

NOCIRC and NORM-UK

present



**THE FIFTH
INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON
SEXUAL MUTILATIONS**

***Medical, Legal and Ethical
Considerations in
Pædiatric Practice***

5-7 August 1998

UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD



Symposium Faculty

Seham Abd el Salem, Female Genital Mutilation Resource Centre Documentalist, National NGO Commission for Population and Development, Cairo, Egypt.

Sami A. Aldeeb Abu-Sahlieh, Doctor of Law, Swiss Institute of Comparative Law, Lausanne, Switzerland.

Mustafa K. Al-Mahdawi, Libyan Judge, on trial in Libya for apostasy. His 1991 book, *Al-bayan bil-Qur'an* (The proof by the Koran), takes a clear position against male circumcision, which he considers contrary to the Koran.

Jeree Archer, plaintiff, female genital mutilation litigation in Australia, West Ryde, New South Wales, Australia.

Mohamed Badawi, MD, Ph.D., Department of Mental Hygiene, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, Maryland, USA.

Zenas Baer, JD, federal civil rights attorney, Hawley, Minnesota, USA.

Jeannine Parvati Baker, co-founder, Six Directions non-profit educational organisation, author, Joseph, Utah, USA.

Peter Ball, MA, MB, B.Chir. (Cambridge), DRCOG, general practitioner, Tunbridge Wells, Kent, UK.

Jim Bigelow, Ph.D., Director, UNCircumcising Information and Resources Center (UNCIRC), author, Pacific Grove, California, USA.

Charles Bonner, JD, civil rights, personal injury and medical malpractice attorney, Sausalito, California, USA.

Christopher Cold, MD, pathologist, Marshfield Clinic, Marshfield, Wisconsin, USA.

Mary Conant, RN, co-founder, Nurses for the Rights of the Child, Santa Fe, New Mexico, USA.

George Denniston, MD, MPH, Director, Doctors Opposing Circumcision (D.O.C.), Seattle, Washington, USA.

Shamis Dirir, Coordinator, London Black Women's Health Action Project, London, UK.

Steve Donnell, FRCS, Senior Registrar, Department of Pædiatric Urology, Alder Hey Children's Hospital, Liverpool, UK.

Paul Fleiss, MD, MPH, pædiatrician, Los Angeles, California, USA.

Christopher Fletcher, MD, pædiatrician, Santa Fe, New Mexico, USA.

Sandra Goldbeck-Wood, MB, Ch.B., Papers Editor, British Medical Journal, London, UK.

Jenny Goodman, MB, Ch.B., psychotherapist, British National Health Service, London, UK.

R. Wayne Griffiths, MS, M.Ed., Director, National Organization of Restoring Men (NORM), Concord, California, USA.

Frederick Hodges, M.St. (Oxon), Wellcome Unit for the History of Medicine, University of Oxford, Oxford, UK.

Tina Kimmel, MSW, MPH, statistician, California State Department of Public Health, Sacramento, California, USA.

Adwoa Kluitse, Chair, Foundation for Women's Health Research and Development (FORWARD), London, UK.

Mervyn Lander, MB, BS, Dip.Ter.Ed., FRACS, pædiatric surgeon, clinical lecturer, University of Queensland, Brisbane, Australia.

David Llewellyn, JD, Director, Atlanta Circumcision Information Center, civil litigation attorney, Atlanta, Georgia, USA.

Linda Massie, Director, NOCIRC of Northern Ireland.

Janet Menage, MA, MB, Ch.B., general medical practitioner, founding member of Positive Care in Obstetrics and Gynaecology, committee member, NORM-UK, Bulkington, Warwickshire, UK.

Marilyn Fayre Milos, RN, Director, National Organization of Circumcision Information Resource Centers (NOCIRC), Coordinator, International Symposia on Sexual Mutilations, San Anselmo, California, USA.

Michel Odent, MD, Director, Primal Health Research Centre, London, UK.

Christopher Price, MA (Oxon), Solicitor of the Supreme Court of England and Wales, former member of the Government Legal Service, specialising in international and human rights law, Pembrokehire, SW Wales.

Marianne Sarkis, MA, applied medical anthropologist, established first comprehensive World Wide Web site on female genital mutilation, Albany, California, USA.

