# NOCIRC NEWSLETTER

Fall/Winter 1995

ISSN 1070-3721

Vol. 9, No. 2

# \$10,000 REWARD

FOR INFORMATION LEADING TO THE RECOVERY OF THE PROVIDENCE HOSPITAL MEDICAL RECORDS OF JACOB SWEET

## OR

## INFORMATION LEADING TO THE DISCOVERY OF THE PERSON OR PERSONS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE LOSS OR DESTRUCTION OF JACOB'S RECORDS

Jacob Sweet was born at PROVIDENCE HOSPITAL in Anchorage on January 16, 1986. He was a healthy and normal baby boy. On January 17, 1986, Jacob was circumcised by JAMES NESBITT, M.D. of THE CHILDREN'S CLINIC. On Saturday, January 25, Jacob's parents, Gary and Beverly Sweet, brought Jacob back to the emergency room at PROVIDENCE because he was vomiting and was fussy and the circumcision site was red and swollen. They were met by DANIEL TULIP, M.D., also of THE CHILDREN'S CLINIC. DR. TULIP admitted Jacob to the hospital. Late in the evening of January 26, Jacob suffered a prolonged seizure or "crash" and was transferred to the hospital's neonatal intensive care unit at 2:15 a.m. on Monday, January 27.

Today, Jacob is nine years old and is severely brain damaged. He cannot walk, talk or care for himself in any respect.

SIGNIFICANT AND IMPORTANT PORTIONS OF JACOB'S PROVIDENCE HOSPITAL MEDICAL RECORDS FOR THE 26-HOUR PERIOD FROM THE TIME HE WAS ADMITTED UNTIL THE "CRASH" ARE MISSING.

The attorneys for the Sweets, listed below, believe that there are persons with knowledge of how records may have become "lost" and would like to speak to anyone with any knowledge regarding Jacob or his "lost" records...

We understand that you may feel pressured not to come forward. All we ask is your complete honesty and your assistance in a matter of extreme importance, not only for Jacob and his family, but also for the medical care of future patients... Payment of all or a portion of the reward is in the good faith discretion of Jacob's attorneys who assure you that you will be treated fairly.

**Richard H. Friedman Friedman, Rubin & White** 1227 West Ninth Ave., Suite 201 Anchorage, AK 99501 907-258-0704 Mark Alan Johnson Law Office of Mark Alan Johnson 701 Fifth Avenue, Suite 6850 Seattle, WA 98104 1-800-247-2157.

The notice above appeared in the Anchorage Daily News, August 6, 1995.

## **LEGAL ACTION**

"What risk is acceptable when one is tampering with something that is normal?" Ronald Miller, M.D.

**Houston, TX** – A 5-year-old boy went into a coma while being circumcised at Doctor's Hospital-Airline in Houston, July 18, 1995, and died a week later. Legal action pending.

**Los Angeles County, CA** – While circumcising a 12-hour-old baby at Oak Knoll Naval Hospital, Oakland, CA, July 3, 1991, the doctor cut off one-third of the baby's glans. The severed glans was "reattached." The child is permanently disfigured. The Court awarded the minor plaintiff \$256,000.

**Greenbrae, CA** – Litigation is in progress for the baby whose glans was partially amputated while he was being circumcised in 1993. The March 1995 *Journal of Urology* reported the amputation and "successful reattachment." ["Leave it to circumcisers," Ken Brierley commented, "to try to make a medical holocaust look like a medical triumph."]

**Montgomery, AL** – A jury on July 22, 1995, found Jackson Hospital guilty of medical negligence in a case involving a day-old boy who was circumcised February 7, 1992, without his parents' consent. His mother said, "It's not necessary. There is no proof for me in any way that it is medically necessary." The jury awarded the minor plaintiff \$65,000 damages. The jury did not hold the doctor accountable.

**San Diego, CA** – While circumcising a young boy on September 12, 1992, Paul Zlotnik, M.D., cut off the boy's glans. The doctor claimed that since there was "no apparent loss of function," he met the standard of care. The jury awarded the minor plaintiff \$36,400 damages.

