

A golden scale of justice is positioned on the right side of the image. It features a central vertical pillar supporting a horizontal beam. Two pans are suspended from the beam by thin golden chains. The scale is set against a solid blue background.

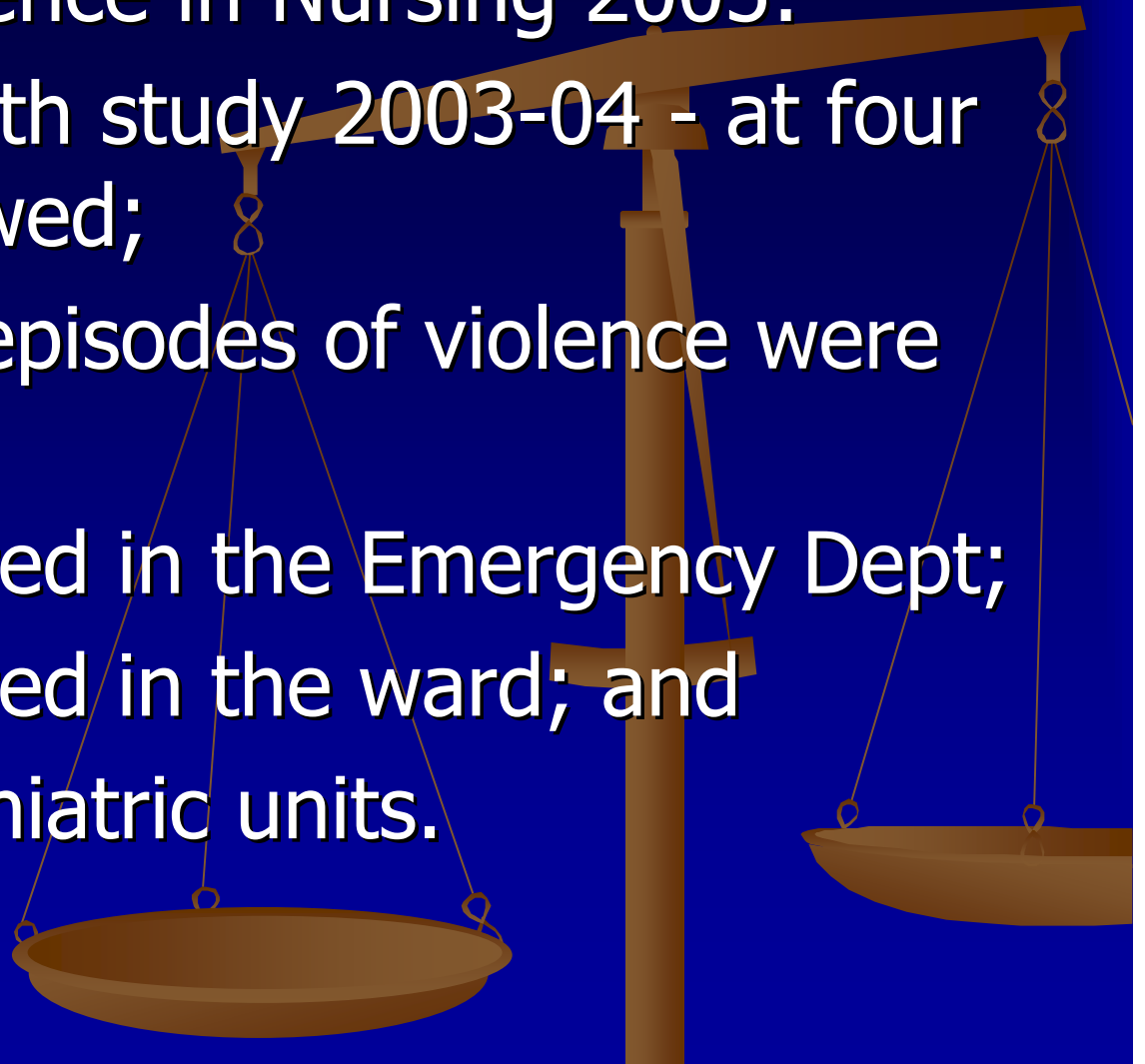
“On whose authority”