Dirk Schultheiss, MD, urologist, Department of Urology, Medizinische Hochschule Hannover, Hannover, Germany.

Steve Scott, NOCIRC Educational Outreach Coordinator, Director, NOCIRC of Utah, Salt Lake City, Utah, USA.

James L. Snyder, MD, FACS, urologist, past president, Virginia Urologic Association, Clifton Forge, Virginia, USA.

Margaret A. Somerville, AM, FRSC, Gale Professor of Law, Professor, Faculty of Medicine, McGill Centre for Medicine, Ethics and Law, Montreal, Québec, Canada.

Morris Sorrells, MD, pædiatrician, Alameda County Ambulatory Health Care Services, Oakland, California, USA.

Betty Katz Sperlich, RN, co-founder, Nurses for the Rights of the Child, Santa Fe, New Mexico, USA.

J. Steven Svoboda, JD, Director, Attorneys for the Rights of the Child (ARC), Berkeley, California, USA.

Godfrey Tangwa, Senior Lecturer in Philosophy, University of Yaoundé, and Board Member, International Association of Bioethics (IAB), Yaoundé, Cameroon, Africa.

Nahid Toubia, MD, Director, Research Action and Information Network for the Bodily Integrity of Women (Rainb♀), New York, New York, USA.

Moisés Tractenberg, MD, psychoanalyst, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

Robert Van Howe, MD, Consultant to the American Academy of Pediatrics Task Force Committee on Circumcision (1997), pædiatrician, Marshfield Clinic, Minocqua, Wisconsin, USA.

John Warren, MB, DCH, FRCP, Director, National Organization of Restoring Men (NORM-UK) and NOCIRC of UK, Harlow, UK.

Hugh Whitfield, MD, Editor, British Journal of Urology.

George Williams, MB, Ch.B., FRACP, consultant pædiatrician/perinatologist, Director, NOCIRC of Australia, Menai, New South Wales, Australia.

Avshalom Zoosmann-Diskin, steering committee, Israeli Association Against Genital Mutilation, Tel-Aviv, Israel.

Joseph Zoske, CSW, psychotherapist, independent health care consultant in Albany, New York, USA.

Gérard Zwang, MD, urologic surgeon, author, *The Female Genitalia* and *Sexual Pathology*, St. Clément de Rivière, France. ∞

Programme

Wednesday, 5 August

0730–0830: Registration

0830–0845: Welcome and Opening Remarks · *Peter Ball, Marilyn Milos*

0845–0930: Keynote Address:
Evolutionary Cultural Ethics and Circumcision/Genital Mutilation of Children · *Nahid Toubia*

0930–1045: The Anatomy, Physiology and Histology of the Human Prepuce · *Peter Ball, Moderator*

Anatomy and Physiology of the Human Prepuce
· *Steve Scott*

Anatomy and Histology of the Penile and Clitoral Prepuce in Primates. Evolutionary Perspective of Specialised Sensory Tissue of the External Genitalia
· *Christopher Cold*

Significance and Function of Preputial Langerhans Cells
· *George Williams*

1045–1100: Break

1100–1230: Current Research on Circumcision and Phimosis · *George Denniston, Moderator*

The History of Phimosis from Antiquity to the Present
· *Frederick Hodges*

Diagnosis and Treatment of Phimosis · *Steve Donnell*

Anæsthesia for Circumcision: A Review of the Literature
· *Robert Van Howe*

Neonatal Circumcision and HIV Infection
· *Robert Van Howe*

1230–1400: Lunch

1400–1630: Genital Mutilation: Religious and Cultural Considerations · *Tina Kimmel, Moderator*

Our Sexual Organs Between God's Hammer and the Devil's Anvil · *Sami A. Aldeeb Abu-Sahlieh*

The Price of Truth: Circumcision in Islam
· *Judge Mustafa K. Al-Mahdawi*

Evangelical Christianity and its Relation to Infant Male Circumcision · *Jim Bigelow*

A Jewish Perspective on Circumcision · *Jenny Goodman*

Circumcision: An African Point of View · *Godfrey Tangwa*

Female Genital Mutilation in Egypt · *Mohamed Badawi*

Unifying Language to Stop Genital Mutilation: Religious and Cultural Considerations · *Jeannine Parvati Baker*