**Vancouver** – "A urologist was ordered to pay \$40,000 in damages to a patient who required plastic surgery as an adult because of a circumcision performed when the patient was 12." *Canadian Medical Association Journal*, June 1995.



# **Letter From The Editor**

"Every great reform...has consisted, not in doing something new, but in undoing something old." Henry Thomas Buckel

I flew to Montgomery, Alabama, in July to testify at the trial on behalf of a young boy who had been circumcised even though his mother had told her doctor, "No circumcision."

A nurse asked the mother to sign the consent form *after* the doctor had already circumcised her baby.

The defense attorneys tried to turn this obvious example of malpractice into a trial about the "benefits" of circumcision. That was their mistake. One of the boy's attorneys, David Llewellyn, Director of the Atlanta Circumcision Information Center, knew far more about the foreskin and circumcision than the defense attorneys, their "expert witness," or the circumcising doctor.

In an attempt to justify circumcision, the defense attorneys tried to "kill the messengers" – urologist James Snyder, M.D., and me. They ridiculed and belittled us for defending the birthright of babies to keep their genitals intact.

The evening before the closing arguments, Dr. Snyder and I drove past Martin Luther King's church in Montgomery. We saw Rosa Parks on the news, leading a tour in Montgomery, where, forty years ago, she had refused to give up her seat on the bus to a white man. Seeing that little church and that fragile, heroic woman, now in her eighties, brought tears to my eyes. One man and one woman, in Montgomery, Alabama, had made a difference – a big difference. They had overcome. We, too, would overcome.

During his closing argument, attorney Llewellyn made it clear that the doctor should have abided by the parents' decision to keep their child intact. The jury agreed, awarding the boy \$65,000 damages.

One day juries will realize that the decision to have one's foreskin cut off is rightfully that person's, and only that person's, after he has become an adult.

Two weeks later, almost a hundred NOHARMM children's rights advocates from coast to coast sang "We Shall Overcome" in front of Marin General Hospital, where I was forced to resign ten years ago for telling parents the truth about circumcision and where, in 1993, a doctor circumcising a baby cut off part of his glans.

NOCIRC sent every obstetrician and pediatrician at Marin General Hospital an invitation to the June 27 educational forum and the San Francisco Bay Area premiere of Barry Ellsworth's video *The Nurses of St. Vincent: Saying "No" To Circumcision*, sponsored by NOCIRC. None accepted. Neither did any of the nurses at Marin General Hospital's obstetrical unit. But some nurses from other hospitals did attend. Their evaluations included comments like: "I know much more about the functions of the foreskin now." "The presentations were informative, and learning the history was entertaining. The forum answered many of my own questions and the questions I'm frequently asked." "The presenters were well prepared with historical, anatomical, and other well-researched information." "Everyone involved in the circumcision of children and babies should be required to attend a forum like this!"

In an attempt to provide information for doctors and nurses, I have been organizing educational forums about circumcision for more than 10 years. For the Second International Symposium on Circumcision, NOCIRC mailed a prospectus to eighty thousand (80,000) pediatricians, obstetricians, and urologists. Fewer than twenty (20) attended.

Clearly, we must find other ways to protect those who are too young to protect themselves. The fraud, conspiracy, concealment, and willful malpractice of anyone who cuts healthy, normal, protective, erogenous tissue from the genitals of children and babies will now be challenged on new levels.

The laws are there. The laws are being applied. People are suing!

The Ad Hoc Working Group of International Experts on Violations of Genital Mutilation, which has representatives worldwide (I am honored to be one of its representatives for North America), is now reporting its findings to the United Nations.

The Fourth International Symposium on Sexual Mutilations, to be held at the University of Lausanne, Switzerland, in 1996 (see page 6), will bring together experts to discuss the mutilation of children and babies, the locales where these mutilations are being committed, the ethical issues involved, and the legal actions that follow. These children's rights advocates are working to stop these atrocities by securing the birthright of all human beings to keep their sexual organs intact.