**Senior Sergeant Chris Thynne &
Sergeant Dave Short
Victoria Police**

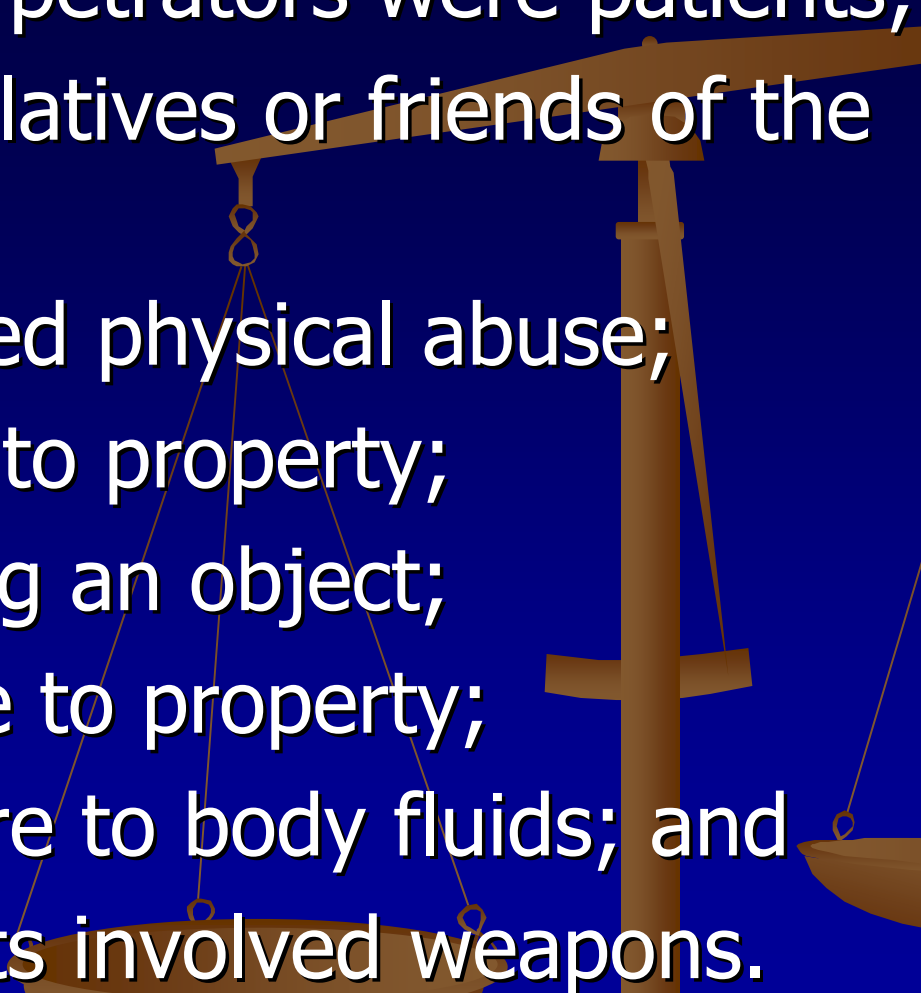
Workplace violence

Occupational violence in Nursing 2005:

- Victorian 6 month study 2003-04 - at four study sites showed;
 - Total of **264** episodes of violence were recorded;
 - **68.2%** occurred in the Emergency Dept;
 - **20.8%** occurred in the ward; and
 - **6.1%** in psychiatric units.

