

## **Law No. (37) of 2012**

### **With respect to the Promulgation of the Child Law**

**We, Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa, King of the Kingdom of Bahrain.**

Having reviewed the Constitution,

Bahraini Nationality Law of 1963, as amended,

Legislative Decree No. (6) of 1970 with respect to the Registration of Births and Deaths, as amended,

Law No. (3) of 1975 on Public Health, as amended,

Penal Code promulgated by Legislative Decree No. (15) of 1976, as amended,

Legislative Decree No. (17) of 1976 with respect to Juveniles,

Labor Law in the Private Sector promulgated by Legislative Decree No. (23) of 1976, as amended,

Legislative Decree No. (14) of 1977 regarding Health Precautions to Prevent Infectious Diseases,

Traffic Law promulgated by Legislative Decree No. (9) of 1979,

Attorney Law promulgated by Legislative Decree No. (26) of 1980, as amended,

Guardianship of the Estate Law promulgated by Legislative Decree No. (7) of 1986,

Legislative Decree No. (16) of 1991 with respect to the Accession of the State of Bahrain to the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, adopted by the General Assembly in November 1989, as amended by Legislative Decree No. (8) of 2000,

Legislative Decree No. (4) of 1995 with respect to the supervision over the use, marketing and promotion of breast milk substitutes,

Legislative Decree No. (25) of 1998 with respect to Private Educational Institutions,

Legislative Decree No. (22) of 2000 with respect to Family Custody,

Legislative Decree No. (26) of 2000 with respect to Procedures for Claiming Names and Surnames, as amended,

Civil Law promulgated by Legislative Decree No. (19) of 2001,  
Trade Union Law promulgated by Legislative Decree No. (33) of 2002, as amended by Legislative Decree No. (49) of 2006,  
Criminal Procedure Law promulgated by Legislative Decree No. (46) of 2002,  
Education Law No. (27) of 2005,  
Law No. (34) of 2005 with respect to Establishing the Alimony Fund,  
Law No. (18) of 2006 with respect to Social Security,  
Law No. (74) of 2006 with respect to the Care, Rehabilitation and Employment of Persons with Disabilities,  
Law No. (5) of 2007 with respect to Combating the Act of Begging and Homelessness,  
Trafficking of Persons Law No. (1) of 2008,  
Law No. (19) of 2009 promulgating the Family Provisions Law (Section One), and the Civil Service Law promulgated by Legislative Decree No. (48) of 2010,  
The Shura Council and the Council of Representatives have passed the following Law, which we have ratified and enacted:

#### **Article One**

The provisions of the accompanying Child Law shall apply.

#### **Article Two**

The ministries concerned with the application of the provisions of this Law shall issue the executive regulations and administrative decisions referred to within six months from the day following the date of its publication in the Official Gazette.

#### **Article Three**

The Prime Minister and the Ministers – each within his jurisdiction – shall implement the provisions of this Law, and it shall come into force from the day following the date of its publication in the Official Gazette.

**King of the Kingdom of Bahrain**

**Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa**

Issued in Riffa Palace:

Date: 19 Ramadan 1433 AH

Corresponding to August 7, 2012

## **Part One**

### **General Provisions**

#### **Article (1)**

The State shall guarantee the protection of childhood, motherhood and shall care for children, and shall work to create the appropriate conditions for their proper upbringing in all respects.

#### **Article (2)**

The State shall guarantee the child the enjoyment of the rights stipulated for in this Law without prejudice to sex, origin, race, disability, language, religion, or creed, subject to the provisions and benefits stipulated for in other applicable laws relevant to the Bahraini child.

#### **Article (3)**

The protection of the child and ensuring their best interests shall be a priority in all decisions or procedures related to children, regardless of the authority which issues or commences them.

#### **Article (4)**

In this Law, a child means any person who does not exceed eighteen Gregorian years, subject to the special applicable laws regulating those under this age.

The proof of the child's age shall be according to a birth certificate, Identification card or any other official document.

