

FEMALE GENITAL CUTTING IN AFRICA

Chloe Jensen & Evie Friedbaum

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Alternative rite of passage video: https://youtu.be/vf_oCLu2K-w

Orchid project video: <https://youtu.be/19fcxg75Slw>

UNICEF infographics:

http://data.unicef.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/12/FGMC_Lo_res_Final_26.pdf

https://www.unicef.org/media/files/FGMC_2016_brochure_final_UNICEF_SPREAD.pdf

WHO page on FGC; statistics and explanation:

<http://www.who.int/mediacentre/factsheets/fs241/en/>.

UNICEF report on FGC: https://www.unicef-irc.org/publications/pdf/fgm_eng.pdf

Dr. Bettina Shell-Duncan Interview on FGC:

<https://www.theatlantic.com/international/archive/2015/04/female-genital-mutilation-cutting-anthropologist/389640/>

UNICEF report on specific interventions in 5 countries:

[https://www.unicef.org/protection/fgm_insight_eng\(1\).pdf](https://www.unicef.org/protection/fgm_insight_eng(1).pdf)

FOOTNOTES

1. Brian D. Earp, "Are male and female circumcision morally equivalent?" Aeon Essays, accessed August 2017, <https://aeon.co/essays/are-male-and-female-circumcision-morally-equivalent>.
2. Ibid.
3. Carol R. Horowitz and J. Carey Jackson. "Female 'Circumcision': African Women Confront American Medicine," *Journal of General Internal Medicine* 12, no. 8 (August 1997): 491-499, doi:10.1046/j.1525-1497.1997.00088.x.
4. "Why Do We Use the Term Female Genital Cutting and not Female Genital Mutilation?" Orchid Project, accessed August 02, 2017, <http://orchidproject.org/why-do-we-use-the-term-female-genital-cutting-and-not-female-genital-mutilation/>.
5. "Male Circumcision Benefits Outweigh Risks, CDC says," *Scientific American*, accessed August 2017, <https://www.scientificamerican.com/article/male-circumcision-benefits-outweigh-risks-cdc-says/>.
6. "The Female Reproductive System," *Female Reproductive System*, Birth.com, accessed July 27, 2017, <http://www.birthing.com.au/How-conception-works/The-female-reproductive-system-.aspx?p=2>.
7. United Nations, *Universal Declaration of Human Rights* (December 10, 1948), <http://www.un.org/en/universal-declaration-human-rights/>.

