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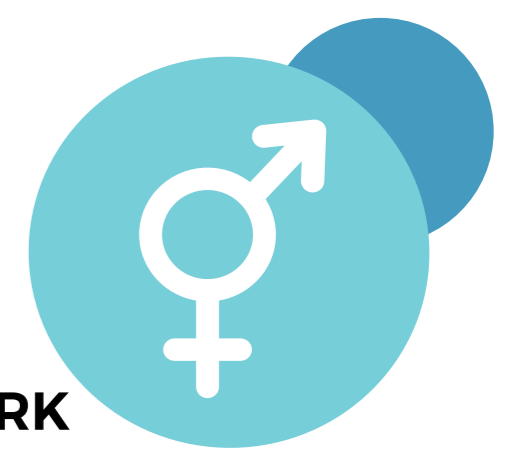


course booklet
ENGELSK

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DEAR READER

In Denmark, women and men have the same rights, responsibilities, and opportunities - they have "Gender equality"! This is very important for life in Denmark because it means, for example, that both women and men are in the labour market, so children are taken care of in day care, e.g. a nursery school or kindergarten before they start school. It also affects family life because women and men share the housework, as well as the responsibility for their children's care and upbringing. They also have equal rights in relation to marriage and divorce. Children and adolescents of both genders must be treated equally, and likewise have the right to choose their further education, hobbies, friends, and partners.

You can read all about these things in this course booklet. The booklet deals with gender equality and equal rights between men and women in Denmark, and which rights and responsibilities you have regarding gender equality in your home life, the labour market and in the public domain. In the booklet, you can learn about gender equality legislation in Denmark, and the general values and expectations of citizens in Danish society.

The booklet can be used as a reference and is a supplement to the course "Right to gender equality", which is intended for language schools, clubs, and associations for ethnic minorities or with focus on integration. The course was developed in spring 2018 in collaboration between Als Research and the Center for Udsatte Flygtninge and Intergrationsnet at The Danish Council for Refugees, at the request of the Gender Equality department of The Ministry for Equality. In addition, thanks are extended to Lærdansk language schools in Aarhus and Odense, Odense Municipality and the City of Copenhagen for their contribution to the development of the teaching materials.

HAPPY READING!



GENDER EQUALITY IN DENMARK

WHAT IS GENDER EQUALITY?

Gender equality means that men and women have equal worth and should be treated equally. It also means that they have the same rights, responsibilities and opportunities.

Denmark has equality laws that give men and women equal opportunities, equal influence and equal integration in society. It is illegal to treat women and men differently because of their gender. For example, in shops and the labour market. It is also illegal to treat people differently because of their skin colour, ethnic origin, sexual orientation and religious or political convictions. Neither is it allowed to ask others to discriminate.

Both women and men have the right to their own opinions and beliefs. Everyone is also entitled to live their lives as they wish, within the limits of the law.

Gender Equality Act:

Section 1, § 1: "The purpose of this Act is to promote gender equality, including equal integration, equal influence and Gender Equality in all functions in society on the basis of women's and men's equal status. The purpose of the Act is also to counteract direct and indirect discrimination on the ground of gender and to counteract sexual harassment."

Section 2, § 2: "No one may expose a person to direct or indirect discrimination based on gender. An instruction to discriminate a person on grounds of gender is likewise considered discrimination."

Both direct and indirect discrimination exists. For example, direct discrimination could be that you do not get a job you have applied for on the grounds of your gender or ethnic origin alone. Indirect discrimination is when a criterion to get a job or the general practice appears to be gender neutral, but will still cause a person to be considered inferior because of their gender. For example, the Royal Life Guards have previously had a height requirement of at least 175 cm.

This has indirectly put women at a disadvantage to being admitted to the Life Guards as women are generally shorter than men and therefore may be unable to meet the requirement. The height requirement has now been changed so that the minimum height must be 169 cm.

If you experience discrimination, it is possible to make a complaint to the Committee for Equal Treatment. More info can be found at: <https://ast.dk/naevn/ligebehandlingsnaevnet>

BASIC RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Women and men have the same rights in Denmark. Both women and men have the same freedom of expression, freedom of religion and voting rights. This means that:

1) Everyone can say and write what they think, with only a few limitations. 2) Everyone is free to choose a religion. 3) Everyone can vote in an election. This is stated in the Danish Constitution, which is the supreme law in Denmark.



Both men and women can influence political decisions in Denmark. All women and men over the age of 18 have the right to vote in political elections, if they have permanent residence in Denmark. If you do not have Danish citizenship, you can only vote in municipal, regional and European parliamentary elections. Both women and men can stand as candidates for election. It is very important that everyone who is able to vote use his/her voting rights. In this way, the elected politicians represent everyone in Denmark.

It is also possible to have your say in society through membership of associations and voluntary work. If you want to have more influence, then you can join associations or participate in political debates. You can also do voluntary work. There are many different clubs and associations in Denmark for sports, hobbies, politics, religions, charities and humanitarian purposes. You can also participate in the Parent's committee at your children's school or day care centre, or in your local municipality's integration council or in the housing association where you live.

You could also choose to set up your own association. Everyone has a right to create and join an association and to freely assemble in Denmark. However, the association must have a legal purpose. Women and men have equal access to join an association, and to political participation, which means they have the opportunity to have equal influence.

Women and men also have the same responsibilities. All of Denmark's citizens have some civic duties, i.e. things they have to do as citizens of the country. For example, everyone is obliged to pay taxes and to go to school for 10 years. Parents have a duty to support their children, and married couples have a duty to provide for each other. All healthy women and men are also responsible for supporting themselves and/or working to contribute to society.

A SOCIETY RULED BY LAW AND TRUST

Danish society is based on a trust in the community, the politicians we have chosen, and the civil servants responsible for important functions in society. It is also based on the conviction that everyone in society contributes as well as they can, and does not limit the freedom of others.

The public authorities have to safeguard all citizens' rights and must ensure that everyone is treated equally. Danish civil servants are among the least corrupt in the world. This is important as the public authority can intervene if there is concern that an individual citizen's rights are being violated, e.g. in a family.

A society based on the rule of law is a society that:

1) has a well-developed and well-functioning legal system. 2) is based on principles, such as equal justice for all, legal rights, and the separation of state power from the people's right to decide.

In a society based on the rule of law, citizens have some fundamental rights and freedoms. They also have an obligation to abide by the laws of the country, and they are entitled to fair treatment by public authorities and official bodies. In 2018, Denmark was given the title of the best society ruled by law in the world, by the international organisation, World Justice Project.

In the following sections, you can read more about gender equality in Denmark – in public, in the labour market, and in the family.



THE HISTORY OF GENDER EQUALITY IN DENMARK

Gender equality between men and women has developed a lot over the past 100 years in Denmark. One hundred years ago, women did not have the same rights as men in many areas. Over the years, people in Denmark and in the rest of the world have fought for gender equality. Gender equality in Denmark has been influenced by developments in other European countries. Denmark has signed a number of international agreements, including the UN Human Rights Convention and the Convention on the rights of the child.

Over the years, the fight for gender equality has focused on women's rights, because in many areas, women have been in a worse position than men. For example, previously women were not even allowed to vote or stand for election, and most educations and civic duties were not available to women. However, in recent years there has been more focus on gender equality for men, as men should have equal rights too in some areas, e.g. parental leave.

Division of labour between the sexes began to change as industrialization came to Denmark in the mid-1800s. However, women were still governed by men in most areas. As a consequence, women began to fight against gender inequality and for equal rights.

The Danish women's rights movement emerged in 1871 with the founding of the Danish Women's Society. It was based on the desire for freedom that arose with the French Revolution in 1789. At that time, it was women's right to vote that was the focus, and in 1915, voting rights for women were introduced in Denmark. Up to the 1920s, there was also progress in relation to marriage equality, private economy, child custody and divorce. The fight for gender equality was again intensified in the late 1960s and 1970s when more and more women entered the labour market. At this time, for instance, the great women's lib movement, 'Rødstrømperne' began. Now focus was on the right to equal pay, a woman's right to decide about her own body, and confrontation with the image of woman as a sexual object.

