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I.

# CRIMES AND PUNISHMENTS.

## Abduction.

1904, art. 27, sec. 1. 1888, art. 27, sec. 1. 1876, ch. 324, sec. 1. 1890, ch. 448.

Any person who shall, for purposes of prostitution, fornication or concubinage, forcibly abduct from her home or usual place of abode or from the custody and control of her parent or parents or guardian any female under the age of eighteen years, or be accessory thereto, or who shall for said purpose persuade or entice from her usual place of abode, or from the custody and control of her parent or parents or guardian, any such female, or be accessory thereto, or shall knowingly secrete or harbor any such female so abducted, persuaded or enticed as aforesaid, against the consent of her parent or parents or guardian, or the person or persons who may have the temporary care, custody or control of such female, or be accessory thereto, shall, upon conviction, be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and shall undergo imprisonment in the penitentiary, in the discretion of the court, not exceeding the term of eight years; provided, that nothing contained in this section shall apply to cases pending nor to violations of the law which have heretofore occurred, but all such cases and violations shall be prosecuted as if the law hereby repealed were still in force.

In an indictment under this section, it is competent for the traverser to prove the following facts: that the prosecutrix went to the traverser's house of her own accord and without inducement; that she went with the consent of her mother, or for any other purpose than that of prostitution; that the traverser made an effort to get a home for her; that the prosecutrix during the time she was in the traverser's house did not have intercourse with any one; the character for chastity of the prosecutrix and that she was a "girl of the town." The fact that the traverser was the keeper of a bawdy house was prima facie evidence that the prosecutrix was brought there and permitted to remain for the purposes of prostitution. Brown v. State, 72 Md. 472 (decided June 19. 1890).

The declarations of the mother of the children claimed to have been abducted—the mother accompanying the children and the declarations being made of the time—are admissible in evidence as res gestae. Robinson v. State, 57 Md. 16.