Yes – we, too, *shall* overcome.

Marilyn Milos



FALL/WINTER 1995

## AUSTRALIA

The Australian Medical Association's Ethics, Education, and Social Issues Committee is seeking legal advice about male circumcision. According to the Queensland Law Reform Commission, circumcision could be regarded as a criminal act if the criminal code were interpreted strictly. Furthermore, consent by parents to the surgery may be invalid because of the common law's restrictions on the legality of parents to consent to non-therapeutic "treatment" of children, the commission said in a recent report. Because of new evidence that amputating the foreskin reduces sexual sensation, doctors may also face lawsuits for causing loss of sexual pleasure. The Australian College of Paediatrics recommends that doctors discourage circumcision and provide parents with educational material about it. Almost 15,000 newborn boys are circumcised in Australia annually. Australian Medicine, 7 August 1995

## CANADA

British Columbia: A resolution on routine newborn male circumcision introduced at the 1994 General Annual Meeting of Registered Nurses of B.C. but struck from the floor before voting delegates could discuss it, was reintroduced as Resolution A-8 and was adopted by the membership on April 7, 1995. The Resolution recommends that the Registered Nursing Association of British Columbia Board of Directors and individual members actively raise the awareness of nurses and the public about nontherapeutic circumcision, that it develop a position statement about the role of nurses in nontherapeutic circumcision, and that the Canadian Nurses Association develop a position statement about non-therapeutic circumcision.

## EGYPT

**Cairo:** Police arrested a barber after he circumcised two sisters with a razor blade, causing the death of a 10-year-old and the hospitalization of her sister. Noura el-Dahesh died from loss of blood and an overdose of painkiller. Her 12-year-old sister, Heba, was in serious condition, bleeding heavily. Associated Press, 22 May 1995

**Cairo:** The Egyptian Organization of Human Rights (EOHR) is suing Egypt's leading Muslim theologian,

the Sheikh of Al Azhar, for 500,000 Egyptian pounds as part of its campaign to ban FGM. "Our aim is simple," said Netgad Al Boraie, secretary-general of EOHR, which is citing the death of 14year-old Amira Kamil as part of its case. "We think the Sheikh of Al Azhar gave a wrong religious opinion...that says whoever opposes the circumcision of girls is opposing a religious obligation - and deserves to die." The group has also sued the President and the Minister of Health for condoning FGM. Last year the government lifted a 35-year-old ban on performing the operation, and has ordered state hospitals to perform the surgery one day a week in an effort to halt mutilations by unskilled amateurs. At the first hearing last month, Egyptian journalists observed the judge exchanging jokes with lawyers about which women were most in need of the operation. Their sense of humor is not shared by Amira's family and friends. Fearful of revenge, the doctor who mutilated her has fled to Libya. "Never mind," said Amira's uncle. "We know how to be patient. We will get the butcher even if it takes 20 years." The Observer, 30 July 1995

## ENGLAND

London: A television documentary, It's A Boy, includes graphic footage of an eight-day-old baby "bloodied and screaming in agony" as he is circumcised by a rabbi without anesthesia. The boy ended up in intensive care, kept alive by oxygen and antibiotics. The film the work of Victor Schonfeld, the Jewish father of a circumcised son - presents details of two babies who died as a result of circumcision, an interview with a mother whose baby almost bled to death, and also shows Muslim circumcisions. Some Jewish organizations are apparently considering legal moves to block transmission of the documentary, which is scheduled to be aired this month. Schonfeld said the film's aim was to open up a debate on a subject about which many Jews felt deeply uneasy. "This can be a life-threatening procedure, and the children's suffering is unarguable. It needs public attention." The Observer, 3 September 1995

### **SWEDEN**

Circumcision and HIV: Ingela Krantz and Beth Maina Ahlberg of the HIV prevention project in cen-

tral Kenya (supported by Swedish Agency for Research Cooperation with Developing Countries) report: "The idea that circumcision should be promoted, similarly to condoms, as a preventive measure against HIV could thus be counterproductive. The link between circumcision and protection against HIV might very well be biologically plausible, but the onus remains to produce adequate evidence of safety before a supposedly protective intervention is implemented anywhere." The Lancet, 18 March 1995.