In the absence of such document, the age shall be determined by the authorities in respect of which a decision is issued by the Minister of Justice, Islamic Affairs and Endowments in agreement with the Minister of Health.

#### **Article (5)**

The child may not be attributed to someone other than their parents, and adoption is prohibited.

#### **Article (6)**

Every child shall have the right to a name which distinguishes them, and this name shall be registered upon birth in the birth records in accordance with the

provisions of the Registration of Births and Deaths Law. Such name shall not be insulting or demeaning to the dignity of the child, or contrary to religious beliefs.

#### **Article (7)**

In the employment of the child, care shall be taken not to harm his safety, health or the essence of his rights stipulated for in this Law. The provisions of labor laws in the Kingdom shall also be observed.

#### **Article (8)**

The child has priority in obtaining prevention and relief in natural or man-made disasters or wars.

#### **Article (9)**

The State is committed to ensuring the right of the child to an environment free from the dangers of pollution, preparing environmental awareness and education programs, and issuing decisions through which the bodies concerned spread awareness and develop environmental awareness.

#### **Article (10)**

The child shall be raised to be proud of their national identity, and to be loyal to Bahrain, in terms of land, history and a sense of civilized affiliation to the national, Arabic and Islamic values and constants, and to instill a culture of human fraternity and openness to the other.

#### **Article (11)**

A national committee for childhood shall be formed by a decision of the Council of Ministers headed by the Minister of Human Rights and Social Development and includes in its membership representatives from the Ministry of Human Rights and Social Development, Ministry of Interior, Ministry of Education, Supreme Council for Women, Public Prosecution, Information Affairs Authority, Ministry of Labor, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Justice, Islamic Affairs and Endowments, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, University of Bahrain, General Organization for Youth and Sports, and two members from civil society institutions which are concerned with children.

#### **Article (12)**

The National Committee for Childhood shall specialize in the following:

- 1– Propose a national strategy for childhood which aims to aid the relevant authorities concerned with childhood and to develop and reinforce their projects and programs which serve and guarantee the rights of the child.
- 2– Monitor and study the basic problems and needs of childhood and propose appropriate solutions for them, including proposing legislations and recommendations to the relevant official authorities in the Kingdom of Bahrain.
- 3– Coordination and cooperation between the various governmental bodies and Non–Governmental Organizations in relation to childhood.
- 4– Cooperate with the relevant regional, Arabian and international organizations and bodies working in the field of childhood and benefit from their experiences and programs to achieve their goals.
- 5– Work to establish a detailed database for everything related to childhood in the Kingdom of Bahrain and strive to follow–up on updating it in coordination with all relevant governmental and private bodies.
- 6– Prepare national reports relating to the international agreements signed by the Kingdom, especially the International Convention on the Rights of the Child.

## **Part Two**

### **Child Health**

#### **Chapter One**

##### **Healthcare**

##### **Article (13)**

The State guarantees the provision of periodic examination services for the pregnant mother prior to childbirth, as well as the periodic examination services for the child at birth to detect genetic and serious illnesses, and it is also committed to providing periodic examination services to ensure the healthy and sound development of the child.

The Minister of Health shall issue a decision containing a list of such illnesses.

The child should be vaccinated and immunized with vaccinations against infectious diseases, free of charge, according to the regulations and places specified by the Ministry of Health.

The obligation to vaccinate and immunize the child shall rest with the parents or the caregiver.

The child may be vaccinated or immunized with protective vaccinations by a private doctor who is licensed to practice the profession, provided that the person responsible for providing the child for vaccination or immunization provides a certificate proving this to the official health authorities prior to the lapse of the specified period.

#### **Article (14)**

In the event that the parent or the caregiver of the child refuses to treat the child from a serious illness which has been diagnosed, and recovery from such illness is possible, the consulting physician shall immediately present it to a specialized medical committee to express his opinion thereon and inform the parent or the caregiver of the importance and necessity of the treatment, and if the parents or caregiver of the child refuse such treatment, then the Ministry of Health may intervene to protect and provide the child with the necessary treatment.

