](#), depicting a person engaged in conduct described in subparagraph (1), (2), or (3).

(10) Forcing, coercing, enticing, or encouraging a minor to engage in conduct described in subparagraph (1), (2), or (3).

(11) Engaging in a sex act in the presence of a minor.

2. a. A person who performs a sex act with an animal is guilty of an aggravated misdemeanor.

b. A person who commits a second or subsequent violation of [this section](#) is guilty of a class “D” felony.

c. A person previously convicted of a violation of [section 717B.2](#), [717B.3](#), [717B.3A](#), or [717B.3B](#) who commits a violation of [this section](#) is guilty of a class “D” felony.

3. Upon a conviction for a violation of [this section](#), and in addition to any sentence authorized by law, the court shall require the person to submit to a psychological evaluation and treatment at the person’s expense.

[2001 Acts, ch 131, §3](#); [2024 Acts, ch 1037, §1, 2](#); [2025 Acts, ch 30, §101](#)

Referred to in [§232.68](#), [717B.2](#), [717B.3](#), [717B.3A](#)

Subsection 1, paragraph b, subparagraph (6) amended