

Sodomy is not considered rape in Maryland

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Hollywood, MD - Under Maryland state law, what constitutes the term "rape in the first degree" is engaging in sexual intercourse with another person without his or her consent (by force, using weapons, inflicting serious physical injury, threatening with death or injury, kidnapping and help doing so during a burglary). The definition of sexual intercourse is heterosexual intercourse involving penetration of the vagina by the penis. (<http://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary>)

Therefore, a male cannot be raped in the state of Maryland if done by another male. It is considered sexual assault, which holds lesser punitive action than the conviction of rape of first or second degree. Also, if a female is sodomized without consent, it is still not considered rape under these laws.

Children are being sodomized and their pedophilic attackers can only be held up against sexual assault charges. How is this okay? How is this law protecting anyone?

Recently, there was a local man that raped two young girls repeatedly. Because it was sodomy, the judge had no choice but to convict him for sexual assault. Do you want that man, or any other rapist, back on the street?

The death penalty was abolished in Maryland in 2013. However, if someone is convicted of vaginal rape or any rape, why isn't the death penalty on the table – especially if it's being done to children? The victims get a life sentence; they go on to need therapy or at worst, continue the cycle. The type of person that could ruin an innocent person's life in this way doesn't deserve the comfort of food, shelter and television. There is no rehabilitation for this type of crime. Shouldn't Maryland have the death penalty for heinous crimes?

Call it what it is--rape. Any form of sexual assault on anyone is rape. That is a violation of someone's basic human rights.

As a community, we have the power to change this law. We have the power to protect our children, our women and our men who could possibly be violated. Those in favor of a redefinition have started a petition to the State House to get this Maryland State law changed. The petition needs 100,000 signatures for consideration. If you are in favor of the proposed change take a moment to click the link and sign up.

The only closure we can give these victims is Justice.

To sign the petition, visit:

https://www.change.org/p/lawrence-hogan-sodomy-to-be-considered-rape-under-maryland-state-law?recruiter=455914490&utm_source=share_petition&utm_medium=face

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