Thursday, 6 August

0730–0830: Registration

0830–1045: Legal and Ethical Considerations of Genital Mutilation · *Morris Sorrells, Moderator*

Pre-Ethics · *Mervyn Lander*

Circumcision: The Legal and Ethical Issues
· *Christopher Price*

National & International Laws Defending Children from Genital Mutilation · *J. Steven Svoboda*

Challenging Unconstitutionality of Gender Biased US Law
· *Zenas Baer*

Some Thoughts on Legal Remedies and their Efficacy
· *David J. Llewellyn*

The Physician as an Expert Witness · *James L. Snyder*

1045–1100: Break

1100–1200: (*Continuation of morning session*)

Tyranny by the Victims · *George Denniston*

A Comprehensive Approach of Communication About Female Genital Mutilation in Egypt · *Seham Abd el Salem*

Call for a Moratorium on the Medicalised, Non-Therapeutic Sexual Mutilation of Infants and Children
· *Charles Bonner*

1200–1230: Human Rights Award Presentation, Recipient's Address:

Respect in the Context of Circumcision: Can Ethics Provide Insights? · *Margaret Somerville*

1230–1400: Lunch

1400–1630: The World-Wide Campaign to End Genital Mutilation · *John Warren, Moderator*

The Practice of Circumcision in the United States
· *Morris Sorrells*

Male Genital Mutilation: A Public Health and Human Rights Report from Northern Ireland · *Linda Massie*

Celebrating Phallos: Healing Men and Culture
· *Joseph Zoske*

London Black Women's Health Action Project
· *Shamis Dirir*

FORWARD: Strategies for the Eradication of Female Genital Mutilation · *Adwoa Kluitse*

Challenges to Circumcision in Israel: The Israeli Association Against Genital Mutilation
· *Avshalom Zoosmann-Diskin*

Activism on the World Wide Web · *Marianne Sarkis*

Special Activities

Friday, 7 August

0730–0830: Registration

0830–1045: Psychological Aspects of Genital Mutilation

· *Jim Bigelow, Moderator*

Varied Mutilative Practices in Human Cultures

· *Gérard Zwang*

Psychoanalysis of Circumcision · *Moisés Tractenberg*

Post Traumatic Stress Disorder After Genital Medical Procedures · *Janet Menage*

Attitudes, Beliefs, and Charges of Doctors Who Circumcise

· *Christopher Fletcher*

The Face of the Circumciser

· *Mary Conant and Betty Katz Sperlich*

Psychology of the Survivor · *Jeree Archer*

1045–1100: Break

1100–1230: Foreskin Restoration: Historical and Contemporary Considerations · Jim Bigelow, Moderator

The History of Foreskin Restoration · *Dirk Schultheiss*

Current Practices in Foreskin Restoration: The State of Affairs in the United States · *Wayne Griffiths*

Current Practices in Foreskin Restoration: The State of Affairs in the UK · *John Warren*

The Man Behind Restoration · *Mervyn Lander*

1230–1400: Lunch

1400–1600: Current Problems in Medical Publication · Peter Ball, Moderator

Publication Bias in American Medical Publishing Regarding Circumcision · *Paul Fleiss*

Peer-Review Bias Regarding Circumcision in American Medical Publishing · *Robert Van Howe*

BMJ's Approach to Controversial Topics: A Model for the Elimination of Publishing and Peer-Review Bias

· *Sandra Goldbeck-Wood*

Publication on Circumcision in Medical Literature: The Role of an Editor · *Hugh Whitfield*

1600–1630: Closing Keynote Address:

Neonatal Circumcision from a Primal Health Research Perspective · Michel Odent

Speakers confirmed but are subject to change. For program changes, check: <http://www.nocirc.org>

Symposium Organisers: Marilyn Fayre Milos, RN, National Organization of Circumcision Information Resource Centers and Frederick Hodges, Wellcome Unit for the History of Medicine, University of Oxford. ☺

Book Table

Resource books, videos, and other educational materials will be available for purchase.

Poster Presentations

Additional information will be provided in poster presentations.

Post-Symposium Celebration

A closing celebration will be led by Jeannine Parvati Baker on Saturday, August 8; the time and place will be announced at the Symposium.



