

MURDER & MANSLAUGHTER



MURDER

For someone to be guilty of murder, they must be found to have caused the death of another human. Intent is important - they must have deliberately meant to kill or seriously hurt them. They must:

- be of sound mind
- unlawfully kill - not in self-defence or war
- be a living human being
- act with intent to kill or to seriously injure

MANSLAUGHTER

A person may be guilty of voluntary manslaughter on the grounds of diminished responsibility if they are suffering from an abnormality of mind. The abnormality must make it impossible to do one of the following:

- understand what they are doing
- form a rational judgement
- exercise self-control