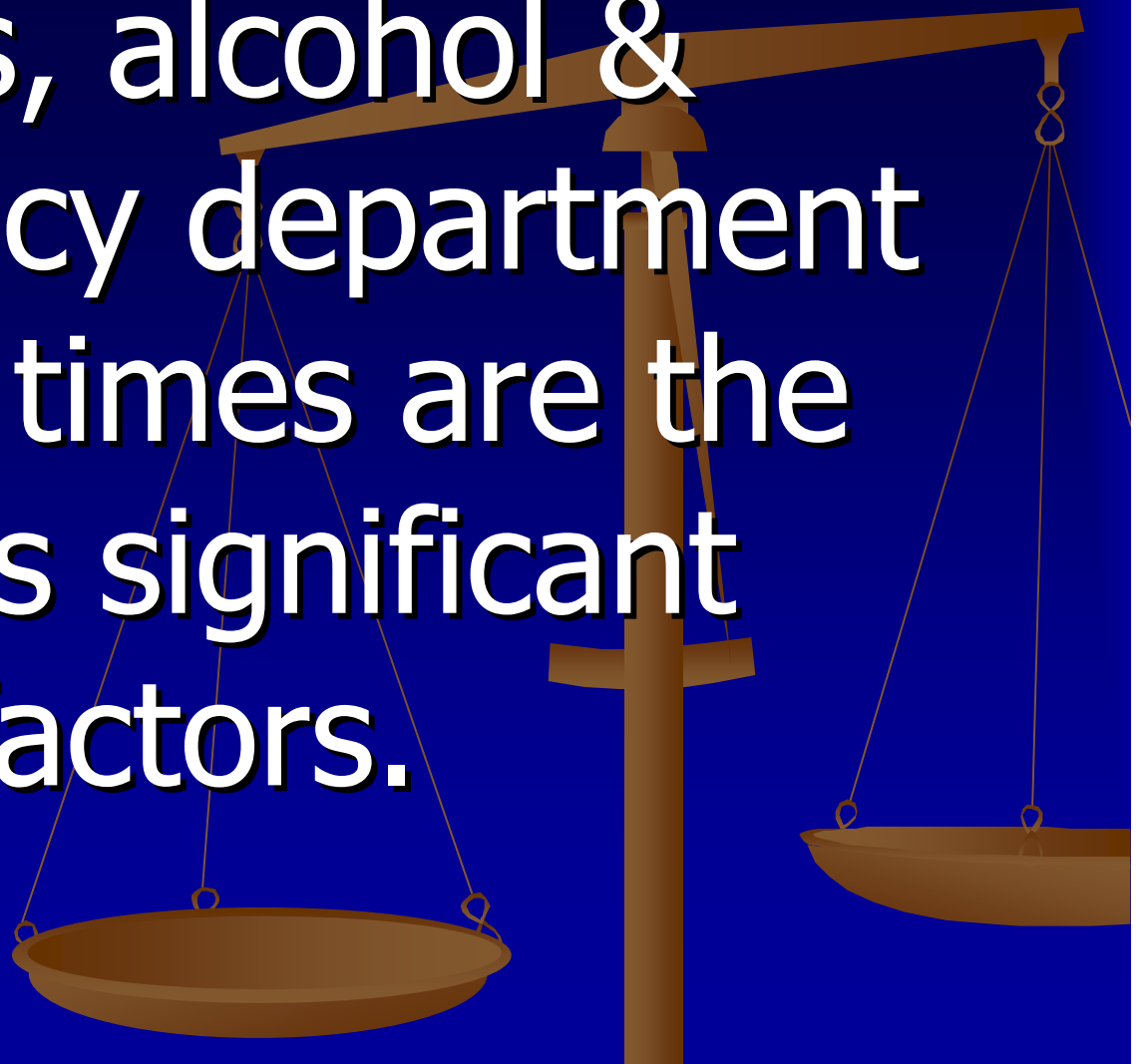


Workplace violence

- 90.5 % of perpetrators were patients;
 - 9.5% were relatives or friends of the patients;
 - 12.5% involved physical abuse;
 - 6.1% threats to property;
 - 6.1% throwing an object;
 - 4.9% damage to property;
 - 4.5% exposure to body fluids; and
 - 6.1% incidents involved weapons.
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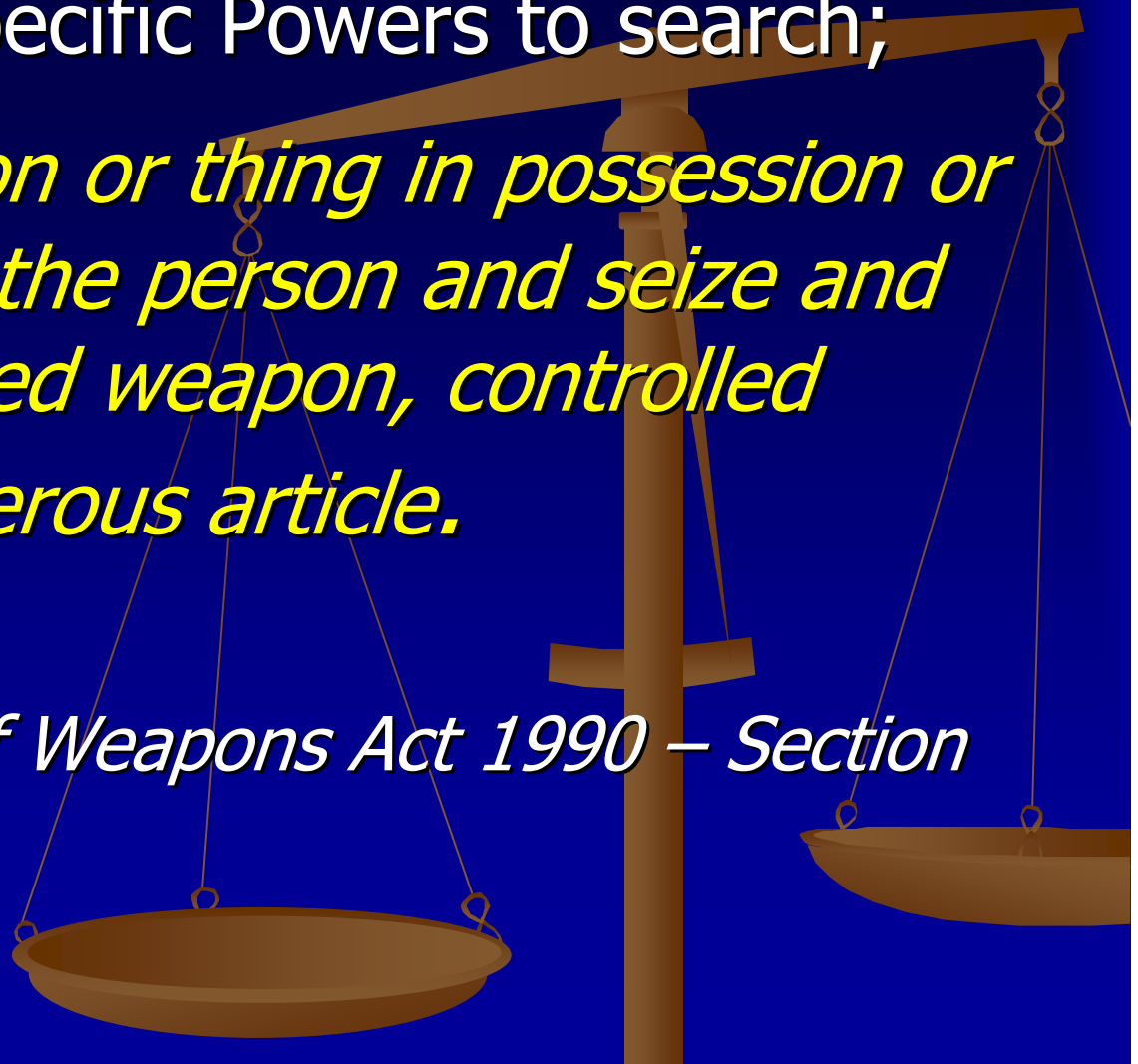
Workplace violence

Drugs, alcohol &
emergency department
waiting times are the
always significant
factors.



