12. The criminal process: the suspect and the police

English Legal System (3rd edn)
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Print Publication Date: Apr 2018
DOI: 10.1093/he/9780198808152.001.0001
Published online: Sep 2018
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DOI: 10.1093/he/9780198808152.003.0012

In order to investigate a criminal offence, the police may need to stop and search, arrest, detain, and/or question a suspect. This chapter explains the key rules that govern the exercise of police powers. The use of stop and search powers, in particular, has long been controversial as there is evidence that black and Asian people are more likely to be stopped than white people. The chapter also considers powers of arrest and the way in which arrests should be carried out, as well as minimum rights and standards for the detention and questioning of suspects.

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