

**609.3775 CHILD TORTURE.**

Subdivision 1. **Definition.** As used in this section, "torture" means the intentional infliction of extreme mental anguish, or extreme psychological or physical abuse, when committed in an especially depraved manner.

Subd. 2. **Crime.** A person who tortures a child is guilty of a felony and may be sentenced to imprisonment for not more than 25 years or to payment of a fine of not more than \$35,000, or both.

Subd. 3. **Proof; evidence.** (a) Expert testimony as to the existence or extent of mental anguish or psychological abuse is not a requirement for a conviction under this section.

(b) A child's special susceptibility to mental anguish or psychological abuse does not constitute an independent cause of the condition so that a defendant is exonerated from criminal liability.

(c) Proof that a victim suffered pain is not an element of a violation of this section.

**History:** *1Sp2021 c 11 art 2 s 39*