Search, seizure and destruction of weapons

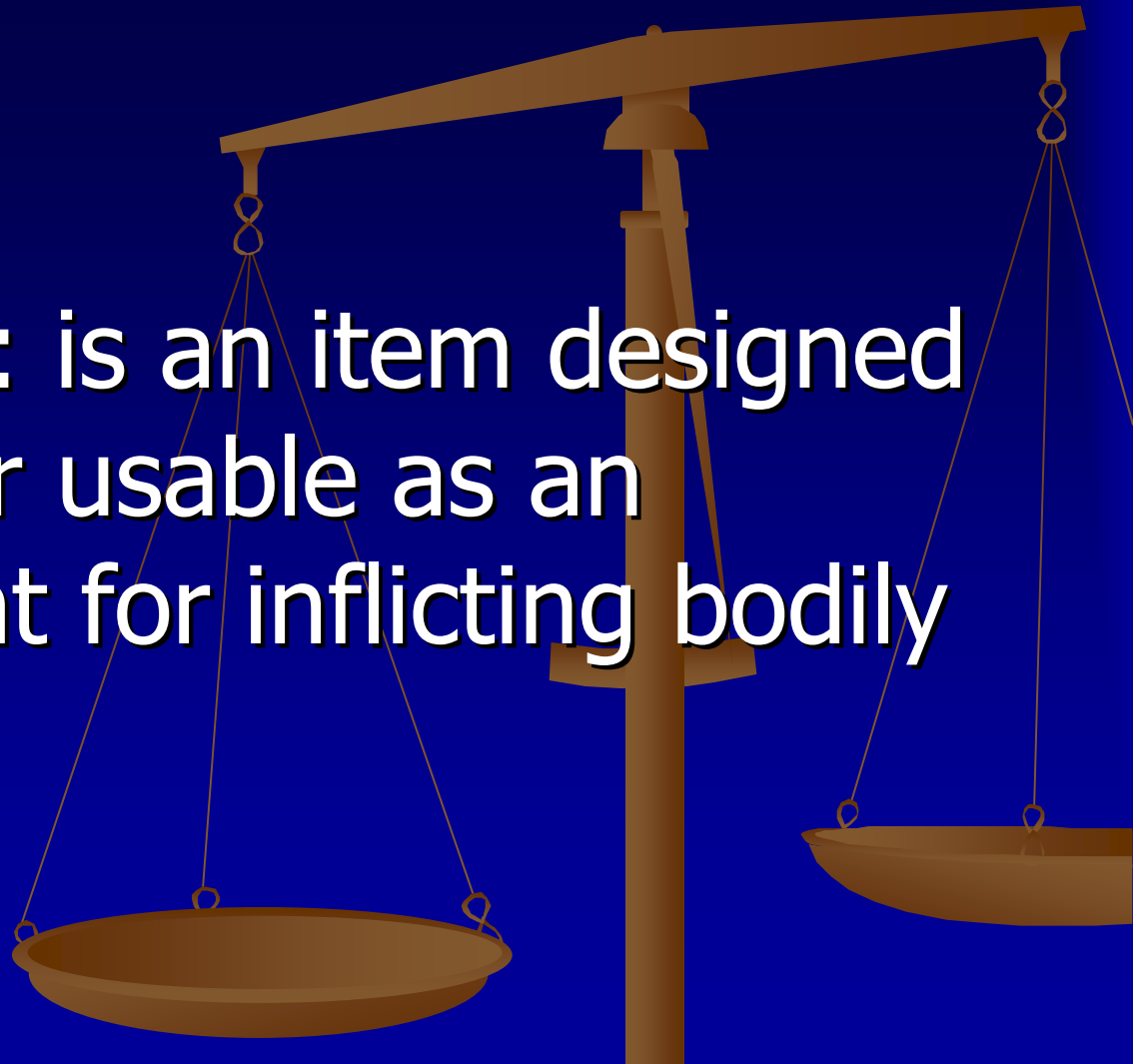
- Victoria Police Specific Powers to search;
Search any person or thing in possession or under control of the person and seize and detain a prohibited weapon, controlled weapon or dangerous article.
- *The Control of Weapons Act 1990 – Section 10(1)*



Prohibited weapon, controlled weapon or dangerous article.

- *Definitions....*

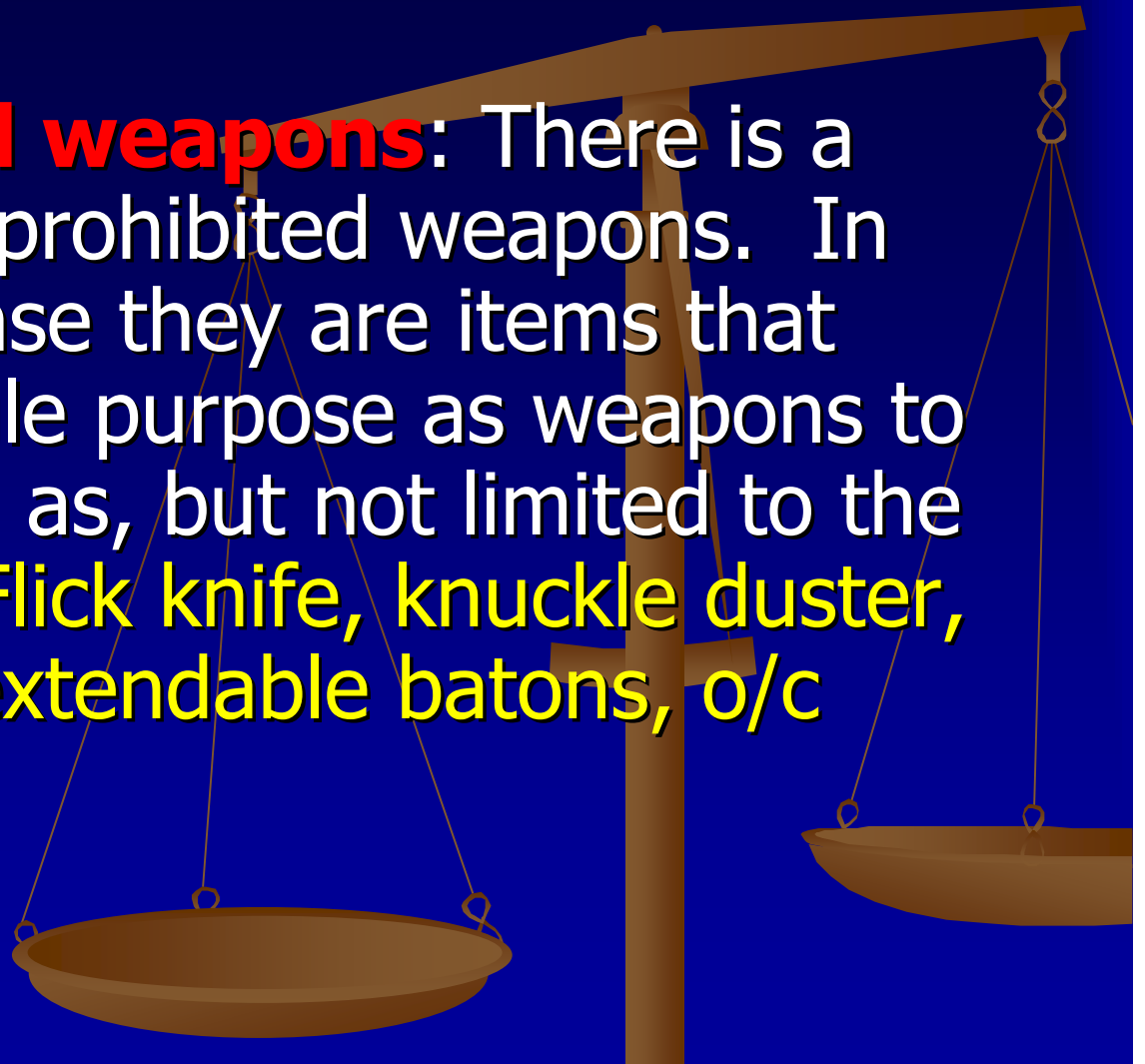
- **Weapon:** is an item designed or used or usable as an instrument for inflicting bodily harm;