There was a lot of support for the struggle for gender equality, and this had an effect on legislation and public opinion. Women were gradually made legally equal with men in virtually all areas. Young women's participation in further and higher education and the labour market was also roughly the same as young men's by the 1970s. Subsequently, women's overall participation in the labour market increased as the generation of 'housewives' retired.

In spite of this, there are still differences between the sexes in the labour market, in terms of e.g. salary, occupation and in the hierarchy. There are still far more women than men in traditional 'women's professions', those dealing with care and child-rearing. Likewise, there are still many more men in traditional 'male professions' such as in a skilled trade, economics, and research. This historic development means that there is a difference between the wages of men and women because women are more often employed in the public sector, while men are employed in the private sector where salaries are higher. There are also more male than female top executives.

The only exception to the policy of equal treatment for all is military conscription. This only applies to men, and they may be called up for duty from 18 years old. Women are not conscripted to serve.

IMPORTANT MILESTONES FOR GENDER EQUALITY IN DENMARK

1683: The Danish Code (Danske Lov) was passed. It meant, among other things, that a man could no longer physically punish his wife.

1814: The first state school law was passed. This meant that both boys and girls would receive compulsory education.

1857: Coming of age, license to trade, and inheritance laws are passed. Unmarried women now come of age when they are 25 years old. Unmarried women also receive the same right to a license to trade as men, and can run their own businesses. The new law also means that they can inherit on an equal footing with male relatives.

1875: Women can go to university, although not to the faculties of Theology.

1880: Married women gain the right of authority over their own salary.

1899: Married women come of age at the same time as unmarried women. A man's right to decide over joint property is limited.

1901: Women who work in industry have the right to 4 weeks maternity rest, with the possibility for economic help without the need for repayment and without losing their civil rights.

1908: Women get the right to vote in and stand for municipal elections. Widows, divorcees and newlyweds have the right to custody of their own children.

1912: Marriage vows are changed so that women do not have to promise to be submissive in the marriage.

1915: Women get the right to vote and to be elected to the 'Rigsdagen' (The Danish Parliament).

1921: A law is passed giving women access to all public jobs, except for military and church occupations.

1922: Married women gain an equal controlling role in custody over own children. However, the father is still the legal guardian.

1924: The first female minister, Nina Bang, in Denmark is elected. She is also the world's first female minister in a democratically elected government.

1948: Denmark gets its first female mayor, Eva Madsen, and its first female priests, Johanne Andersen, Ruth Vermehren and Edith Brenneche-Petersen.

1950: The first female judges are appointed in Denmark.

1957: Women now have the right to be the legal guardian of their own children, just like men.

1961: Women are given the right to keep their own maiden name when they are married.

1966: The contraceptive pill is released in Denmark.

1971: Women are allowed into the military.

1973: A law on the right to elective abortion is passed.

1976: A law on equal wage for equal work is passed.

1978: A law is passed ensuring equal treatment for women and men in the labour market.

1983: Maternity leave is extended to 24 weeks, and men gain the right to take paternity leave. Married women become independent tax payers.

1985: A new law about joint parental custody is passed.

1995: The first female chief of police is appointed in Denmark, as well as the first two female bishops.

1999: For the first time ever, the same number of women as men are students on long higher educations.

2000: The Gender Act on gender equality is passed.

2002: Maternity leave is extended to 52 weeks. The father has a right to take 2 weeks of paternity leave after the birth and the mother has the right to 4 weeks prior to the birth and 14 weeks after the birth. The additional 32 weeks may be divided between both parents according to wishes.

2007: A new parental responsibility law is passed, based on both parents having equal custody of their children.

2011: Denmark gets its first female prime minister, Helle Thorning-Schmidt.

GENDER EQUALITY IN PUBLIC

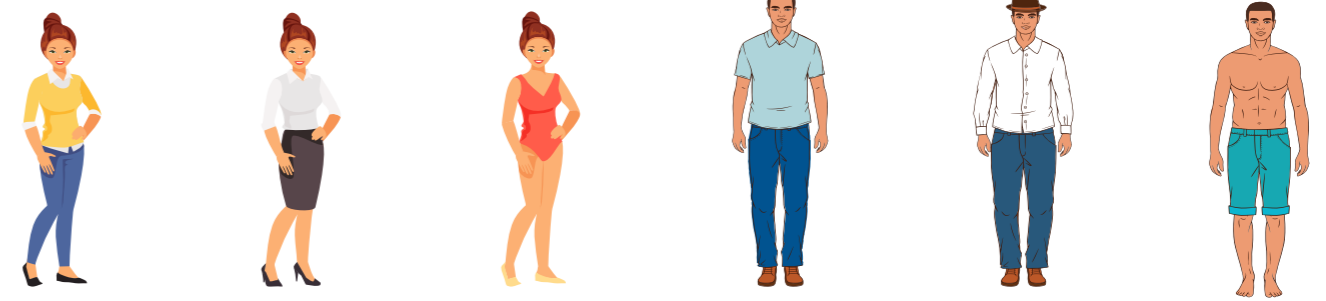
Men and women are equally entitled to be in the public space. That is to say, both sexes can gather in public spaces and use them as they wish. Shops, restaurants, and other publicly accessible businesses may not treat some guests unfairly and discriminate, for example, due to their gender or ethnic origin.

Both old and young people of both sexes may be in public spaces at any time of the day and may travel around alone, in the company of others of the same sex, or in the company of others of the opposite sex. It is common for young women and men to go out late at night at weekends. It is also common for young men and women in Denmark to drink alcohol.

Men and women are also equally entitled to express their views in public. Fighting, screaming, shouting or other noisy, violent or abusive behaviour is, however, not permitted. Neither may you show 'indecent or offensive behaviour that might disturb others or cause public offense'. For instance, engaging in sexual activity in public is prohibited. On the other hand, it is quite common and legal for both unmarried and married couples to kiss each other, hug, hold hands, etc. in public. This also applies to couples of the same gender.

A handshake is the most common greeting in formal contexts or between people who do not know each other very well. It is normally expected that both women and men reach out their hand when they meet each other. It is considered rude if you do not want to shake hands with another person.

It is also common for people to hug each other when they meet if they know each other privately. That is to say, women and men, or girls and boys who are friends can easily hug or touch each other in a friendly way without it having any sexual undertones or it meaning that they are lovers. It is quite common for both young and older people in Denmark to have friends of both sexes.



CLOTHING

Women and men can dress as they like in Denmark. People should respect the right of others to choose their clothing and may not discriminate because of someone's clothing.

Many people, especially young women in Denmark, take advantage of their right to be lightly dressed in the summer or in the nightlife. This does not signify their social status in society nor does it say anything about their morals. It also does not indicate their sexual availability. Wearing short skirts, low-cut blouses or having bare arms are not an invitation to touch or have sex. It is illegal and a criminal offence to try to touch, kiss and hug someone who does not want it, regardless of their clothing.

However, there are a few exceptions to the general right to choose what you wear:

- 1) You may not be naked or show your genitals in public places (with the exception of nudist beaches and other areas designated for this purpose).
- 2) In 2018, a new law has been passed that prohibits the covering of both men and women's faces. For instance, you may wear a cap, hat, hijab or chador, but you may not wear a balaclava, mask, burka or niqab etc. However, there are some exceptions.

