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Romance Is No Shield Under POCSO

Madras High Court Reaffirms Minors Cannot Legally Consent

Sheikh Rayees • June 16, 2026

PUBLISHED REPORT

The Madurai Bench of the Madras High Court has underscored a fundamental principle of the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act, 2012 (POCSO Act): a minor's consent carries no legal recognition, even when the relationship is described as romantic or consensual. A Division Bench comprising Justices N. Anand Venkatesh and K.K. Ramakrishnan made the observation while deciding an appeal filed by a man convicted under the POCSO Act in...

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