### **Chapter Two**

#### **Child Health Record**

#### **Article (15)**

A- The child shall have a health record for periodic examinations, in which the child's health status, periodic checks and vaccinations are recorded, and the record shall remain in the health center until the child enrolls in school, then the record shall be transferred to the school health department, which shall register the results of the periodic monitoring of the health status of the child throughout the stages of school education.

B – Each child shall have a health card which records personal data, blood type and chronic diseases suffered and the type of disability, if any, and is given to the parents or caregiver of the child.

The rules which regulate both the record and the card and their information are determined by a decision of the Minister of Health.

### **Chapter Three**

#### **Baby Food**

##### **Article (16)**

It is prohibited to manufacture or import food and preparations for feeding infants and children with colored or preservative materials or any food additives unless they are in conformity with national or Gulf standards and specifications issued by a decision of the Minister of Industry and Trade in coordination with the Minister of Health.

Baby food and containers must be free from harmful substances and pathogens which are specified by a decision of the Minister of Health.

##### **Article (17)**

It is prohibited to circulate or advertise baby food and preparations in any manner of advertising, except after registering them and obtaining a license to circulate them and the way they are announced by the Ministry of Health, in accordance with the conditions and procedures to be specified by a decision of the Minister of Health in coordination with the Minister of Industry and Trade.

### **Part Three**

#### **Social Welfare**

##### **Chapter One**

##### **Nursery**

##### **Article (18)**

Every suitable place dedicated to the care of children who are yet to reach the age of four shall be considered a nursery. Such nurseries shall be licensed by the Ministry of Human Rights and Social Development, which controls and supervises them.

The Minister of Human Rights and Social Development shall issue the relevant executive provisions and decisions.

##### **Article (19)**

Nurseries aim to achieve the following objectives:

- 1– Socially caring for children and developing their talents and abilities.
- 2– Preparing children physically, culturally, psychologically and morally, in a proper way, consistent with the goals of society and its religious values.
- 3– Spreading awareness amongst the families of the children to ensure their proper upbringing.
- 4– Strengthening and developing social ties between the nursery and the children's families.
- 5– A decision from the Minister of Human Rights and Social Development shall be issued determining the means and methods which guarantee the achievement of the above purposes.

#### **Article (20)**

Natural or legal persons are licensed to establish nurseries in accordance with the provisions issued by a decision of the Minister of Human Rights and Social Development.

The decision to grant or refuse the license must be issued within (thirty days) from the date of submitting the application, and failure to decide on the application during the aforementioned period is considered a rejection of the request.

Any request which has been rejected explicitly or implicitly may be appealed before the competent court within (thirty days) from the date of the notification of the refusal of the request or from the date of the lapse of the period specified for deciding upon the request.

The licensee is obligated to draw up an internal regulation within (thirty days) from the date of issuance of the license for the nursery, approved by the Ministry of Human Rights and Social Development, and the rules and conditions which shall be included in the model regulation for nurseries shall be issued by a decision of the Minister of Human Rights and Social Development.

#### **Article (21)**

The competent technical bodies of the Ministry of Human Rights and Social Development shall perform technical inspection and financial and administrative supervision of nurseries, to ensure the implementation of the provisions of this Law and its implementing decisions

The Ministry shall also notify the nursery of any violations it finds, and warn it to correct it within an appropriate time limit specified by the Ministry.

#### **Article (22)**

The Minister of Justice, Islamic Affairs and Endowments shall issue a decision, in agreement with the Minister of Human Rights and Social Development, to authorize some officials of the competent bodies referred to in Article (21) of this Law the capacity of Judicial Investigation Officers.

#### **Article (23)**

The Minister of Human Rights and Social Development may, in the event of imminent danger which threaten the safety and health of children, temporarily close the nursery until the situation is corrected within ten working days, and the decision for closure shall remain in effect if the reasons for the closure are not rectified.