[Most sexual transmission of the AIDS virus is from the thrusting partner to the receiving partner at ejaculation during vaginal or anal intercourse. It's obvious that a penis without its sheath of selflubricating, moveable foreskin is more likely to cause the tears and abrasions in a vagina or rectum through which the AIDS virus could enter the receiving partner's bloodstream - and is more likely to break a condom. The U.S. has one of the highest male circumcision rates and one of the highest HIV infection rates in the world. Why aren't "experts" and "authorities" trying to find out if circumcision contributes to the spread of AIDS?]

## **UNITED STATES**

California: Advanced Tissue Sciences in San Diego plans to manufacture industrial quantities of human skin grown in vats. The tissue is derived from the foreskins of circumcised babies. One infant foreskin can generate 250,000 square feet of organic bandages, enough to cover six football fields. It will be sold for use in transplants and to treat burn victims and diabetic ulcer patients. The company expects to get full regulatory approval to make and market its foreskin-derived product, called Dermografts, next year.

**New York:** The Ad Hoc Working Group of International Experts on Violations of Genital Mutilation ("Int'l VGM") officially began its four-year tenure June 27, 1995, in response to the United Nations' Convention on the Rights of the Child (Article 24.3: "States parties shall take all effective and appropriate measures with a view to abolishing traditional practices prejudicial to the health of children") and the "Programme of Action" of the International Conference on Population and Development (Chapter 12.B, S12.13), calling for international research projects concentrating on "genital mutilation, where practiced." The Int'l VGM's prime objective is to generate local, regional, national, and global resource-sharing and to establish worldwide databases on violations of human rights involving genital mutilation, erroneously termed male and female circumcision. Genital mutilation is a traditional practice of physical torture and psychological trauma that destroys reproductive integrity and sexual health, with significant risk of death. Genital mutilation violates tenets in at least 18 U.N. human rights documents. The international community seeks to review the literature on genital mutilation and consider corrective action as necessary for social development. Send requests for additional information to Int'l VGM, POB 197, Southfields, NY 10975.

New York: The U.N. 1995 Population Award was presented on June 5 to Berhane Ras-work, President of the Inter-African Committee on Traditional Practices Affecting the Health of Women and Children (IAC). In her acceptance speech, Ms. Ras-work said, "The Inter-African Committee was founded eleven years ago by a group of courageous African women – together with their male supporters - determined to eliminate such practices which, in the name of culture and tradition, for centuries had seriously harmed the health of countless women and children and even, in many instances, had caused their death." There are now 25 national committees.

### Washington, DC:

Representative Pat Schroeder's bill, H.R. 941, "To amend title 18, United States Code, to carry out certain obligations of the United States under the International Covenant on Civil and Political *Rights* by prohibiting the practice of female circumcision, and for other purposes," was referred to the Energy & Commerce's Health Subcommittee and the Judiciary Committee. Senator Harry Reid submitted the Federal Prohibition of Female Genital Mutilation Act of 1995 (S. 1030) to the Senate on July 10, 1995, and it, too, was referred to the Judiciary Committee.

## **NEWS FROM NOHARMM**

**Men Began to Scream** should be completed by October. The video documents how infant circumcision harms males and how they are healing from its wounds. Your generous donations to complete the project are needed and appreciated.

**Awakenings** (Second Edition), which includes documentation of harm from more than 400 circumcised men, is being compiled.

**Marin General Hospital Rally** on July 26 drew almost 100 children's rights advocates from coast to coast, Hawaii and Canada, making it our largest demonstration to date.

**National Child Rights Association's "Youth Summit"** attendees in Durham, NC, last April, were given material by NOHARMM representatives.