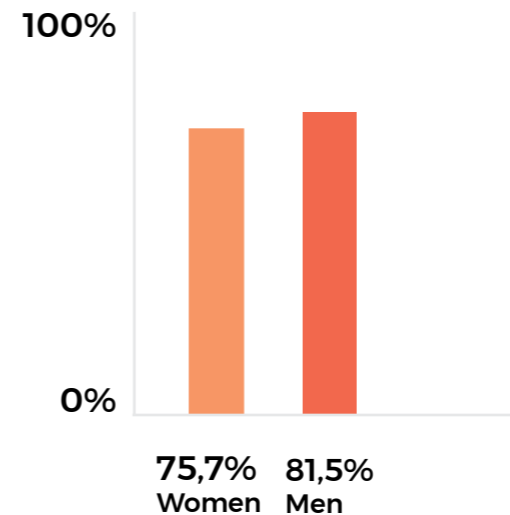
GENDER EQUALITY IN THE LABOUR MARKET

RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES IN THE LABOUR MARKET

In Denmark, both women and men are important resources for society. The vast majority of both sexes work, even after they have married and had children.

2017 **EMPLOYMENT RATE FOR MEN AND WOMEN**
(Statistics Denmark)

In 2017, 81,5 % of men and 75,7 % of women, between the age of 15 and 64 years, were working.





Denmark is a welfare society. This means that, among other things, schooling, education and medical treatment are free. It also means that everyone, including people who are too sick or too old to work, is guaranteed a subsistence living. This can only be achieved if everyone who is able to work pays taxes. Through taxation, we can afford to pay for welfare. The welfare society can only work if both women and men work.

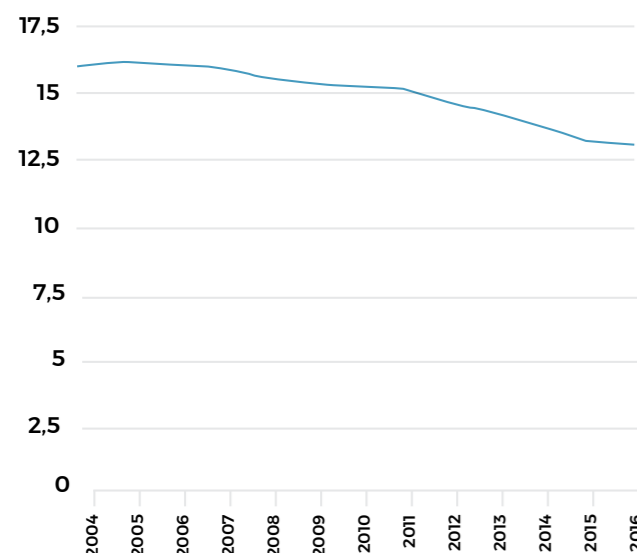
Even people in Denmark who are healthy but unemployed can receive subsistence living for a time. Anyone can be out of work for a short or long period. During a period of unemployment, if you do not have other means, you can get income support from the municipality or from an unemployment insurance fund. However, the requirement is that both unemployed women and men are always available to work.

GENDER EQUALITY IN THE LABOUR MARKET

The law states that women and men must also be treated equally in the labour market. This means that women and men should have the same working conditions. When a person is hired for a position, one gender must not be prioritized over the other. The same applies if a person has to be let go or promoted to a higher position. For example, it is not allowed to write a preference for hiring a woman in a job advertisement. If a woman and a man are equally qualified for the position, it must not be the gender that determines who gets the job. An employer cannot fire an employee because the employee is pregnant or on maternity leave. This is seen as discrimination. The employer must be able to prove that there is another reason for the dismissal. The law also states that there should be equal pay for equal work. This means that men and women must get the same salary if they perform the same type of work or if the work is of equal value.

However, Denmark does not have real gender equality in terms of salaries yet. Even though in Denmark today, women are more highly educated than men, it is the men who earn higher salaries and have higher positions. This is due, among other things, to the fact that women tend to be employed more often in the public sector, while men are often in the private sector where salaries are higher. But it could also be because women take more leave than men. Men also work longer hours than women. But the difference between salary levels for men and women is gradually decreasing year after year.

% Wage gap (Statistics Denmark)



WOMEN AND MEN IN THE LABOUR MARKET

Women and men work together in most workplaces in Denmark. There are also female and male executives. It is important that everyone can cooperate with people of the opposite sex, and that they respect their female and male colleagues and managers equally. There are also workplaces and professions that are dominated by either men or women. However, both sexes have the opportunity to take any job or any education.

Many in Denmark choose to sign up to a trade union. A trade union is an organization that works to create better working conditions for employees. This includes help in cases of discrimination.

If you experience discrimination in your workplace or any other place, you can complain to the Ligebehandlingsnævnet: Mail: ast@ast.dk; sikkermail@ast.dk, or tel. no. 33411200.

Institut for Menneskerettigheders Ligebehandlingsorgan (The Danish Institute for Human Rights, Equal Treatment agency) has the task of answering questions about discriminatory practices and to advise in complaint cases, for more info see: www.menneskeret.dk/raadgivning

Advisers can be contacted on tel.no. 32698666 every Tuesday and Thursday between 10 am and 12 noon, 1 pm and 3 pm, or by email at ligebehandling@humanrights.dk.

PERSONAL FINANCE

Everyone over the age of 18 has the right to decide what they will do with their own money. Therefore, both women and men in Denmark must have a bank account where they can receive their own salary and / or money from the public sector. A full-time job in Denmark is usually 37 hours a week, but some work more and others less. In particular, in many families, both the mother and father choose to spend a great deal of their free time together with the family.

Having a job gives you financial independence. It also gives people the opportunity to support themselves and their families. A job can also offer you a community to be in and a network with your colleagues in the workplace, and it gives you status in society. The salary you earn is your personal income, whether you are female or male. It is normally necessary for most families that both parents work so they can have enough money to support the family. When both parents work, one can still support the family, even if the other one loses his/her job. If you have children, two incomes can also be crucial so that you can afford to buy the children new clothes, healthy food and so that they can participate in recreational activities, etc., just like their friends.

When both women and men are in the labour market, it is necessary to share the household duties, i.e. cleaning, cooking, childcare, repairs, etc. Both women and men need to contribute to the care of the family, so they must share the chores as equally as possible between them. However, it varies how families choose to divide the housework between family members. Even though women in Denmark work and help to support their families, women still spend the most time doing the housework. However, the difference between women and men's time spent doing housework has become much smaller over the years.

When you live in Denmark and have done that for at least 10 years, after the age of 15, both men and women are entitled to receive the Danish state pension. This is a personal income from the state that you receive when you retire. The earliest you can get the state pension is when you turn 65. How much you are entitled to depends on how many years you have lived in Denmark. If you have worked, you usually also have an occupational pension and will, therefore, have more money in retirement than if you have not worked.

PARENTAL LEAVE

The system in Denmark is organised to make it possible for both men and women to have jobs and a family life.

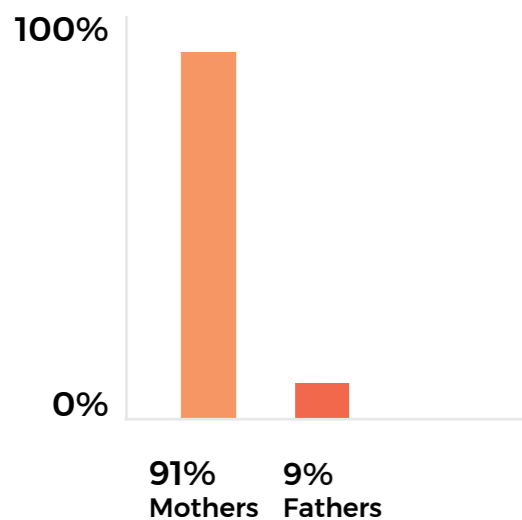
For example, when a child is born, the mother and father have the right to take a total of 52 weeks of leave where they can stay home from work and care for the child, while receiving pay or maternity allowance. However, you should be aware that you can only receive a salary or benefits during maternity leave if you are either in work, taking an education or entitled to unemployment insurance, social security or similar cash benefits. If you choose to stay at home before the birth, you cannot receive maternity benefits.