The owner of the nursery may appeal the decision before the Court of Urgent Matters within thirty days from the date of its notification.

### **Chapter Two**

#### **Alternative care**

#### **Article (24)**

Family custody for children whose father or parents are unknown, orphans or whose circumstances are similar is organized in accordance with the provisions of Legislative Decree No. (22) of 2000 with respect to Family Custody.

#### **Article (25)**

The Ministry of Human Rights and Social Development shall establish a system for alternative care, which aims to provide social, psychological and health care for children whose circumstances prevented them from continuing in their natural

families, and a decision shall be issued by the Minister of Human Rights and Social Development to regulate alternative care.

#### **Article (26)**

The Social Welfare Institution for children deprived of family care means every shelter for children, and it includes those deprived of family care or have unknown fathers or parents, orphans or those similar to them.

A child may continue in the institution if the child is enrolled in higher education and shall remain until graduation if the circumstances which led the child to be part of the institution exist and the child has successfully passed the stages of education.

A decision shall be issued by the Minister of Human Rights and Social Development specifying the model regulation for these institutions and the data which they contain.

### **Chapter Three**

#### **Implementing Visitation Judgements**

#### **Article (27)**

In the event that the place of visitation is not agreed upon, the visitation judgement issued by the competent court regarding the child under custody shall be implemented in the social centers designated for this purpose in a manner which guarantees the psychological and social safety of the child.

#### **Article (28)**

The Ministry of Human Rights and Social Development shall be obliged to allocate places in social centers in all the governorates of the Kingdom to implement the visitation judgement, such centers shall be working in the morning and evening periods throughout the week and specialized staff shall be provided.

### **Part Four**

#### **Traffic Risk Protection**

#### **Article (29)**

Regulations for driving licenses or other rights and obligations, and all traffic and road use regulations, shall be observed in accordance with the rules stipulated for in the Traffic Law.

### **Article (30)**

In ensuring that the child is protected from the dangers of traffic, the provisions of the Traffic Law, its executive regulations and the decisions implementing it, shall be taken into consideration.

### **Part Five**

### **Care and Education and Rehabilitation of a Child with Disability**

### **Article (31)**

A child with disability has equal rights as all children, in addition to the rights required for special condition.

The State is obligated to provide the child with disability, social, health, psychological and educational care and to provide such child with ways to rely upon themselves and to facilitate their integration and participation in society.

The State guarantees the child with disability the right to rehabilitation and access to social, psychological, medical, educational and professional services to enable them to overcome the effects of their disability.

### **Article (32)**

The State is committed to providing support and assistance to the families of children with disabilities, to enable them to provide the necessary care for these children in all aspects stipulated for in the previous Article. Similarly, children of a Bahraini mother whose married to a foreigner.

The State guarantees children with disabilities equal rights with regard to family life, and works to prevent the concealment, abandonment, neglect or isolation of children with disabilities.

### **Article (33)**

In no case may a child be separated from their parents because the child's disability or a parent or both parents' disability unless this separation is deemed necessary and in the best interest of the child.

In such case, alternative care should be provided to the child within the child's extended family, and if this is not possible, then a family will provide the child with the necessary family care.

## **Part Six**

### **Education and Edification of the Child**

#### **Chapter one**

#### **General Goals**

##### **Article (34)**

Educating a child aims to develop their personality, talents and mental and physical abilities to their fullest potential.

## **Part Two**

### **Kindergarten**

##### **Article (35)**

The State shall work to make education in kindergartens available to children in the age group of (three to six years) in order to achieve a comprehensive and integrated development for every child in the mental, physical, motor, spiritual and social fields.

##### **Article (36)**

Kindergartens are subject to the plans and programs of the Ministry of Education and its administrative and technical supervision. A decision of the Minister of Education shall determine their specifications, how they are established, and it organizes the work in them, their educational curricula, and the conditions for admission and enrollment.