**The American College of Obstetricians & Gynecologists** (the primary circumcisers in the U.S.) had its annual meeting in San Francisco in May. NOHARMM members, carrying banners, signs and leaflets, asked ACOG members to adopt a resolution calling for OBs to stop routinely circumcising babies. **The American Academy of Pediatrics** met in Philadelphia in May. NOHARMM activists staged a "circumcision assembly line" outside, with taped screams of babies being circumcised.

**ChildHealth 2000** was held in Vancouver, British Columbia, in June. Members of NOHARMM and NOCIRC were present. Most international attendees were shocked to learn of the high incidence of male genital mutilation in North America. Vancouver Field Organizer James Loewen staged a farcical anticirc theater with local celebrities, drawing media coverage.

**International Unity Conference: Building Bridges...**, sponsored by the California Nurses' Association and the Canadian Nurses' Union, was attended by Leland Traiman, R.N., and NOHARMM Director Tim Hammond. They handed Ralph Nader and the Rev. Jesse Jackson a letter explaining why routine infant circumcision is consumer fraud, unethical medicine, and a violation of human rights. The next day, NOHARMM members joined Jackson and thousands of others in a march across the Golden Gate Bridge for "Health Care is a Human Right."

## **Letters To The Editor**

**Fortunate:** "This 26-year-old male was fortunate to have parents who let their two sons decide their circumcision status after reaching the age of reason. Neither of us has since elected to have his foreskin removed, in spite of much pressure from doctors, nurses, armed forces, etc." W.M., MI

**Stimulus to Circumcise:** "I have come to realize that the fundamental stimulus to circumcise is sexual. What a sense of power one must derive from so fully controlling another that one can tie him down and actually cut off part of his manhood! The sense of complete domination, of absolute power, is comparable to rape. I believe this dynamic plays itself out in society at large as well, leading to the heated and passionate arguments around this issue. Of course, pro-circumcision forces won't admit (and probably don't even recognize) the root kernel of sexual conquest behind their irrationally powerful sentiments defending circumcision." J.K. CA

**To Keep in Mind:** "To some it must seem puzzling that circumcision should persist in the face of so many contrary indications. Well, all it takes is someone in perceived authority – even limited authority – and we will follow their directions. The wonder is that there are so many courageous people willing to go against the medical profession, friends, parents and religion. I think we ought to keep that in mind." J.R., CA

**Remembers:** "Circumcision is a key issue. Men need to address it... I remember my circumcision as an infant. It was the most painful thing that ever happened in my life. I've been hit. I've been shot at...But nothing hurt me as much as that." Shepherd Bliss, *M.E.N. Magazine*, April 1995

**Why?** "Ever since I was old enough to understand circumcision, I started to question my own. Why did my parents elect to let me be mutilated? Why wasn't I given the chance to experience my body in its natural entirety? These and many other questions have been spinning around in my mind for years. I made up my mind long ago that it wasn't right, that it was archaic, barbarous, a practice that benefits many more pocketbooks than innocent children." K.N., CO

**Will Suffer:** "Please keep up the good work in preventing our children from being circumcised. I will suffer every day as long as I live because it was done to me by mistake at age 52. I do know how sex is with and without a foreskin." T.W., TX

**No Fate Horrible Enough:** "There is no fate horrible enough for those who persist in committing, promoting, and deliberately misrepresenting this atrocity." J.E., MS

**Different:** "Someday my son will probably ask me why some of the boys in his gym class look 'different' from him. I look forward to telling him that *they* all looked like *him* before someone changed *them*." D.C., MN

**Restoration Beneficiary:** "As the beneficiary of the results of foreskin restoration, you can understand that I would recommend restoration to other circumcised males without reservation. In my own experience, the foreskin is an intrinsic, physiologically important – even indispensable – element of proper male sexual functioning." D.A.P., Japan

**Books Disappear:** "Please send two more copies of *Say No To Circumcision*. They seem to disappear from my waiting room!" A.W., M.D., RI



