

# The hierarchy of **slavery offences** in the *Commonwealth Criminal Code*

Imprisonment  
(Max years)

25  
20  
17  
12  
9  
7

**270.7C Debt bondage offences**  
In s 270.1A debt bondage can occur when a pledge of personal services is made as security for a (purported) debt where the debt claimed is manifestly excessive; or the reasonable value of services is not applied toward the liquidation of the debt; or the length and nature of services are not respectively limited and defined.

**7 YEARS IMPRISONMENT**

aggravated offence (refer to: s 270.8):  
**imprisonment for 7 years**

'intentionally':  
**imprisonment for 4 years**

**270.7 Deceptive recruiting for labour or services**  
In s 270.7 (a) (b) the recruiter engages in the conduct with the intention of inducing another person (the victim) to enter into an engagement to provide labour or services; and (c) the conduct causes the victim to be deceived...

**9 YEARS IMPRISONMENT**

(a) aggravated offence (refer to: s 270.8):  
**imprisonment for 9 years**

(b) 'in any other case':  
**imprisonment for 7 years**

**270.6A Forced labour offences**  
In s 270.6A (1) ... because of the use of coercion, threat or deception... not free to cease providing labour or services or to leave the place or area where the victim provides the labour or service

**12 YEARS IMPRISONMENT**

(1)(a) aggravated offence (refer to: s 270.8):  
**imprisonment for 12 years**

(1)(b) 'in any other case':  
**imprisonment for 9 years**

(2) (a) and (b) 'person conducts any business... involves forced labour of another person(s)

(a) aggravated offence (refer to: s 270.8):  
**imprisonment for 12 years**

(b) any other case:  
**imprisonment for 9 years**

**270.5 Servitude offences**  
In s 270.4 (1) ... because of the use of coercion, threat or deception... not free to cease providing labour or services or to leave the place... and is deprived of personal freedom in aspects of life other than the provision of the labour or services

**20 YEARS IMPRISONMENT**

(1)(a) aggravated offence (refer to: s 270.8):  
**imprisonment for 20 years**

(1)(b) 'in any other case':  
**imprisonment for 15 years**

(2)(a) and (b) 'person conducts any business... involves the servitude of another person(s)

(a) aggravated offence (refer to: s 270.8):  
**imprisonment for 20 years**

(b) any other case:  
**imprisonment for 15 years**

**270.3 Slavery offences**  
S 270.1 ... slavery is the condition of a person over whom any or all of the powers attaching to the right of ownership are exercised, including where such a condition results from a debt or contract made by the person

**25 YEARS IMPRISONMENT**

(1) 'intentionally':  
**imprisonment for 25 years**

**17 YEARS IMPRISONMENT**

(2) 'reckless(ly)':  
**imprisonment for 17 years**