The 52 weeks can be shared in the following way:

- 1) Mother can take 4 weeks of pregnancy leave prior to the due date.
- 2) Mother can take 14 weeks of maternity leave right after the birth.
- 3) Father can take 2 weeks of paternity leave before the baby is 14 weeks old.
- 4) The remaining 32 weeks of parental leave may be divided according to the parents' wishes.

Despite this, women do still take most of the parental leave in Denmark, although it is becoming increasingly common for men to take more leave. In 2014, Danish fathers took 29.5 days of leave on average while Danish mothers took 296.3 days of leave.

2017
AVERAGE DIVISION OF PARENTAL LEAVE
(Statistics Denmark)



However, this does not mean that men do not help to take care of the children. In the past, it was normal for the father to go to work and provide for the family financially, while the mother had the main responsibility for the home and the children. This is not the case anymore. Today, both parents are expected to work and take responsibility for the home and the children's care and upbringing. This involves, for instance, taking the children to day care or school and fetching them again afterwards, getting them ready in the morning, spending time with them after work and putting them to bed in the evening. In Denmark, children have the right to spend time together with both parents.

When a child is born, a health visitor can visit the home and give useful advice on the child's health and development. Through the health visitor, the mother can also be put in touch with other mothers to form a group if she wishes. A mothers' group is a group of women with newborn children who meet approx. once a week and share their experiences of the babies with the other mothers. There are also father groups around, but this is not very widespread as yet.

If a child becomes ill when you are at work, both the mother and father have the right to take one day off with pay to take care of the child. The family can decide which of the parents should take time off work. If the child is ill for several days, someone else will have to take over care of the child at home.

EDUCATION

It is important for both women and men to take an education in order to be able to support themselves. Without an education, it could be difficult to get a job, for example. Both men and women are entitled to get an education, and women and men have equal access to all education programs in Denmark. There are no subjects that women are better suited to than men or vice versa. In other words, both men and women are free to choose which education they take as long as they meet the requirements. Which courses you can choose depends mostly on your grades and other relevant experience.

The vast majority of education programs are free. Women and men over the age of 18 are entitled to SU, i.e. a state education grant. This is an income you can receive from the state while you are taking an education. This money does not have to be repaid.

In today's Denmark, there are more women than men who take an education. On average, women also educate themselves to a higher level. To a great extent, this also applies to young adults from ethnic minorities. Although all programmes are equally accessible to both sexes, there are still big differences in which subjects women and men typically choose. Nevertheless, these differences have decreased over the years. The disparity in which education, women, and men choose, also affects their working life and wage levels. It also has more general significance for society. For example, as there are fewer male than female kindergarten teachers, children do not see male role models in nursery schools and kindergartens, to the same extent they see female ones.





THE ORGANISATION OF THE FAMILY

TYPES OF FAMILY, MARRIAGE AND RELATIONS

Whether you are a man or a woman, everyone in Denmark has the right to decide who they would like to marry, and most people get married because they love each other. This may be with a partner of the opposite sex or with one of the same sex. That is to say, gay couples, too, can get married, both in churches and at the registry office.

Everyone has the right to create the family they wish for. The most common family type in Denmark is where a man and a woman live together with or without children.

Three quarters (76.5%) of all parents are married, but there are many other family types in Denmark. Not all couples get married. Most couples live together before they get married, while others choose never to get married. It is also common to have children together without being married. Marriage is generally regarded as not necessary to still live with a partner. For the majority of people in Denmark, what is more important is that you treat your partner with respect and live equally.

Many people in Denmark have lived together with several partners before they get married. Some get married, then divorced and marry someone else. In many families, couples live together with a new partner and children from past relationships, where the parents are not necessarily the biological parent of (all) the children.

Some families also choose to live with their extended family with several generations together, while other people live alone.

MARRIAGE VALIDITY

Marriage is an equal partnership. Men and women in Denmark, therefore, have equal rights and responsibilities in a marriage. Both men and women can determine their own lives, even though they are married. This means that both have the right to freedom. For example, anyone can decide what they want to do during the day, what clothes they will wear and who they will meet. However, married people also have some obligations to each other. For example, both spouses are obliged to support each other and their children. This means that both contribute to supporting the family's needs, e.g. food and clothes.

For a marriage to be valid in Denmark, it must be approved by the public authorities. This means that if you want to have legal rights and responsibilities as a married couple, the marriage must be legally valid.

A legally valid marriage means that it has been performed by an officially approved authority, such as a mayor or a clergyman. You can also be married in a civil ceremony at a registry office. In addition, many churches, mosques, and synagogues are approved to conduct a legally valid marriage. However, there are also churches, mosques, and synagogues that are not approved and thus marriages performed there are not legally valid.

A religious ceremony performed by a non-officially approved authority is not legally valid. However, the local municipality may approve a religious marriage. An application must be sought for this.



At the Ministry of Ecclesiastical Affairs' website, there is a list of the public authorities that are authorized to marry people with legal validity:

<http://www.kirkeministeriet.dk/officielt/trossamfund.htm>

If you get married abroad, the marriage has to be validated by a Danish authority to be legally valid in Denmark, typically at the local municipality.

It is important that both parties enter into marriage voluntarily. In other words, no one may be forced or pressured to marry, both parties must be present at the ceremony and both must be of legal age at the time of the marriage. These rules apply because, according to Danish law, you can only get married if you wish to do so. You can only be sure of this as an adult when you are over 18 years old.

At the same time, a marriage under Danish law and Danish norms is a covenant between two people. Therefore, you cannot marry more than one partner.

It is illegal to marry more than one person in Denmark. If you have married again, without getting a divorce first, only the first marriage is legally valid and you can be sentenced and punished for bigamy. This means that you can get up to 6 years in prison if you are married to more than one person.

FOR A MARRIAGE TO BE VALID IN DENMARK, THE FOLLOWING RULES MUST BE OBSERVED:

- The marriage must be approved by a Danish authority.
- The marriage has been entered into voluntarily and not by proxy.
- Both parties are over 18 years old on entering into marriage.
- Neither of the parties is already married.
- Neither of the parties are closely related (this means not parent/child, grandparent/grandchild, great-grandparent/great-grandchild, and full or half siblings)

You can check if your marriage is registered with the Danish authorities and is therefore valid in Denmark at borger.dk in the centralized citizen register.

FORCED MARRIAGE

Freedom to choose your own partner means that it is a criminal offence to force others to get married to someone they do not wish to.

Criminal Code § 260, Subsection (2) states that you can be sentenced to a maximum of 4 years imprisonment, if you force someone into a marriage by violence or under the threat of violence, of damage to property, of deprivation of liberty, or by threatening a person's honour or private life. This applies to both legally authorized marriages and religious wedding ceremonies.



A forced marriage is understood to be, when one or more of the following conditions are present:

- Others have chosen who you should marry.
- Others have chosen when you should marry.
- You are not involved in the decision.
- If you fear that there may be serious consequences for you if you say no.
- The wedding ceremony is carried out by force, and/or.
- The wedding ceremony is carried out with a proxy in place.

Voluntarily arranged marriages are legal.

An arranged marriage is understood to be, when all of the following conditions are present:

- Others have given you suggestions and recommendations for your choice of spouse.
- You have had a personal influence on the decision.
- You are able to say no to the marriage without consequences.
- You get married when you wish to.
- You attend the wedding ceremony voluntarily.

Marriage Law § 24:

Furthermore, a marriage will be annulled by a court ruling in the event of an allegation by one of the married couple:

1. If a person, on entering into a marriage, is in a condition that excludes the ability to act in a sensible way.
2. If a person has been forced into marriage.
3. If a person gets married by mistake to another person than they are engaged to, or without wanting to get married or
4. If a person has been deceived into getting married, by being misled through false information or having the truth withheld about whom the other person is or the former circumstances of that person. Or if something would have stopped the person from deciding to enter into the marriage, and which still has such importance to the relationship between the married couple, that the marriage cannot be reasonably required to be upheld.