8. (WHO) OHCHR, UNAIDS, UNDP, UNECA, UNESCO, UNFPA, UNHCR, UNICEF, UNIFEM, WHO. "Eliminating female genital mutilation: an interagency statement," Womenwatch, accessed July 27, 2017, from http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/csw/csw52/statements_missions/Interagency_Statement_on_Eliminating_FGM.pdf.
9. "Female Genital Mutilation," World Health Organization, accessed August 2017, <http://www.who.int/mediacentre/factsheets/fs241/en/>.
10. "What Is Female Genital Mutilation (FGM)?" Female Genital Mutilation: History and Facts. Mtholyoke.edu, accessed 27 July 2017, <http://www.mtholyoke.edu/~mcbri20s/classweb/worldpolitics/page1.html>.
11. UNICEFInnocenti, "Changing a Harmful Social Convention: Female Genital Mutilation/Cutting," UNICEF-IRC, accessed June 16, 2017, <https://www.unicef-irc.org/publications/396/>.
12. Pratibha Parmar, "Female Genital Mutilation," Female Genital Mutilation, Emory.edu, accessed July 2017, <http://www.english.emory.edu/Bahri/FGM.html>.
13. "Female Genital Mutilation," World Health Organization.
14. UNICEFInnocenti, "Changing Harmful Social Convention."
15. United Nations Children's Fund, "Female Genital Mutilation/Cutting: A Global Concern," UNICEF, New York, 2016, https://www.unicef.org/media/files/FGMC_2016_brochure_final_UNICEF_SPREAD.pdf.
16. "Female genital mutilation," World Health Organization.
17. Lois Jensen, ed., Female Genital Mutilation/Cutting: A Statistical Overview and Exploration of the Dynamics of Change, United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), 2013, https://www.unicef.org/cbsc/files/UNICEF_FGM_report_July_2013_Hi_res.pdf.
18. Ibid.
19. Ibid.
20. Ibid.
21. Ibid.
22. UNICEFInnocenti, "Changing Harmful Social Convention."
23. United Nations Children's Fund, "A Global Concern."
24. UNICEFInnocenti, "Changing Harmful Social Convention."
25. United Nations Children's Fund, "A Global Concern."
26. Jensen, A Statistical Overview.
27. Ibid.
28. Jensen, A Statistical Overview.
29. UNICEFInnocenti, "Changing Harmful Social Convention."
30. "Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) Frequently Asked Questions," United Nations Population Fund, accessed August 2017, http://www.unfpa.org/resources/female-genital-mutilation-fgm-frequently-asked-questions#practice_origins.
31. Martin Donohoe, "Female Genital Cutting: Epidemiology, Consequences, and Female Empowerment as a Means of Cultural Change," Medscape (November 6, 2006), <https://www.medscape.com/viewarticle/546497>.
32. Jensen, A Statistical Overview.
33. Qtd. in Kay Young McChesney, "Successful Approaches to Ending Female Genital Cutting," The Journal of Sociology and Social Welfare 42, no. 1 (March 2015), <http://scholarworks.wmich.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=3884&context=jssw>.
34. Ibid.
35. Ibid.
36. Ibid.

37. Olga Khazan, "Why Some Women Choose to Get Circumcised," April 8, 2015, <https://www.theatlantic.com/international/archive/2015/04/female-genital-mutilation-cutting-anthropologist/389640/>.
38. McChesney, "Successful Approaches to Ending."
39. Ibid.
40. UNICEFInnocenti, "Changing Harmful Social Convention."
41. Ibid.
42. Ibid.
43. Christopher J. Coyne and Rachel L. Mathers, "The Identity Economics of Female Genital Mutilation," SSRN, (March 29, 2009), <https://ssrn.com/abstract=1369969>.
44. Ibid.
45. Qtd. in Coyne, "Identity Economics."
46. Jensen, A Statistical Overview.
47. UNICEFInnocenti, "Changing Harmful Social Convention."
48. "FGC? FGM? Why language matters in helping communities abandon harmful practices," Tostan, February 3, 2015, <https://www.tostan.org/fgc-fgm-female-circumcision-why-language-matters-helping-communities-abandon-harmful-practices/>.
49. Jensen, A Statistical Overview.
50. UNICEFInnocenti, "Changing Harmful Social Convention."
51. Jensen, A Statistical Overview.
52. "Eliminating female genital mutilation," Womenwatch.
53. Jensen, A Statistical Overview.
54. Ibid.
55. "Eliminating female genital mutilation," Womenwatch.
56. Ibid.
57. "Female Genital Mutilation," World Health Organization.
58. Khazan, "Why Some Women Choose to Get Circumcised."
59. Janice Boddy, "The normal and the aberrant in female genital cutting: Shifting paradigms." *HAU: Journal of Ethnographic Theory* 6, no. 2 (2016): 41-69. doi:10.14318/hau6.2.008.
60. Ibid.
61. Andrea Nichols, "Female Circumcision," Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville, accessed July 2017, <http://www.siu.edu/~jfarley/nicho490.htm>.
62. UNICEFInnocenti, "Changing Harmful Social Convention."
63. Julie Bindel, "The Village Where Men are Banned." *The Guardian*, August 16, 2015, <https://www.theguardian.com/global-development/2015/aug/16/village-where-men-are-banned-womens-rights-kenya>.
64. "The Land of No Men: Inside Kenya's Women-Only Village," YouTube, September 09, 2015, accessed August 30, 2017, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UrnBLB-UX4>.
65. Bindel, "The Village Where Men."
66. Bettina Shell-Duncan and Ylva Hernlund, *Female "Circumcision" in Africa: Culture, Controversy, and Change* (Lynn Rienner Publishers, 2000), 269.
67. "Female Genital Mutilation," World Health Organization.
68. Ibid.
69. Coyne, "Identity Economics."
70. "Female Genital Mutilation," World Health Organization.
71. Ike E. Onyishi, Pavol Prokop, Chiedozie O. Okafor, and Michael N. Pham, "Female Genital Cutting Restricts Sociosexuality Among the Igbo People of Southeast Nigeria," *Evolutionary Psychology*, 2016, <http://journals.sagepub.com/doi/pdf/10.1177/1474704916648784>.

