

Parental Rights Mississippi

Last Updated: April 2023

Question	Answer
Does the state allow for termination or limitation of parental rights when a child is born from rape?	Yes
Does the state require a conviction for the sexual offense to terminate or limit the rapist's parental rights?	No
May the state terminate or limit parental rights when there was a sexual assault that led to the birth of the child, but no conviction?	Yes
What parental rights can be terminated or limited?	Terminated: "Parental Rights" of Custody; Visitation
Are there any exceptions to the termination or limitation of a rapist's parental rights?	N/A
What other rights may be impacted by terminating a rapist's parental rights?	N/A
What is the procedure for termination or limitation of parental rights in these circumstances?	Victim must petition the court
What proof do you have to show to terminate or limit the rapist parent's parental rights?	Victim must show by clear and convincing Evidence that an unlawful sexual act as defined under Section 97-3-65 or 97-3-95, or under a similar law of another state, territory, possession or Native American tribe where the offense occurred, and that the child was conceived as a result of the unlawful sexual act.
Are there any time limits for when a petition must be filed to terminate or limit the rapist parent's rights?	N/A
Does the law apply to both adult victims and underage victims?	Yes

Does the law have any exceptions for married or co-habiting victims?	No
Can a court require the rapist parent to pay child support after parental rights have been terminated?	N/A
Statutory Citations	See, § 93-15-119. Grounds For Involuntary Termination Of Parental Rights; Standard Of Proof; Rebuttal Of Allegations Of Desertion; Inquiry As To Military Status