## **Chapter Three**

### **Edification of the Child**

##### **Article (37)**

The State shall guarantee the child's right to cultural needs in various fields of knowledge and art, and shall provide the child with opportunities to communicate and learn about human heritage and scientific progress.

##### **Article (38)**

The State shall guarantee the establishment of libraries for children in all the governorates of the Kingdom of which a decision shall be issued by the Ministry of Education. Clubs for children with disabilities dedicated to their needs shall also be established and it shall be affiliated to the Ministry of Human Rights and Social Development and a decision establishing and organizing its work shall be issued by the Minister of Human Rights and Social Development in coordination with the concerned authorities.

#### **Article (39)**

It is prohibited to publish, display or circulate prints, audiovisual or reading publications or artistic works related to children which are sexually arousing or encourage crime and moral delinquency.

#### **Article (40)**

Prohibition of displayed material to children in cinemas and other similar public places shall be in accordance with the conditions and rules specified by a decision issued by the Minister of Culture and it shall be prohibited on exploiters and managers of cinemas and beneficiaries and supervisors of events and those responsible for entrance to such places to allow children to view the displayed material if the displayed material is prohibited to children according to a decision by the competent authority. It is also prohibited for children to be accompanied upon entrance to view such movies or events.

#### **Article (41)**

Cinema directors and other similar public places shall announce at the exhibition venue and in all means of advertisement specific to the exhibition that it is prohibited for a performance to be viewed by children. Such announcement shall be made clear and in both Arabic and English.

### **Part Seven**

#### **Protect the Child From Abuse**

#### **Article (42)**

The State shall guarantee the protection of the child in cases where the child is subjected to abuse or neglect.

### **Article (43)**

A center called the "Child Protection Center" shall be established in the Ministry of Human Rights and Social Development, which includes in its organizational structure branch offices of the Ministries of Justice, Interior, Health, and Education.

### **Article (44)**

Abuse in the application of the provisions of this Law means every act or omission which leads to direct or indirect harm to the child that prevents the proper, safe and healthy development and growth, and that includes physical, psychological, sexual abuse, neglect or economic exploitation.

Physical abuse means every act which leads to intentional bodily harm to the child.

Mental abuse means every act which harms the child's psychological development and health.

Sexual abuse refers to exposing the child to any sexual activity, including showing nudity, foreplay, or penetration (vaginal or anal), initiating it, or exposing the child to watching pornographic movies or images, or using the child to produce or distribute it in any way.

Negligence means that the parents or caregiver are not performing what they are obliged to in order to preserve the life and safety of the child.

### **Article (45)**

As an exception to the provisions of Article (9) of the Criminal Procedure Code, it is not required to file a criminal case related to the child's physical or sexual abuse of the person, to present an oral or written complaint to the Public Prosecution or to one of the Judicial Investigation Officers, and it is not permissible in all cases to waive the criminal case related to abuse of the child. If the child is physically or sexually abused by the parents or his caregivers, the Public Prosecution shall appoint a legal representative for the child.

### **Article (46)**

Anyone who receives information related to a child's exposure to any of the cases of abuse shall take the initiative to report this to any of the authorities stipulated for in the following Article and shall provide such authorities with any information they may have in this regard.

#### **Article (47)**

Reporting cases of child abuse shall be to any of the following authorities:

- 1– The Child Protection Center stipulated for in Article (43) of this Law.
- 2– The Public Prosecution.
- 3– Police Stations.
- 4– The authorities responsible for in the Ministries of Justice, Interior, Health, and Education.

The authorities stipulated for in paragraphs (2), (3) and (4) should report any cases of child abuse and inform the Child Protection Center of all the facts that were reported.

#### **Article (48)**

If the doctor determines when examining a child that the child has been subjected to any of the cases of abuse and that the discharge of the child from the hospital endangers the life and safety of such child and the parents or caregiver refuse to remain in the hospital, the doctor shall not hand the child over and keep the child in the hospital and inform the Child Protection Center to take whatever is necessary in such matter.