72. Bindel, "The Village Where Men."
73. Susan Brink, "Female Genital Mutilation: What It Does To A Woman," NPR, May 06, 2017, <https://www.npr.org/sections/goatsandsoda/2017/05/06/526766230/female-genital-mutilation-what-it-does-to-a-woman>.
74. Episode 586 transcript, This American Life, <https://www.thisamericanlife.org/radio-archives/episode/586/transcript>.
75. Khazan, "Why Some Women Choose to Get Circumcised."
76. Jensen, A Statistical Overview.
77. Khazan, "Why Some Women Choose to Get Circumcised."
78. Ibid.
79. Jensen, A Statistical Overview.
80. Ibid.
81. "Female Genital Mutilation," World Health Organization.
82. "What is Female Genital Mutilation?" Amnesty International, September 30, 1997, <https://www.amnesty.org/download/Documents/156000/act770051997en.pdf>.
83. Nawal M. Nour, "Female Genital Cutting: A Persisting Practice," *Reviews in Obstetrics and Gynecology*, Summer 2008, <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC2582648/>.
84. The Guardian, "The Girl Who said No to FGM," YouTube, March 17, 2017, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MAQIdouaOLE>.
85. Nour, "A Persisting Practice."
86. "Female Genital Cutting," *Womenshealth.gov*, accessed August 30, 2017, <https://www.womenshealth.gov/a-z-topics/female-genital-cutting>.
87. Ibid.
88. Ibid.
89. "Health Risks of Female Genital Mutilation (FGM)," World Health Organization, accessed August 30, 2017, http://www.who.int/reproductivehealth/topics/fgm/health_consequences_fgm/en/.
90. "Female Genital Cutting," *Womenshealth.gov*.
91. Lynette Dumble, "Africa: The More Brutal the Genital Mutilation, the Worse the Obstetric Complication," *Global Sisterhood Network*, accessed August 30, 2017, <http://www.global-sisterhood-network.org/content/view/993/76/>.
92. Ibid.
93. "Estimating the Obstetric Costs of Female Genital Mutilation in Six African Countries," World Health Organization, accessed August 30, 2017, <http://www.who.int/bulletin/volumes/88/4/BLT-09-064808-table-T2.html>.
94. Ibid.
95. "Health Risks," World Health Organization.
96. Ibid.
97. Ibid.
98. UNICEF Innocenti, "Changing Harmful Social Convention."
99. Chris Bodenner, "The Complexity of Female Circumcision: Your Thoughts," *The Atlantic*, May 01, 2015, Accessed August 30, 2017, <https://www.theatlantic.com/international/archive/2015/05/complexity-of-female-circumcision-your-thoughts/391841/>.
100. "Education and Economic Growth," *Education Next*, accessed August 30, 2017, <http://educationnext.org/education-and-economic-growth/>.
101. "The Economic Impact of FGM," *International Museum of Women*, accessed August 30, 2017, <http://exhibitions.globalfundforwomen.org/economica/projects/story?key=6105>.
102. Ibid.

