NOCIRC and NORM-UK present

THE FIFTH INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON SEXUAL MUTILATIONS

Medical, Legal and Ethical Considerations in Paediatric Practice

5–7 August 1998

UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD
Symposium Faculty

Seham Abd el Salem, Female Genital Mutilation Resource Centre, 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.

Marilyn Fayre Milos, RN, Director, National Organization of Circumcision Information Resource Centers (NOCIRC), Coordinator, International Symposium 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, Pembrokeshire, 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 Sorrels, MD, pædiatrican/perinatologist, Director, NOCIRC of Australia, New South Wales, Australia.

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

J. Steven Svoboda, MD, psychoanalyst, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

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

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

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

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

Avshalom Zoosman-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

Anaesthesia 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 U.S. 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 Kluvitse

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

Activism on the World Wide Web · Marianne Sarkis
**Speakers confirmed but are subject to change. For program changes, check: [http://www.nocirc.org](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.

---

**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 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

---

**Special Activities**

**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**

**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 organization 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

Registration Form

Name_________________________________________________________________________ Degree________________________
Affiliation ____________________________________________________________________
Address ________________________________________________________________________
City __________________________ County/State ___________________ Postal Code _____________ Country __________
Telephone __________________________ Fax _____________________________ E-mail __________________________

Early registration fee:
All three days: £200
Per day: £90

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

Payment in £ Payment in US $
£200 $330
£90 $150
£250 –
£120 –

Please tick as appropriate:
☐ Wednesday, August 5
☐ Thursday, August 6
☐ Friday, August 7
☐ All Three Days, August 5–7

Total Registration Payment Enclosed: £ ____________________ $ ____________________

Cancellation requests must be made in writing and post-marked no later than 35 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.

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
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 sequelae of sexual mutilation;
• the historical and contemporary aspects of foreskin restoration;
• the difficulty of getting accurate information about sexual mutilation into medical publications.

NOCIRC
P.O. Box 2512
San Anselmo, CA 94979
USA