If you feel forced to enter into a marriage that you do not want, you can get help from your municipality or at the national hotline on tel. no. 70203082.

The hotline is open 24 hours a day and can advise both women, men, and relatives. This also includes advice about violence and abuse in close relationships more generally and about the possibility of seeking shelter. See: www.levudenvold.dk

Young men and women can also contact Etnisk Ung on tel. no 70277666. They give advice about honour-related conflicts. Etnisk Ung also offer advice to parents, who can contact the organisation on tel. no. 70270366. More info at www.etniskung.dk

CHILD CUSTODY

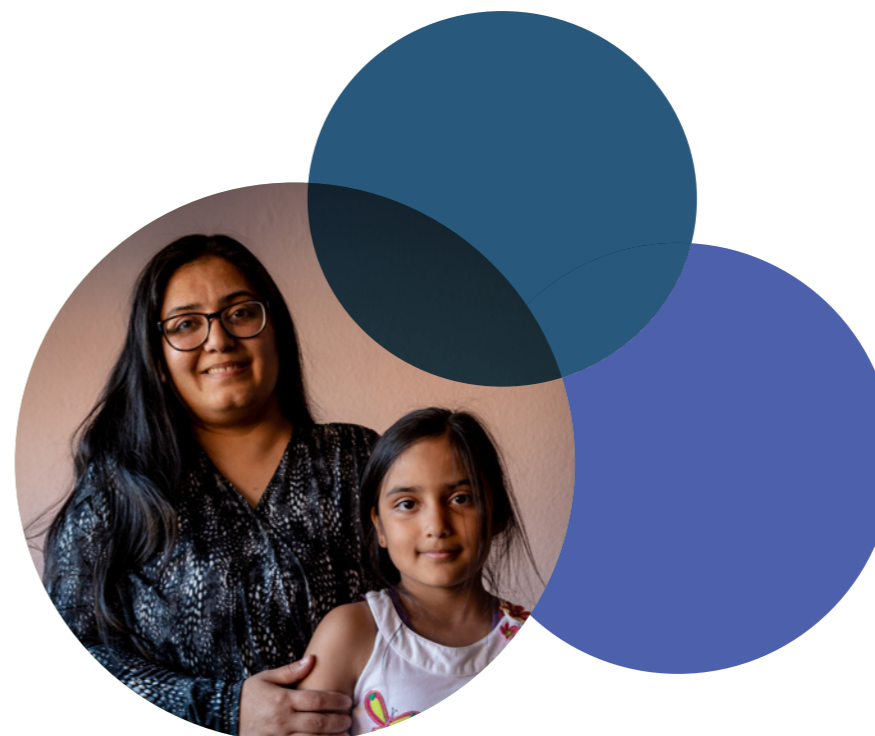
Having custody of a child means that you have an obligation to take care of the child and to decide on the child's personal circumstances.

As a couple, you automatically get joint custody at the birth of a child. Joint parental responsibility means that together both parents are responsible for their child and must ensure that the child's basic needs are adequately met, that the child is sufficiently cared for, attends school and has an active leisure life. It also means that parents make equal decisions on behalf of the child, for example, which kindergarten and school the child should attend.

If the parents are not married, they can still have joint custody if they both state in writing that they will take care of the child and share the responsibility together. This is registered together with the birth of the child.

If unmarried couples do not agree on joint custody at birth, the mother will automatically receive full custody. Therefore, it is best to ensure the unmarried father's right to influence decisions regarding the child by remembering to acknowledge joint custody at birth.

If and when you are allowed to take your child abroad depends on who has custody. You can contact Statsforvaltningen on tel. no. 72567000 if in doubt.





MARRIAGE AND FINANCES

When you get married in Denmark, you will automatically have joint property rights. This does not mean that you own all of each other's things in the marriage, but that if you get divorced you must share them equally between you.

You have control over your own possessions from before the marriage and things you buy while you are married. Even if you are married, both women and men also have the right to control the money they earn and to manage their own bank account. However, in practice, it differs from family to family how responsibility for the family's finances is shared.

A married couple typically has joint property rights. But you can also make a prenuptial agreement concerning separate property rights before getting married. Separate property rights mean that you are registered as the owner of certain things and that they do not have to be shared in the event of divorce.

SEPARATION OG SKILSMISSE

Both men and women have the right to get divorced in Denmark - regardless of whether or not the spouse wishes to be divorced. Men and women have equal legal rights in a divorce case. In other words, both have an equal right to divorce, and the rules for the distribution of debt and wealth are the same for both men and women. If you have children, both parents keep joint custody by default.

When you get divorced, both parents must agree whether one of the parents will take over sole custody of the child or you will keep joint custody. Parents must also agree on the allocation of contact time with the child, on child support and child maintenance, and on where the child will live. If you cannot agree, you can get advice from Statsforvaltningen. If you agree to get divorced, you can do so immediately without a required separation period. This is done by sending an application to Statsforvaltningen, which grants the divorce. However, if you want an immediate divorce, you will also have to agree who will keep the shared dwelling and, if it is relevant, about child custody and child maintenance.

If only one spouse wants a divorce, you have to go through a legal separation period of 6 months first. You may not live together during this period. The separation is seen as an evaluation period to determine if you really want to divorce or wish to resume the marriage. If you are legally separated, you no longer have to be faithful, you can no longer inherit from each other, and you no longer share each other's wealth. However, you cannot marry another person during the separation period.

Once the legal separation period is over, you can finalize the divorce, whether you agree or not. However, you must submit a request for divorce once again. After you are divorced, both parties can then marry another person.

There are other situations where it is possible to be granted an immediate divorce. In these cases, one or more of these conditions are present:

- A spouse has committed adultery.
- A spouse has been violent against you.
- A spouse has taken your mutual child abroad illegally with permission.
- A spouse is married to someone else (bigamy).
- You have been living separately for two years.



However, it should be noted that if a marriage is not legally registered in Denmark, divorce cannot be obtained according to Danish law. In this case, you can get divorced in Denmark, but only in accordance with the applicable laws in the country where you got married.

You should also be aware that a divorce may have other consequences if you have been granted family reunification in Denmark and do not have a permanent residence permit. In this case, divorce may result in deportation of the spouse who has been reunited.

If you have any questions, you can call the Statsforvaltningen on tel. no. 72567000, or you can find more info at www.statsforvaltningen.dk. You can also find all the forms that you need to fill in to apply for a divorce. The application can be made electronically.

FINANCIAL SITUATION IN THE CASE OF DIVORCE

Joint property rights end when you get divorced or separated. Any inheritance rights also end with divorce and separation, ie. the right to the fortune of the spouse in the event of death. If one of the parties has a debt, it is not shared in the event of divorce or separation. This means that the fortune of both spouses is shared evenly in the event of divorce. However, if there are any excess debts at the end of the settlement, these are not shared but they are assigned to the spouse who established the debt.

EKSEMPEL 1		EKSEMPEL 2	
During the marriage		During the marriage	
Lillian	Thomas	Lillian	Thomas
Fortune 75.000kr	Fortune 100.000kr	Fortune 250.000kr	Fortune 175.000kr
Debt -150.000kr	Debt -25.000kr	Debt -100.000kr	Debt -55.000kr
In total -75.000kr	In total 75.000kr	In total 150.000kr	In total 120.000kr
Joint property 75.000 kr.		Joint property 150.000 kr. 120.000 kr. 270.000 kr.	
At the time of divorce		At the time of divorce	
Fortune 37.500kr	Formue 37.500kr	Fortune 135.000kr	Fortune 135.000kr
Debt -75.000kr			
In total -37.500kr			

When you are married, you have a duty to support each other financially. If one spouse has a significantly lower income than the other, it is possible to enter into a spousal agreement



when separated or divorced. That is to say, the one who earns most must support the other financially for a number of years after the divorce. If you cannot agree on this yourselves, you can ask Statsforvaltningen for help to assess whether you have the right to spousal support. It is calculated on the basis of both parties' income

CUSTODY OF A CHILD AFTER DIVORCE

After a divorce or separation, joint custody continues as before. The majority of formerly married couples keep joint custody and have to agree on decisions about the child's life. As a divorced parent, you should be aware that the child is entitled to see both parents.