Prohibited weapon, controlled weapon or dangerous article.

■ *Definitions....*

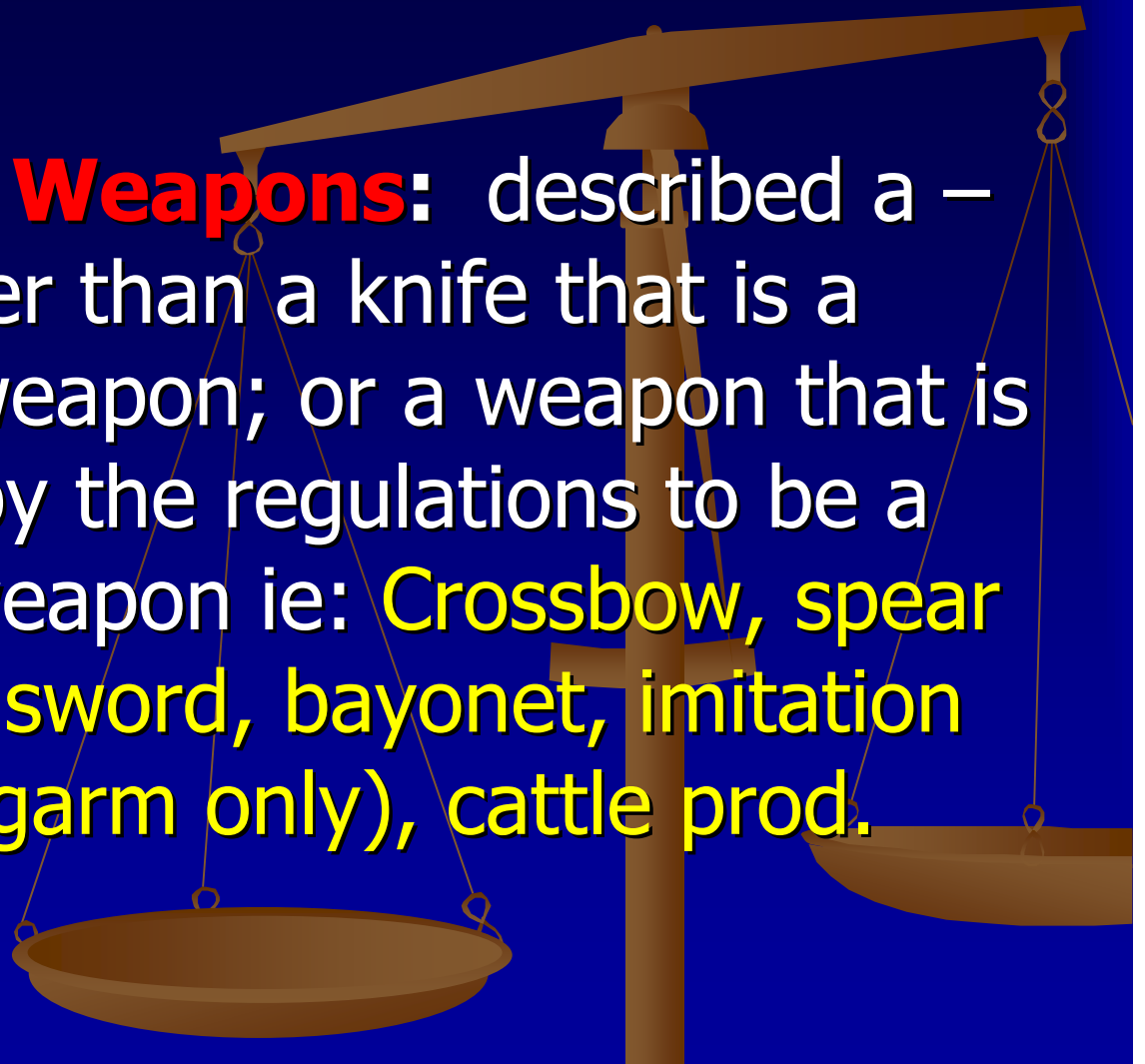
- **Prohibited weapons:** There is a long list of prohibited weapons. In general sense they are items that have a single purpose as weapons to attack such as, but not limited to the following; **Flick knife, knuckle duster, slingshot, extendable batons, o/c spray.**



Prohibited weapon, controlled weapon or dangerous article.