103. Ibid.
104. World Health Organization, "Estimating the Obstetric Costs."
105. Bettina Shell-Duncan, Katherine Wander, Ylva Hernlund, and Amadou Moreau, "Legislating Change? Responses to Criminalizing Female Genital Cutting in Senegal." *Law and Society Review* 47, no. 4 (2013): 803-35. doi:10.1111/lasr.12044.
106. "Female Genital Mutilation: Frequently Asked Questions: A Campaigner's Guide for Young People." Forward.uk., accessed August 30, 2017.
http://www.forwarduk.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2014/12/Forward_-FGM-FAQ.pdf.
107. Shell-Duncan, "Legislating Change?"
108. N. Macready, "Female Genital Mutilation Outlawed in United States," *BMJ* 313, no. 7065 (1996): 1103. doi:10.1136/bmj.313.7065.1103a.
109. Shell-Duncan, "Legislating Change?"
110. Ibid.
111. UNICEFInnocenti, "The Dynamics of Social Change Towards the Abandonment of Female Genital Mutilation/Cutting in Five African Countries," 2010,
[https://www.unicef.org/protection/fgm_insight_eng\(1\).pdf](https://www.unicef.org/protection/fgm_insight_eng(1).pdf).
112. Shell-Duncan, "Legislating Change?"
113. McChesney, "Successful Approaches to Ending."
114. Shell-Duncan, "Legislating Change?"
115. Ibid.
116. Ibid.
117. "Senegalese Doctor Fleeing Persecution for Helping AIDS Victims Finds Refuge with Bermondsey Couple," *Southwark News*, accessed August 30, 2017,
<https://www.southwarknews.co.uk/news/senegalese-doctor-fleeing-persecution-helping-aids-victims-finds-refuge-bermondsey-couple/>.
118. McChesney, "Successful Approaches to Ending."
119. "Why do These Women in Kenya Support Female Genital Mutilation?" *Public Radio International*, accessed August 30, 2017,
<https://www.pri.org/stories/2014-07-02/why-do-these-women-kenya-support-female-genital-mutilation>.
120. Shell-Duncan, "Legislating Change?"
121. McChesney, "Successful Approaches to Ending."
122. Skoll Foundation, "Tostan" 2010, accessed November 7, 2016,
123. Orchid Foundation in discussion with author.
124. Skoll Foundation, "Tostan."
125. UNICEFInnocenti, "Changing Harmful Social Convention."
126. UNICEFInnocenti, "Dynamics of Social Change."
127. UNICEFInnocenti, "Changing Harmful Social Convention."
128. Skoll Foundation, "Tostan."
129. "Contesting Female Genital Cutting In Africa," *The Critique*, September 13, 2016,
<http://www.thecritique.com/articles/contesting-female-genital-cutting-in-africa/>.
130. Diane Cole, "Can A Bath Of Milk And Honey Replace Female Genital Mutilation?" *NPR*, February 23, 2016,
<http://www.npr.org/sections/goatsandsoda/2016/02/23/467687101/can-a-bath-of-milk-and-honey-replace-female-genital-mutilation>.
131. Ibid.
132. Ibid.
133. UNICEFInnocenti, "Dynamics of Social Change."
134. Ibid.
135. "Elders Bless Girls who Chose to Skip the Cut," *Amref Health Africa*, accessed August 30, 2017,

<http://amref.org/news/news/elders-bless-girls-who-chose-to-skip-the-cut/?keywords=FGM>.

136. UNICEF Innocenti, "Dynamics of Social Change."
137. Ibid.
138. Ibid.
139. Cole, "Can a Bath."
140. The Critique, "Contesting Female Genital Cutting."
141. Denise Zani and Jaime Villanueva, "La ley no es suficiente para erradicar la mutilación genital femenina," EL PAÍS, February 04, 2017, accessed August 30, 2017, https://elpais.com/internacional/2017/02/03/actualidad/1486130556_706173.html.
142. "Female Genital Mutilation: Integrating the Prevention and the Management of the Health Complications into the Curricula of Nursing and Midwifery," World Health Organization, http://www.who.int/reproductivehealth/publications/fgm/RHR_01_16/en/.