If only one parent has custody, he/she is the one who has the right to make decisions on behalf of the child. Divorced parents must jointly and preferably together with the child, agree on a contact plan, to decide where the child should live, etc. When the child is 12 years old, you must also take the child's wishes into account, when deciding where the child shall live.

If a disagreement occurs in connection with decisions about custody and contact, you can seek advice at Statsforvaltningen. You can also get advice from the following website: <http://boernogsamvaer.dk/raadgivning/>

When parents get divorced, both are still obliged to support their children. This means that if the child mostly stays with one parent, the other parent has an obligation to pay child maintenance. Child maintenance is a financial contribution to which the parent the child lives with has the right to receive from the other parent. The amount depends on the income of the parent who has to pay. Statsforvaltningen can advise on this.

CHILDREN, PARENTING AND PARENTHOOD

GENDER EQUALITY BETWEEN GIRLS AND BOYS

In Denmark, girls and boys have the same worth. They have the same rights, must have the same opportunities in life and should be treated equally. This means that girls and boys are entitled to the same freedom, responsibility, care, duties and opportunities. They should also be brought up according to the same principles. Both girls and boys have the right to receive care and security from their parents, as well as the right to protection from violence, abuse and exploitation.

UN'S CONVENTION ON THE RIGHT OF THE CHILD

In 1991, Denmark signed up to the UN's Convention on the right of the child. This is a treaty which sets out the universal rights of children. Rights that apply to all boys and girls under the age of 18.

Section from the Child Convention:

- Article 13: A child shall have freedom of speech.
- Article 14: A child's right to free thought and religious freedom must be respected.
- Article 15: A child has a right of association.
- Article 16: Freedom from interference in private life, family life, communication, or attack on the child's honour or reputation

- Article 17: Free access to relevant information.
- Article 19: Protection against psychological or physical violence.
- Article 22: The state shall secure rights for all unaccompanied refugees.
- Article 24: The right to treatment in the case of illness.
- Article 28: The right to an education.
- Article 31: The right to rest and leisure time.
- Article 32: Freedom from economic exploitation.
- Article 33: Protection from drug abuse.
- Article 34: Protection from sexual abuse.

<https://www.retsinformation.dk/forms/r0710.aspx?id=60837>

CHILDREN'S RIGHTS

All children have the right to be brought up to be able to interact socially with other people and to take part in society. Both boys and girls have freedom of speech, freedom of religion, and the right to privacy. In other words, both girls and boys have the right to express their opinions and to believe what they want.

Obviously, small children must always be supervised, but the older the child becomes, the more they are entitled to and need privacy from the interference of parents. Both girls and boys have the right to co-determination. That is to say, they have a right to have their opinions heard and respected, and to influence decisions that will affect their lives.

In addition, both sexes have the right to go to school and to get an education. From the age of 13, both girls and boys may get a part-time job to do after school. However, until the child reaches the age of 15, parental permission is required.

You can find a list of the jobs children can perform when they are between 13-15 years old here: www.jobpatruljen.dk/regler/er-du-13-15-aar

All children also have the right to play and have an active recreational life with friends, and also to choose their friends and their leisure activities. It is important for both girls and boys that they have the opportunity to participate in recreational activities, such as sports, hobbies or after-school clubs. In this way, they get the opportunity to make friends, join a group of other children and adolescents, and learn to interact with others. Children and young people who have an active recreational life tend to thrive on average much better than those who do not participate in any recreational activities. All kinds of recreational activities are available for both girls and boys. There are no recreational activities that are exclusive to one gender.

With these rights, also come responsibilities and expectations. For example, in Denmark both boys and girls are expected to help around the home - such as shopping, cooking and tidying up.

Co-determination and duties train young people to take responsibility and to do well in life. Rights and responsibilities also mean that children and young people need to learn how to behave themselves in society. That is to say, they need knowledge - for example on law and punishment, discipline and obligations, economy and budget, contraception and consent, and on body and health issues. Therefore, parents, day care centres and schools must support and help both girls and boys to gain this knowledge. In the following sections, you can read more about these topics.



PARENTAL RESPONSIBILITIES AND SELF-DETERMINATION

In Denmark, parents are responsible for their children, from when they are born until they are 18 years old. This involves many things, including giving the child a place to live, providing adequate and healthy food, clothing, ensuring their care and safety, making sure they attend school and are seen by a doctor in case of illness, and are protected from violence and abuse. This applies to both girls and boys.

Parental Responsibility Law § 2: *The parent(s) with custody over the child shall ensure the care of the child and make decisions concerning the child's circumstances **in the interest and needs of the child.***

In other words, it is the responsibility of the parents that the child's rights are respected. It also means that it is the responsibility of parents to make decisions on behalf of the child, but that these decisions should promote the child's interests and needs. Therefore, decisions must also be made together with the child, depending on the child's age.

Parental Responsibility Law § 5: *In all conditions concerning the child, respect must always be paid to the **child's own points of view with respect to their age and maturity.***

The child has the right to be heard and respected regardless of his or her age and gender. As the child grows, the child should have more and more self-determination. See also pages 27-28.

Child and adolescent co and self-determination

12 years: Co-determination: The child shall be included and have co-determination in any decisions about his/ her life, including e.g. place of residence and holidays.

13 years: Work: The right to have a part-time job with permission from the parents.

Can open a bank account, with the parents' permission.

15 years: Finances and medical treatment: The right to decide about their own medical treatment and about any money they may earn.

Sexual age of consent: Can legally have sex with another person who is 15 years old or above.

Age of criminal responsibility: Can be sentenced and punished for breaking the law.

18 years: Legally of age: The parents' responsibilities for and determination rights over both daughters and sons cease.

Both women and men can now:

Decide for themselves, about their own lives and their personal finances.

- Make legal agreements.
- Vote and stand for election.
- Get married.
- Get a driving license.
- Choose their own residence.

When a person reaches the age of 18, he or she becomes legally an adult and of age. He/ she has the right to freely decide on his or her own life. Parents can no longer make decisions for either a son or a daughter who is 18 years old. At the same time, the parents' support and care obligations end. However, if a person over the age of 18 still lives with his or her parents, the parents may decide about that person's use of the parents' money and property.

RIGHT TO PRIVACY

Everyone, both women and men, girls and boys, has the right to privacy. This means that without personal permission, you may not read other people's personal messages - such as letters, text messages or mails. This also applies to parents, siblings and spouses. For example, you may not check your child's phone without permission.

Nor should you spy on other people, or ask others to spy on someone else. Therefore, you must also not spy on your siblings or your spouse. According to the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, which Denmark has signed, you may not spy on your children. This also includes asking siblings to spy on each other. Of course, this only applies when your children have grown big enough to take care of themselves.

You are allowed to check some things, e.g. your child's, spouse's or sibling's public profiles on social media, but you may not log in to their personal profile with a password.

SOCIAL CONTROL

There is a difference between advice and force. It is the parents' responsibility to bring up their children, but children, and especially adolescents have a right to influence any big decisions about their lives.

Parents have the right to express their opinion about the choices their children make, but they must not exercise social control over them. Social control means pressurizing, forcing or controlling someone to behave in a certain way. With perhaps serious sanctions or punishment being imposed if the child does not obey. Parents must not threaten their daughters or sons with serious consequences if, for example, the young person does not want to marry someone that the parents have chosen for them. Parents must not pressurize, force or control their child in relation to their choice of education, leisure activities, who they should be friends with or their choice of partner.