#### **Article (49)**

A– The Child Protection Center prepares a special record in which cases of child abuse are recorded, and everything recorded in this record is confidential and may not be disclosed or viewed without permission from the Public Prosecution or the competent court, as the case may be.

B – Prohibit the disclosure of the identity of the child who has been abused or the identity of the abuser when using such information to publish analyzes or statistics or official reports.

C– It is prohibited to disclose the identity of the person who reported any cases of child abuse except in cases specified by Law.

### **Article (50)**

The Child Protection Center is the central authority responsible for evaluating, sheltering and following up on the child who was subjected to abuse and coordinating the services provided to the children and their families by the concerned authorities. The Center undertakes all the tasks and powers necessary to protect the child from abuse, including:

- 1– Take all direct and urgent measures to protect the child from abuse.
- 2– Study cases of child abuse in terms of health, psychological, social, economical and legal aspects, and take the appropriate measures.
- 3– Follow–up on cases of child abuse on a regular basis in the case of handing the child over to the parents or the caregiver.
- 4– Provide alternative care outside the family urgently and temporarily for a child who was subjected to abuse if the life of the child is at risk or if a sexual abuse had occurred from the parents or the caregiver.
- 5– Take all measures to rehabilitate the child who was subjected to abuse and to rehabilitate the family to ensure the return of the child to the family in a normal state, such treatment shall include, psychological rehabilitation, edification and educational courses, development of social skills and self–protection skills of the child, and treatment of addiction in the parents or the caregiver.
- 6– Provide a hotline to receive cases or complaints related to abuse.

### **Article (51)**

The Child Protection Center shall have a Board of Directors formed every three years by virtue of a decision by the Minister of Human Rights and Social Development, and includes members representing the Ministries of Justice, Islamic Affairs, Endowments, Interior, Health, Education, Human Rights and Social Development, the Media Affairs Authority, and the Supreme Council for Women, and two members representing civil society institutions.

### **Article (52)**

The forensic and psychological medical examination and evaluation of the case of the child subjected to abuse shall be conducted and investigated at the headquarters of the Child Protection Center and shall not be transferred to another place except in cases of necessity.

The child shall be examined for sexually transmitted diseases and take all necessary measures to treat it.

### **Article (53)**

The Child Protection Center Board of Directors shall assume the following tasks and responsibilities:

- 1- Set plans and programs to protect the child from abuse and supervise its implementation.
- 2- Coordinate with all the official and private authorities concerned on protecting the child from abuse.
- 3- Supervise the activities and work of the Center.
- 4- Provide advice to the relevant authorities on child protection from abuse.
- 5- Develop plans for studies and research related to the phenomenon of child abuse and supervise its implementation.
- 6- Establish an internal bylaw to regulate the work of the Center.

### **Article (54)**

A- The Child Protection Center will have a president appointed by a decision of the Minister of Human Rights and Social Development based on the recommendation of the Board of Directors of the Center.

B - The Child Protection Center is managed by a full-time specialized president, who shall be responsible for managing its administrative and technical affairs and supervising the progress of its work.

### **Article (55)**

The president of the Child Protection Center prepares an annual report on the activity of the Center during the previous fiscal year and the obstacles faced by the Center and the proposed solutions in this regard. The president shall present

this report to the Board of Directors of the Center within two months of the date of the end of the fiscal year, provided that this board submits the report to the Minister of Human Rights and Social Development, along with the observations of the Board, to take the necessary steps in this regard.

#### **Article (56)**

If the child is in urgent need of protection or if the child is likely to leave the country, the Public Prosecution may, upon the request of the president of the Center, issue a temporary decision to transfer the care of the child outside the family provided that the case of the child is presented to the competent court on the first working day to take a decision to determine the person or authority obligated to supervise or care for the child, temporarily or permanently, and the amount of his or her cost and the person obligated to spend such amount.