David Bradt at world-famous Venice Beach in Southern California

**History Will Thank Us:** "I am a self-appointed public debater and 'boardwalk barker' for the cause. Somebody has to do it! Now just watch the circumcision rate in the Los Angeles area plummet. I am a firm believer in the power of one person armed with the truth! In 10 hours, 200 people asked me for a *Circumcision – Why?* pamphlet. That's 1 every 3 minutes. History will thank us but, for now, all we have is each other." D.B., CA

## **Bulletin Board**

## **BOOKS & BOOKLETS**

Awakenings: Preliminary Poll of Circumcised Men (Revealing the Long-Term Harm and Healing the Wounds of Infant Circumcision). \$25 ppd. NOHARMM, Dept. N., P.O. Box 460795, San Francisco, CA 94146.

Blood-Sport Memorial: A Spiritual Service for the Yearly Human Rights Commemoration in Memory of Circumcised Children & All Victims of Genital Mutilation, by Mary Gibson Dunne. Based on the U.N.'s Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Eastern Orthodox Christian Observance of Remembering Slaughtered Children. \$27.95 plus \$4.50 domestic, \$6 international S/H. Ecumenics International Press, P.O. BOX 144, Sloatsburg, NY 10974.

*Childbirth Picture Book*, by Fran P. Hosken, drawings by Marcia L. Williams. One sample book: \$3 plus \$1 USA, \$4 air worldwide S/H. Please specify English, French or Spanish. WIN NEWS, 187 Grant St., Lexington, MA 02173.

*Circumcision*, by M. Barrie. 58 pp. EDTA Productions, 14 Rosewood Court, Alexandra Road, Kingstonupon-Thames, Surrey, England.

*Circumcision: An American Custom*, by Mary Milvich. \$4.50 ppd. Mary Milvich, Dept. N., 208 Little Elk Creek, Snowmass, CO 81654.

Deeper Into Circumcision: An Invitation To Awareness & Guide to Resources For Researchers, Parents, Restorers, Activists and the Merely Curious. Updated continually. \$15 ppd. John A. Erickson, Dept. N, 1664 Beach Blvd., #216, Biloxi, MS 39531-5351.

Initiating a Global Dialogue on the Transcultural, Multireligious, & Interdisciplinary Dimension of Appropriating Equitable Human Rights, by Anastasios Zavales. \$34.95 plus \$4.50 domestic, \$6 international S/H. Ecumenics International Press, P.O. BOX 144, Sloatsburg, NY 10974-0144.

Jewish Women Speak Out, edited by Kayla Weiner, Ph.D., and Arinna Moon, M.A. \$18.95 plus \$3 S/H. Miriam Pollack, 1815 Virginia St., Berkeley, CA 94703.

The Joy of Being a Boy, by Elizabeth Noble with Leo Sorger, M.D. A book to reassure the young boy and his family that a natural penis is normal and to teach the boy how to care for himself. \$6.50 ppd. New Life Images, 448 Pleasant Lake Avenue, Harwich, MA 02645 (508-432-8040).

*The Joy of Uncircumcising!*, Second Edition, by Jim Bigelow, Ph.D. \$19.95 plus \$2.50 S/H (\$1.30 sales tax in CA). UNCIRC, Dept. N, P.O. Box 52138, Pacific Grove, CA 93950.

NATURAL MAN, Photographs by Sherwin Carlquist ("The Ansel Adams of the male nude."). \$20 plus \$2 S/H (\$10 will be donated to NORCIRC). Sherwin Carlquist, Dept. N, 4539 Via Huerto, Santa Barbara, CA 93110-2323.

The Sage of San Diego Said Choose Quality and Reason, by Malcom Dalgliesh. \$6.95. A New Enlightenment, P.O. BOX 7024, New York, NY 10128-0010.