It is important to respect the law and the child's right to co-determination. Neighbours' and friends' opinions are much less important than the individual's right to decide for themselves.

GENOPDRAGELSE/SREJSER

In addition, parents cannot trick their children by pretending that the child is going on a vacation, when in fact it is being sent involuntarily to the country of origin for several months for 're-education', or abroad to be married.

An involuntary trip for 're-education' is a journey where a child or an adolescent under the age of 18 is sent to the parents' country of origin or another country for a longer period, usually against their will. These trips can have serious consequences for the child or adolescent because it can create distrust in the family and ultimately result in broken family relationships. In addition, a stay abroad may have negative consequences for a child's residence permit, as well as a negative effect on the child's schooling, etc. It is illegal and punishable to send a child on a 're-education' trip.



THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE AUTHORITIES

Although children under the age of 18 are the parents' responsibility, the authorities also have a responsibility to ensure that the child is well and that their rights are being respected. Therefore, the social authorities have the right and obligation to intervene where parents do not live up to their responsibilities. For example, it is illegal to beat a child and you can receive a prison sentence of up to 6 years for violence against a child.

If parents do not live up to their parental responsibilities, in the worst-case, the social authorities can remove the child from the parents. However, removing a child only takes place rarely, if the child's health or development is in serious danger. In most cases, the authorities will first try to solve the problems at home. Parents who need help or advice regarding their children can also contact the municipality themselves.

Everyone in Denmark has an obligation to inform the municipality if they believe that a child or adolescent is living under conditions that could harm his or her health or development. For example, living under violent and abusive conditions.

In Denmark today, it is expected that you raise your children by talking to them, instead of hitting them, as people did earlier. It is harmful to a child's development and well-being to be beaten. It can have serious consequences for both their ability to learn in school and their social skills.

Therefore, it is important that, as a parent, you try to understand how children develop, think and learn at different ages. Instead of basing a child's upbringing on whether they are a girl or a boy, you must try to adjust the child's upbringing according to the child's age and level of understanding. At the same time, remember that all children, both girls and boys, are different and develop at an individual rate.

If you are a child and are unhappy, and need someone to talk to, you can always call Børnnetelefonen for free on tel. no. 116111. You can get advice from them about what to do in different difficult situations. You can also chat with an adult adviser at borntelefonen.dk. Both of these possibilities are totally anonymous.

DAY CARE

Most boys and girls in Denmark start in a nursery or with a child-minder when they are approx. 11 months old. Then they go to kindergarten from about three years old until they are six years old. 90% of 0-2 year-old children and 97% of 3-5 year old children attend a day care institution.

There are many advantages to children going to a day care centre. They participate in a community and play with other children. They learn to interact with others apart from their own family. They learn the Danish language, and learn about Danish society and culture. And they are more easily integrated, and grow up to do well. For example, it is difficult to take an education and get a job if you cannot speak Danish.

You have to pay for a nursery, child-minder or kindergarten, but if you do not have a high income, you can apply for a subsidy or for a free place (i.e. a place where you do not pay at all).



COMPULSORY EDUCATION AND PARENTAL RESPONSIBILITY

When children are 6 years old, they have to go to school. It is free to attend a state school in Denmark. All children, both girls and boys, have an obligation and right to attend 10 years of schooling. All boys and girls have the obligation and right to participate in all subjects, both in the academic subjects, in the creative subjects and in sports.

All children and adolescents in Denmark, both girls and boys, must also have sex education at school at certain times. This does not mean that they are encouraged to engage in sexual activity, but that they learn about gender, their bodies, sexuality and contraception.

It is the parents' responsibility that their children attend school and receive the statutory schooling. It is important that both girls and boys have the opportunity to participate in the lessons and that they have time to do homework. It is also important that parents have the same expectations of girls and boys and that they take girls' and boys' schooling equally seriously. A child's education provides the basis for her or his future well-being and place in society.

It is also important that children have free time and time to take part in recreational activities. Although it is good for children and adolescents to help out around the home, it is important that neither girls nor boys have so many duties at home that they do not have time for school, homework and recreational activities.

Parents have an obligation to cooperate with the child's institution and school. This means that parents must attend meetings and events at the institution and school. As both mothers and fathers are responsible for raising a child, both parents are also expected to get involved in the child's day care and schooling. If necessary, a parent can ask for an interpreter to attend school events. Fathers and mothers are also expected to help their child with homework (or make sure someone else can help the child), and to make sure that the child is well-rested, and that they have a packed lunch with them in school.

Child care centres and schools are obliged to contact the parents if they are concerned about a child. In Denmark, there is a tradition that teachers, parents and children talk together about the child's well-being and learning, and find solutions together for any problems. If there are big things happening in the home, it is a good idea for a parent to inform the teacher about it so that the teacher is aware if it has an effect on the child's well-being and learning.

TEENAGERS IN DENMARK

In Denmark, both girls and boys have more and more freedom, the older they get. But this also means more responsibilities, the older you get. Legally speaking, young people's responsibilities and rights also change, especially when they become 15 and 18, respectively.

15 years

As mentioned previously, a 15 year old has the right to a part-time job. He/ She can use the money they earn or receive as a gift, as they wish, and parents are not allowed to spend or keep the teenager's money. As mentioned previously, a 15 year old has the right to a part-time job. He/ She can use the money they earn or receive as a gift, as they wish, and parents are not allowed to spend or keep the teenager's money.

When you reach the age of 15, you have the right to decide on your own medical treatment. This means that you can decide whether you will be examined or receive the treatments you



are offered. However, the doctor does not have a duty of confidentiality, and parents could be informed of their child's health if the child is under 18 years old. If the information can cause conflict between the adolescent and the parents (e.g. information about the sex life of the young person), the doctor may choose not to inform the parents.

The age of criminal responsibility is 15 years. This means that when you are 15, you can be sentenced and punished. Until the age of 18, this will typically be in a young offender institution, or at a secured children's home. Girls and boys receive the same punishment for the same crime.

When a child is under 15, he/she cannot receive a judicial sentence and get a criminal record. However, a child's parents may have to pay a fine or compensation if the child commits a crime. If a child under the age of 15 commits a serious crime or if the child repeatedly commits crimes, the child may be taken into custody and placed in a secure institution.

The age of consent in Denmark is also 15 years old. This means that you have the right to decide in private about your sex life from this age. It also means that it is legal to have sex with a boy or girl who is 15 years old if the person wants to. It is illegal to have sex with a girl or a boy under the age of 15 if you are older, even if the person under 15 years wants to. To have sex means all forms of sexual activity, not just intercourse. This applies to both girls and boys, and a violation can lead to imprisonment of up to 8 years. If the child is under 12, the prison sentence can be up to 12 years.

Two young people of 14 years old may have sex with each other if they both want it, but a person of 15 years must not have sex with a 14-year-old. It does not matter if you are a girl or a boy. If someone is 15 years old and has sex with a person of 14 ½, often no action will be taken because the two are almost the same age.

18 years

When you reach the age of 18, you become an adult and of legal age. Boys and girls both get the same rights and responsibilities as all other adults when they turn 18. In addition to the things listed on p. 24, an 18 year old can sign contracts, e.g. for bank loans and sales contracts. Written agreements are binding, so you must always make sure that you know what you are signing. Otherwise, without knowing it, you may lose some of your rights, or commit to something that you regret later or cannot afford to pay for. A woman's and a man's signature are of equal legal value. If you are 18 and commit a crime, you can also be sentenced and punished in the same way as any other adult.

THE BODY AND SEXUALITY

Many teenagers and adults in Denmark have relationships. Being in a relationship means that two people have a romantic, and maybe but not necessarily, sexual relationship without being married. Most people in Denmark have had sexual experiences before they get married. Neither women nor men are expected to be virgins when they get married, and in general, honour and decency are not associated with virginity. It is also normal to talk openly about the body and sexuality, although at the same time it is also important to respect that people have different limits of personal modesty.



