

Korea to lower adult age to 19

Koreans will be able to vote, marry without their parents' permission and drive once they turn 19, under a government plan to lower the age of majority from the current 20. They will also be able to enter independently into legally binding contracts.

And presumably they will be allowed to view restricted movies, videos and Internet sites, purchase lottery tickets, apply for credit cards, visit nightclubs and casinos and buy cigarettes and liquor - all of which are now officially off limits to anyone below 20.

The Ministry of Justice said yesterday that it would propose the legal revision to reflect rapid social changes.

The change has to be approved by the National Assembly, and its passage appears likely since politicians and civic activists have long called for a lower age of majority.

Think and Talk

Do you think that lowering the adult age is favorable to the society or no?

What are the advantages and/or disadvantages of this bill?

If you are a member of the National Assembly, will you pass this bill? Why?