Say No to Circumcision! 40 Compelling Reasons Why You Should Respect His Birthright and Keep Your Son Whole, by Thomas Ritter, M.D. \$10.95 plus \$2 S/H (\$0.95 sales tax in CA). NOCIRC.

To Mutilate in the Name of Jehovah or Allah: Legitimization of Male and Female Circumcision, by Sami A. Aldeeb. \$8 ppd. NOHARMM, Dept. N, P.O. Box 460795, San Francisco, CA 94146.

Trust Your Body! Trust Your Baby! Childbirth Wisdom and Cesarean Prevention, by Andrea Frank Henkart. \$14.95. Andrea Frank Henkart, 61 Del Oro Lagoon, Novato, CA 94949.

Universal Reproductive & Human Rights: Ordering Corrective Action Against North American Circumcisers, by Anastasios Zavales, Ph.D., Secretary General, Ecumenics International. \$28.95 plus \$4.50 domestic, \$6 international S/H. Ecumenics International Press, P.O. BOX 144, Sloatsburg, NY 10974.

#### PAMPHLETS, NEWSLETTERS & MORE

Answers to Your Questions About Circumcision. Educational pamphlet (revised 9/95). Two copies/\$1 and SASE. NOCIRC.

Answers to Your Questions About Your Young Son's Intact Penis. Educational pamphlet (5/95). Two copies/\$1 and SASE. NOCIRC.

Circumcision: Sources of Information & Female Genital Mutilation: Sources of Information. Pamphlets. Free for SASE. John A. Erickson, 1664 Beach Blvd. #216, Biloxi, MS 39531. Intact Newsletter. Ken Derifield, I.M.A.C. (Intact Men Against Circumcision), P.O. Box 82, Wahpeton, ND 58074.

Newborn Circumcision: An Enigma of Health, by Dr. George Williams. A refutation of the most common medical arguments for male circumcision. 8 pages; 133 references. \$5 ppd. NOCIRC.

NOCIRC KIDS Newsletter, Matthew Orlando, Editor. Free for SASE. NOCIRC.

The NOCIRC Newsletter of Australia. \$7.50/copy. NOCIRC of Australia, P.O. Box 248, Menai, N.S.W. 2234 Australia.

Non-Ritual Circumcision: New Facts & Old Myths. Workshop presented by Harry Meislahn at 12th Annual Conference of Midwives of North America, October 1, 1994. \$5 ppd. NOCIRC of IL/ Winnetka, Dept. N, 976 Pine Street, Winnetka, IL 60093.

NORM NEWS, David Smith, Editor. Send SASE and Postal Reply Coupon. David Smith, "Arran," Bury Bank, Stone, Staffordshire ST 15 0QA, England.

## AUDIO & VISUAL AIDS

**33** Photographs of the Intact Adult Male Foreskin ("A Piece of Skin the Size of a Quarter"), by John A. Erickson. Exhibited at the 3ISC. [Photographs that show exactly what we are trying to protect.] 4" x 6" color reprints. \$30 ppd. Original 8" x 12" exhibit-size prints available by special order. John A. Erickson, Dept. N, 1664 Beach Blvd. #216, Biloxi, MS 39531.

The Nurses of St. Vincent: Saying "No" To Circumcision, by Barry Ellsworth. Video profiles six of the conscientious objector nurses who refused to assist in neonatal circumcision at St. Vincent Hospital, Santa Fe, New Mexico. 18 minutes. On the same tape: NOHARMM Rally at the CMA (12 minutes). VHS. \$25 plus \$4 S/H. (8.25% sales tax in NY.) Fireball Films, Ltd., 874 Broadway, #1005, New York, NY 10003 (212-808-4980).

## **NEW GROUPS**

Jewish Associates of the Circumcision Resource Center invite Jewish parents with intact sons and Jews who would not circumcise a son to join them. Please specify if you are willing to have your name used publicly; if not, your anonymity will be respected. Ronald F. Goldman, P.O. BOX 232, Boston, MA 02133, 617-523-0088.