- *Definitions....*

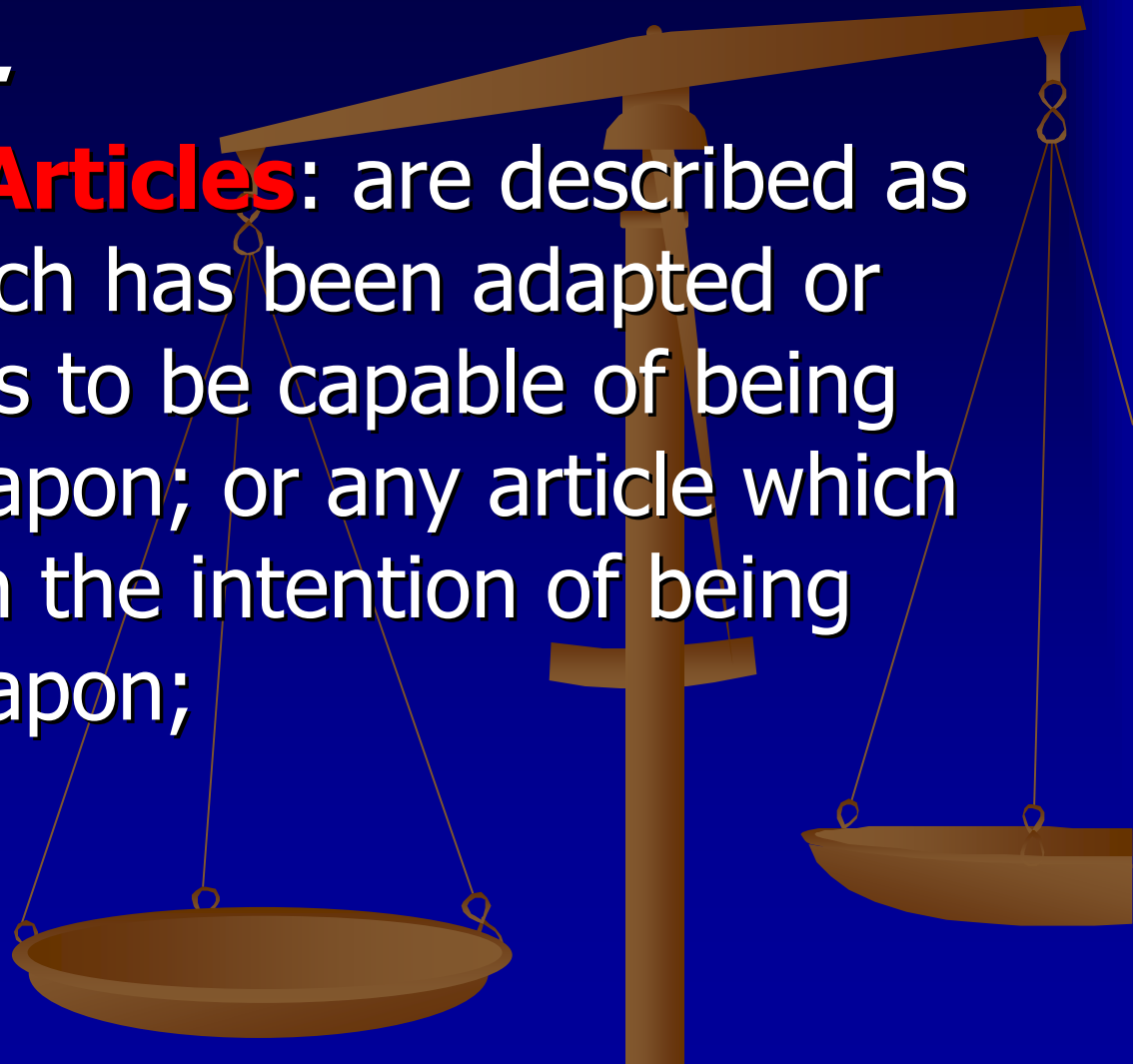
- **Controlled Weapons:** described a – a knife (other than a knife that is a prohibited weapon; or a weapon that is prescribed by the regulations to be a controlled weapon ie: **Crossbow, spear gun, baton, sword, bayonet, imitation firearm (longarm only), cattle prod.**



Prohibited weapon, controlled weapon
or dangerous article.