The International
Symposia on
Sexual Mutilations

presents its

HUMAN RIGHTS AWARD

to ethicist

Dr. Margaret Somerville

for courageously stating that male genital mutilation is as ethically wrong as female genital mutilation, that non-therapeutic circumcision of baby boys is criminal assault, and that our duty is “to protect those who cannot protect themselves.”

International Symposia on Sexual Mutilations

The International Symposia on Sexual Mutilations, a special project of the National Organization of Circumcision Information Resource Centers (NOCIRC), provides a forum for discussion about the sexual mutilation of infants and children from historical, anthropological, cultural, religious, social, psychological, medical, ethical, legal and human rights perspectives. NOCIRC is a non-profit educational organisation that provides information for parents and others about protecting the rights of children.

Continuing Education Credit

Continuing education credits are provided by the National Organization of Circumcision Information Resource Centers, approved by the California Board of Registered Nursing, Provider Number CEP 10870, for 19 contact hours. Continuing Medical Education credits pending program approval by the Royal College of Pædiatrics and Child Health.

Location

The symposium will be held at:

Examination Schools
High Street
University of Oxford
UK

Accommodations

Accommodations available at nearby hotels. Accommodation suggestions:

Oxford Tourist Information:

Address: The Old School
Gloucester Green
Oxford OX1 2DA
UK

Telephone: UK: 01865-726-871
International: +44 1865-726-871

Fax: UK: 01865-240-261
International: +44 1865-240-261

Internet: <http://www.uk-guide.com/s-east/oxfortic.htm>

Accommodation information on the Internet:

<http://www.yahoo.co.uk/travel/accommodation>

Registration Form

Name _____ Degree _____

Affiliation _____

Address _____

City _____ County/State _____ Postal Code _____ Country _____

Telephone _____ Fax _____ E-mail _____

		Payment in £	Payment in US \$
Early registration fee:	All three days:	£200	\$330
	Per day:	£90	\$150
On-site registration fee:	All three days:	£250	–
	Per day:	£120	–
Make cheque payable to:		NORM-UK	NOCIRC
Send cheque to:		NORM-UK PO Box 71 Stone Staffordshire ST15 0SF UK	NOCIRC PO Box 2512 San Anselmo, CA 94979 USA
<i>Please tick as appropriate:</i>			
<input type="checkbox"/> Wednesday, August 5			
<input type="checkbox"/> Thursday, August 6			
<input type="checkbox"/> Friday, August 7			
<input type="checkbox"/> All Three Days, August 5-7			

Registration fee exclusive of accommodation and catering.

Total Registration Payment Enclosed: £ _____ \$ _____

Cancellation requests must be made in writing and post-marked no later than 25 July 1998. A £50 or \$80 per person processing fee will be deducted from the refund, which will be returned within 60 days following the symposium.

Symposium Description

Every year around the world, 13.3 million boys and 2 million girls have part or all of their external sex organs cut off.

These mutilations are rarely regarded or acknowledged as such in the societies where they are performed.

Even in developed nations, the proponents of male and female sexual mutilation defend these mutilations with dubious scientific studies and manipulated statistics and by appeals to custom and tradition.

Doctors, parents, and politicians have been misled into believing that these mutilations are beneficial, necessary, and harmless.

Internationally respected experts in the fields of medicine, science, politics, law, ethics, sociology, anthropology, history, and religion will present the latest research, documentation, and analysis of this world-wide problem.

Symposium Objectives

Upon completion of the Symposium, participants will understand:

- the ethical, political, and legal aspects of sexual mutilation;
- the cost and other burdens to health care systems of medically contraindicated sexual mutilations such as male circumcision;
- the latest medical research on circumcision;
- the latest medical research on phimosis;
- the anatomical and functional consequences of male and female sexual mutilation;
- the religious and cultural aspects of sexual mutilation;
- the need for religious, cultural, and gender sensitivity to the issue of sexual mutilation;
- the world-wide campaign to end sexual mutilation;
- the psychological aspects and sequelæ of sexual mutilation;
- the historical and contemporary aspects of foreskin restoration;
- the difficulty of getting accurate information about sexual mutilation into medical publications.

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