Nurses for the Rights of the Child (formerly "The Santa Fe Nurses" and "The Nurses of St. Vincent"), is also NOCIRC of NM/ Santa Fe, 369 Montezuma #354, Santa Fe, NM 87501, 505-989-7377.

**Patients in ARMS** (Activists Reforming Medical Standards). A nonprofit organization dedicated to providing emotional support and assistance to victims of all kinds of medical malpractice. "We work with other patient support groups and professionals who are also aware of the desperate need to improve our present medical system." SASE brings more info. Jerry and Carla Miller, Founders/Directors, Dept. N, 7480 Gravois, Dittmer, MO 63021, 314-274-ARMS.

Physicians for the Rights of the Child (PRC), a non-profit organization dedicated to promoting human rights principles in pediatric, neonatal and obstetric practice, serves the medical community by providing physicans with scientific and educational materials and by providing a forum for ethical patient advocacy and the reform of medical practice. PRC offers support and advice for health-care professionals who seek to stop the socially-sanctioned genital mutilation of minors. George C. Denniston, M.D., MPH, 2442 NW Market St., Suite 42, Seattle, WA 98107.

## **RESEARCH PROJECTS**

Parents who have protected their sons from circumcisers, please send your positive accounts for a publication on the subject to: Robert L. Stewart, Creative Concept Center, P.O. BOX 1626, Mattituck, NY 11952.

Evaluation of Circumcision Information in Books on Childbirth and Parenting. Form available from Harry Meislahn, NOCIRC of IL, 976 Pine St., Winnetka, IL 60093.

NOCIRC needs the names of foreskin-friendly obstetricians, pediatricians, urologists and family practitioners for its referral service.

**Correction:** The report from Toronto, Canada, under "World News" in the Spring 1995 NOCIRC Newsletter should have been credited to Taddio, et al., *Lancet*, 1995; 345:291-92.

# THE FOURTH INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON SEXUAL MUTILATIONS



The Fourth International Symposium on Sexual Mutilations will be held at the University of Lausanne, Lausanne, Switzerland, August 9-11, 1996. Formerly called the International Symposia on Circumcision, the new name, The International Symposia on Sexual Mutilations, encompasses the full scope of this urgent human rights issue.

The purpose of this symposium is to heighten global awareness of the number and kinds of sexual mutilations being performed throughout the world today; to draw attention to those countries where men, women, children and babies have a

Publisher:National Organization of Circumcision<br/>Information Resource CentersEditor:Marilyn Fayre Milos, R.N.Consultants:John A. Erickson, Frederick HodgesDesign/Printing:Shanti Poona,<br/>Sedona Arts (415) 488-1640

## NATIONAL ORGANIZATION of CIRCUMCISION INFORMATION RESOURCE CENTERS

P.O. Box 2512 San Anselmo, CA 94979-2512

Telephone: 415/488-9883 FAX: 415/488-9660

Address Correction Requested

healthy part or parts of their genitals cut off or out by force or coercion; and to unify the efforts of everyone working to secure the birthright of all human beings to keep their sexual organs intact.

Details of the symposium will be in the Spring/Summer NOCIRC Newsletter.

The most inexpensive accommodations in the area are at the Jeunotel, on the shores of Lake Geneva. With 41 casual rooms for 1 to 4 persons and 5 dormitories accommodating up to 80 travelers, Jeunotel offers bed and breakfast and a restaurant with reasonable prices. Contact: Jeunotel, Chemin du Bois-de-Vaux 36, CH-1007 Lausanne, Switzerland, Tel. 021/626 02 22, Fax 021/626 02 26.

Your financial support keeps NOCIRC alive and able to continue its efforts to safeguard the birthright of children to keep their genitals intact. Thank you!

> Non-Profit Organization U.S. Postage **PAID** Permit No. 60 Corte Madera, CA

## MOVING?

Keep the NOCIRC Newsletter arriving in your mailbox by notifying us of your move.

Name

New address

City, State, Zip Send the lower portion of this page (along with current mailing label) to the address above.