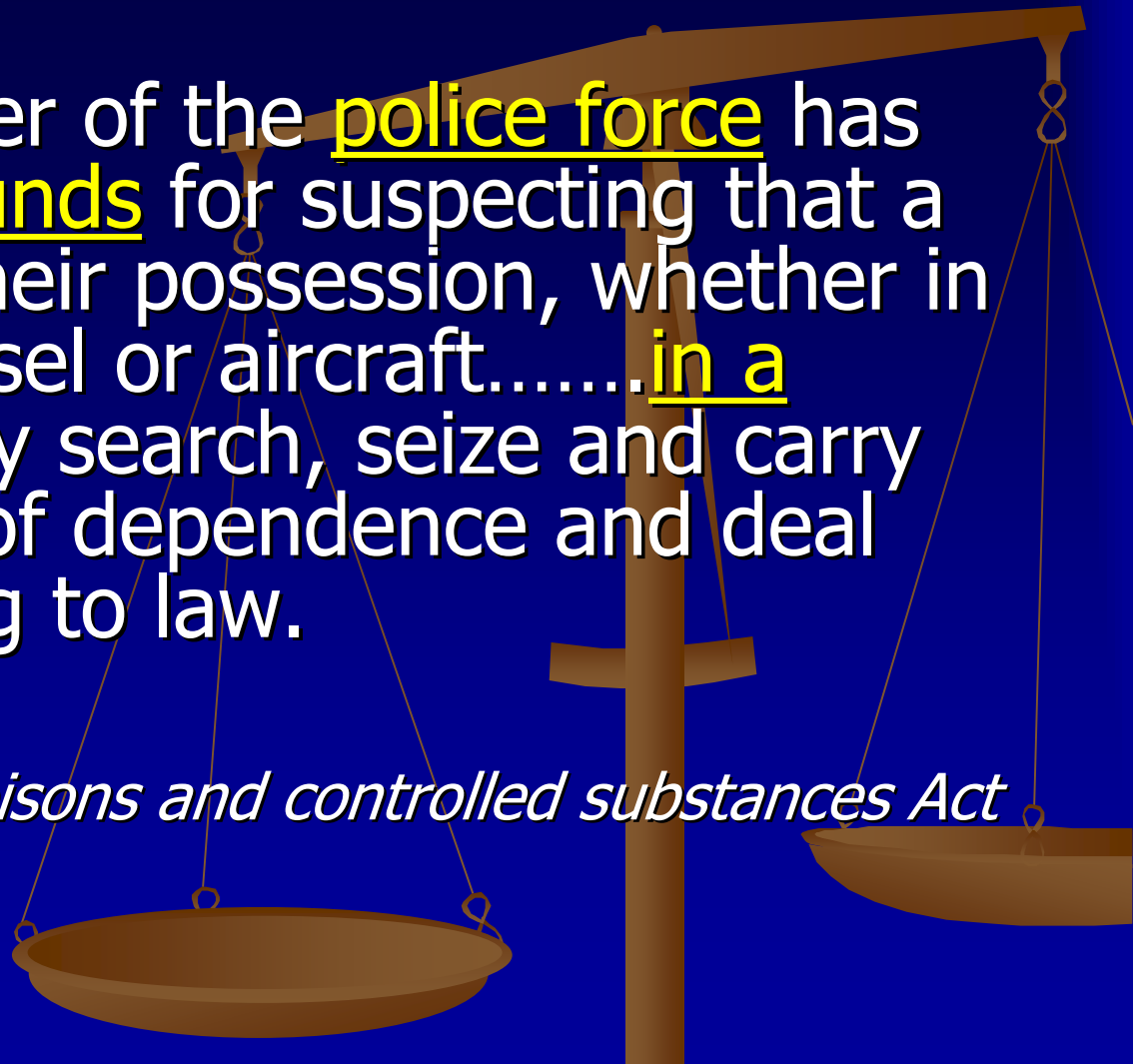
■ *Definitions....*

- **Dangerous Articles**: are described as an article which has been adapted or modified so as to be capable of being used as a weapon; or any article which is carried with the intention of being used as a weapon;



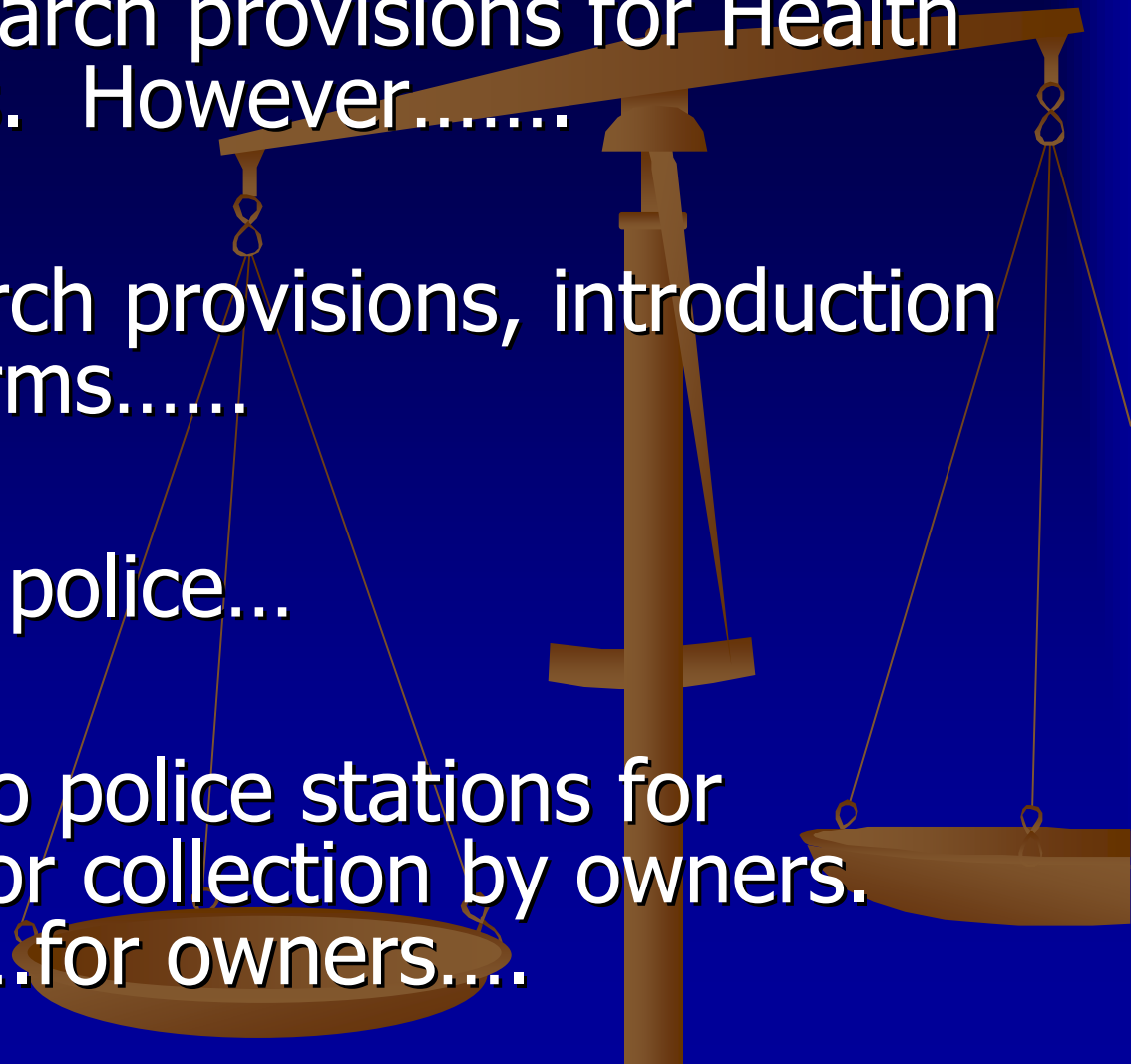
Search & Seizure relating to Drug of Dependence