Both women and men can decide for themselves when they want to have sex and with whom. Although, a person over the age of 15 may not have sex with someone under 15 years old (see previous section).

For many people, both women and men, sexuality is an important part of a relationship. Both parties have the right to express their sexual wishes, but neither women nor men may demand that their partner fulfil their wishes. It is always positive for a couple to talk about sex in a marriage or relationship is possible.

You can also get more information about gender, the body and sexuality at your doctor, at a sexual health clinic around the country, or at Sex og Samfund on tel. no. 33 93 10 10. Here, both women and men can also get information anonymously on contraception and sexually transmitted diseases.

HOMOSEXUALITY

As mentioned, two men or two women can get married in Denmark, both in a church and at a registry office. They can also adopt children. Homosexual people and other sexual minorities have the same rights and responsibilities as all other citizens in society.

You must respect the sexual orientation of others, and not shout abuse, be violent, threaten or encourage violence against other people because you do not like their sexuality or choice of partner.

If you commit a crime against another person because of their gender, religion, skin colour or sexuality, you could receive a harsher punishment:

Criminal Code § 81: "In determining the penalty, it shall, as a rule, be considered a circumstance in aggravation [...] that the offence stems from others ethnical origins, religious beliefs, sexual orientation or similar".

VIRGINITY

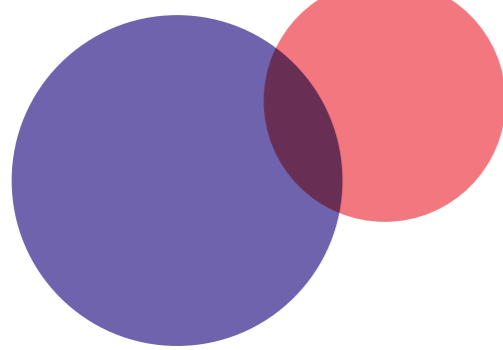
Many believe that an intact hymen is a symbol of a woman's virginity. But the hymen is not, as many believe, an unbroken membrane in the vagina that can rupture. It is an elastic mucous membrane that surrounds or partially covers the vaginal opening. There is already an opening, so the menstrual blood can flow through.

The majority of women do not bleed the first time they have sex with a man. If a woman bleeds, it is not necessarily because of a break in the hymen, but could be due to other things, such as small tears in mucous membranes. It is also impossible to see or feel if a woman has had sex, even for a doctor. Therefore, it is not possible to sew the hymen together. Some doctors offer an operation that can make an artificial 'hymen'. However, there is no guarantee that you will bleed the first time you have sex with a man, even if you have had this surgery.

FEMALE GENITAL MUTILATION

Female genital mutilation is forbidden in Denmark:

Criminal Code § 245a: "Any person who, by committing an act of violence, with or without consent, excises or in other way removes, in part or completely, female external sex organs shall be liable to imprisonment for any term not exceeding six years".



§ 246: "If an assault as indicated in Section 245 or Section 245 of this Act has been of such a gross character or has caused such serious consequences that the circumstances are particularly aggravating, the penalty may be increased to imprisonment for any term not exceeding 10 years."

This law also applies if a girl is taken abroad for female circumcision:

Criminal Code § 7:

"According to the Danish penal authority, acts committed within the territory of a foreign state by a person who, at the time of a preliminary charge, is a Danish national or a person resident in the Danish state with similar permanent residence in this country, shall also be subject to Danish criminal jurisdiction in the following circumstances, if;

2) at the time of the offence, the offender also has the same attachment to the country as stated above, and the act

a) includes sexual abuse of children, human trafficking or female genital mutilation or

b) is directed towards someone, who at the time of the offence has the above-mentioned attachment to this country".

ABORTION

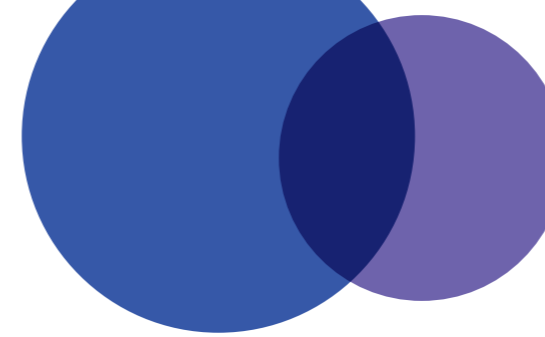
There is easy access to contraception in Denmark. You can get advice on contraception from your doctor and a prescription for birth control pills, etc. Some forms of contraception can also be bought in supermarkets, kiosks and pharmacies without prescriptions. Everyone - both women and men - has free access to contraception, but you have to pay for it.

If you do have an unwanted pregnancy, you can have an abortion legally up to the 12th week of pregnancy. After the 12th week, there must be particularly serious reasons to be able to get an abortion. It is the pregnant woman only who can decide if she wants an abortion. It is not a spouse, a parent or in-laws who can decide. However, if you find you have an unwanted pregnancy, it is good to talk with your partner about it and decide together what to do.

Doctors and hospital workers have patient confidentiality. This means that a spouse or family member will not know anything about your pregnancy or that you have decided to have an abortion if you do not want them to know.

As a rule, if you are under 18 and want an abortion, you must get permission from one of your parents. If your parents do not want to give permission for the abortion or if there are significant reasons why they should not know that you are pregnant or want an abortion, you can apply for permission to have an abortion without your parents' consent and without them knowing. Your doctor can help you.

The number of abortions has generally been falling since the 1970s when the right to free abortion was introduced. Today, approx. 15-16,000 women annually have an abortion in Denmark. On average, women of non-Western extraction have more abortions (about 14 per 1000 women in 2015) than women of Danish extraction (about 9 per 1000 women in 2015).



VIOLENCE AND RAPE

RAPE AND INDECENT EXPOSURE

All men and women have self-determination over their own body and who they want to have sex with. This means that it is a criminal offence to force somebody to have sex against their will, whether it is rape in the form of intercourse or another sexual activity. Both women and men always have the right to say no or stop, and this must be respected. If you continue trying to have sex with someone after it is clear that he or she does not want to, it is rape, even if that person does not physically resist.

This also applies to spouses, which means that you are not obliged to have sex with your spouse. It is rape to force your spouse to have sex against their will by means of violence or threats. Rape is a criminal offence with up to 8 years imprisonment, and in particularly severe cases, up to 12 years. Rape within a marriage, like violence, can give grounds for immediate divorce without prior separation.

Criminal code § 216: "It is forbidden for any person to force another to have sexual intercourse by violence or under threat of violence".

It is also forbidden to have sex with someone who is unable to give their consent, e.g. if they are unconscious, severely intoxicated, or heavily affected by medication or psychedelic drugs.

If you have been raped or suffered an attempted rape, or a person you know forces you to have sex, you can contact your nearest rape centre - Center for Voldtægtsofre. It is also rape if your spouse forces you to have sex against your will.

There is a centre for rape victims in every region in Denmark. Tel. no. 78463543
www.voldtaegt

It is also forbidden to molest others sexually or to violate their modesty. It is never okay to touch another person sexually if the other person does not want it, regardless of that person's dress or behaviour. Nor should you be naked in front of another person or flash your genitals if the other person does not want it.

Criminal Code § 232: "Anyone who, in the case of indecent exposure violates someone's modesty, shall be fined or imprisoned for up to 2 years or, if the offence has been committed against a child under the age of 15, with a fine or imprisonment of up to 4 years."

Violence

Likewise, it is illegal and a criminal offence to use violence in Denmark.

Criminal code § 244: "Any person who commits an act of violence against, or otherwise attacks the person of others, shall be liable to a fine or to imprisonment for any term not exceeding 3 years."



MINISTER FOR LIGESTILLING

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