

Defences

Law

The answers available to a defendant in negligence.

Defence and effect.

Defence	Requires	Effect
Contributory negligence	Claimant partly at fault	Damages reduced
Consent	Free, informed acceptance of risk	Complete defence
Illegality	Claim arises from claimant's crime	May bar the claim
Limitation	Claim brought out of time	Bars the claim
Necessity	Action taken to prevent worse harm	May excuse

Educational reference. Consent to the risk of negligence is construed narrowly; awareness of a risk is not the same as accepting it.