- Where a member of the police force has reasonable grounds for suspecting that a person has in their possession, whether in a car, boat, vessel or aircraft.....in a public place may search, seize and carry away the drug of dependence and deal with it according to law.
- *Section 82 Drugs, poisons and controlled substances Act 1981*



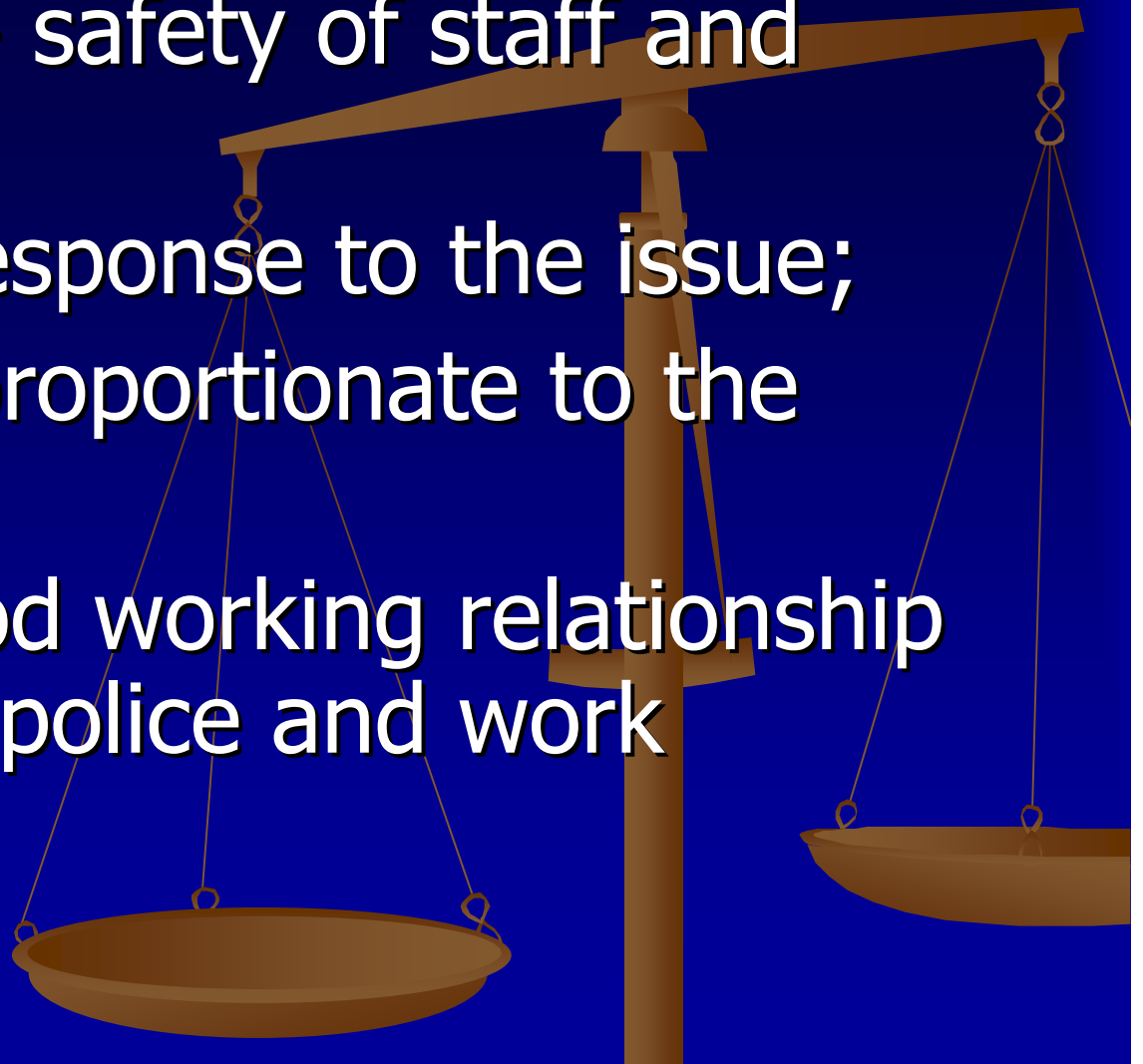
Guide lines for handling weapons/drugs

- There are no search provisions for Health Care employees. However.....
- Seizure not search provisions, introduction of indemnity forms.....
- Work with local police...
- Take property to police stations for destruction or for collection by owners. Consequences....for owners....



Aims

- Primary aim - safety of staff and other clients;
- Appropriate response to the issue;
- Force not disproportionate to the threat;
- Develop a good working relationship with the local police and work together.



Guide lines for dealing with aggressive persons

- If you are not sure of your safety or that of a work colleague or anyone in your care
- Call your own security; and/or
- Call police (000)