The Ministry of Human Rights and Social Development shall ensure a safe place to care for the child outside the family, temporarily or permanently, due to the child being subjected to abuse by the parents or the caregiver.

#### **Article (57)**

It is a criminal act to solicit children and exploit them via the internet, and other modern means of communication in issues that are contrary to public morals and public order or inappropriate to their age.

#### **Article (58)**

Child custody may not be transferred except by a judgment of a competent court. The Child Protection Center in emergencies may, by order of the Public Prosecution, transfer the child, subjected to serious harm due to abuse preventing the child from remaining within the vicinity of the family or the caregiver, through the female police and provide alternative shelter for the child, provided that the case shall be brought before the competent court within (24 hours) to issue a decision, and the Center may resort to the competent court to request a ruling to transfer the custody of the child to a foster family provided that it is a relative of the child up to the fourth degree and in the absence of

relatives within such degree the custody is transferred to whomever the court deems appropriate.

#### **Article (59)**

It is prohibited to exploit the child in various forms of organized and unorganized crime, including implanting ideas of intolerance and hatred within the child, and inciting the child to carry out acts of violence and intimidation.

#### **Article (60)**

It is prohibited to exploit children in gatherings, marches and demonstrations which are political.

### **Part Eight**

#### **Penalties**

#### **Article (61)**

Without prejudice to any more severe punishment stipulated for in any other law, anyone who violates the provisions of Article (5) of this Law shall be subjected to imprisonment and a fine, or either of these two penalties.

#### **Article (62)**

Without prejudice to any more severe punishment stipulated for in any other law, anyone who violates any of the provisions of Articles (16) and (17) shall be subjected to imprisonment for a period of not less than three months and a fine of not less than five hundred dinars and not more than two thousand dinars, or either of these two penalties, In all cases, the confiscation of foodstuffs, containers, and advertisements for the crime subject to the crime shall be imposed.

#### **Article (63)**

Whomever establishes or runs a nursery or changes its location or specifications, shall be subjected to imprisonment and a fine of not less than two hundred dinars and not exceeding one thousand dinars, or either of these two penalties.

The Public Prosecution may, at the request of the Ministry of Human Rights and Social Development, order the closure of the nursery established without a license pending the settlement of the case, and the owner of the nursery may

appeal the decision of the Public Prosecution before the competent court within a week of the date of notification of the decision.

#### **Article (64)**

Without prejudice to any more severe punishment stipulated for in any other law, anyone who violates any of the provisions of Articles (40) and (41) of this Law shall be subjected to a fine not exceeding one hundred dinars.

#### **Article (65)**

The following shall be subjected to imprisonment and a fine not exceeding two thousand dinars, or either of these two penalties:

- 1– Anyone who violates the provisions of Article (46) of this Law.
- 2– Anyone who knowingly provided false or misleading information or prepared a report which contradicts the reality of any abuse.
- 3– Anyone who detained or sheltered a child who has been subjected to abuse with the intention of withholding the protection established under the provisions of this Law from the child.

#### **Article (66)**

Without prejudice to any more severe punishment stipulated for in any other law, anyone who lures children and exploits them via the internet, on matters contrary to public morals shall be subjected to imprisonment and a fine, or either of these two penalties.

#### **Article (67)**

Without prejudice to any more severe punishment stipulated for in any other law, anyone who sexually harasses a child with foreplay, showing nudity, or being coerced into watching pornographic images or movies in any way, including the internet, shall be subjected to imprisonment for a period of not less than six months.

#### **Article (68)**

Without prejudice to any more severe punishment stipulated for in any other law, anyone who violates the provisions of Article (59) of this Law shall be subjected

to imprisonment for a period of not less than a year and a fine not exceeding one thousand dinars, or either of these two penalties.

**Article (69)**

Without prejudice to any more severe punishment stipulated for in any other law, anyone who violates the provisions of Article (60) of this Law shall be subjected to imprisonment for a period of not less than a year and a fine not exceeding one thousand dinars, or either of these two penalties.