



circumcision

a lifetime of medical benefits



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PRESENTATION OF ANTICIRCUMCISION GROUPS:

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Beginning in the 1970s many of lay anti-circumcision organizations with picturesque acronyms have sprung up. The longest - lived and probably largest is NOCIRC (National Organization of Circumcision Information Resource Centers). Others include NOHARMM (National Organization to Halt the Abuse and Routine Mutilation of Males), NORM (National Organization of Restoring Males), RECAP (Re-cover A Penis), and BUFF (Brothers United for Future Foreskins). A San Francisco magazine, Foreskin Quarterly, aimed at gay men, focuses on the sexual advantage of the foreskin. These activist organizations, particularly NOCIRC, mainly using anecdotes and testimonials, have gained a good deal of media attention and have had a misguided influence in discouraging newborn circumcision, particularly in middle class educated parents.

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Anti-circumcision Acronyms

- NOCIRC - National Organization of Circumcision Information Resource Centers.
- NOHARMM - National Organization to Halt Abuse and Routine Mutilation of Males.
- NORM - National Organization of Restoring Males.
- BUFF - Brothers United for Future Foreskins
- RECAP - Re-Cover A Penis

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LONDON CASE - MARIN INDEPENDENT JOURNAL
February 25, 1985

Routine circumcision, no medical problems, consent signed.
CHARGES- Battery, cruelty, false imprisonment, infliction of pain, child abuse, kidnapping and mayhem.

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**Dean Edell, MD
TV and Radio Medical
Commentator
(400 radios and 75 TV)**

"There are now serious concerns that this routine procedure may actually deprive adult men of a vital part of their sexual sensitivity."

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**Dr. Dean Edell
TV and Radio Medical Commentator
(Discovery Health Channel 6/12/00)**

Newborn circumcision is "an immoral violation of body rights."

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**Dr. Dean Edell
TV and Radio Medical Commentator
(Discovery Health Channel 6/12/00)**

"It is proven there is no data (sic) to support the routine circumcision of little boys, and basically it ought to be outlawed."

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**Thomas Ritter, MD, George Denniston,
MD**

"Say No to Circumcision" (1996),
Hourglass Book Publishing
"40 compelling reasons why you
should respect his birth right and
keep your son whole"

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Ashley Montague, PhD, Anthropologist

"Circumcision is a very cruel, very painful practice with no benefit whatsoever."

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**Frederic Leboyer, MD
Author, Birth Without Violence**

"The torture (of circumcision) is experienced in a state of total helplessness which makes it even more frightening and unbearable."

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"FQ (Foreskin Quarterly)"

Slick San Francisco magazine for homosexual men, featuring a large classified ads section (with photos) of uncircumcised men looking for other uncircumcised men as sexual partners.

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Dr. George Denniston

(stated on *The Today Show*, Nov. 9, 1998)

"Say No to Circumcision" (1996)

Studies show "the risk of urinary tract infections is only 1% higher in intact boys."

[Actual odds ratio is 10 to 1 or 1000% higher]

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Dr. George Denniston

(stated on *The Today Show*, Nov. 9, 1998)

"Say No to Circumcision" (1996)

"If circumcision is hygienic then removing the eyelids is also hygienic."

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Paul Fleiss, MD: Pediatrician to Hollywood Celebrities

1. "Sentenced to 3 years probation for conspiring to hide the profits from his daughter Heidi's call girl ring" *LA Times* Sept. 1995

"Neonatal circumcision does not protect against penile cancer" *Brit Med J*, March 1996

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R.S. Van Howe, MD, Minocqua, Wisconsin

1. "Recommending routine circumcision as a prophylactic measure to prevent HIV infection in Africa, or elsewhere, is scientifically unfounded." *Int J STD AIDS* 1999 Jan; 10(1): 8-162.
2. "Phimosis affects circumcised and intact boys with equal frequency." *Brit J Urol* 1997; 80:776

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R.S. Van Howe, MD, Minocqua, Wisconsin

1. Examined 230 boys in pediatric practice- 213 (92.6%) were circumcised, vs <70% in the U.S. *Brit J Urol* 1997; 70:776
2. "It is unclear whether foreskin has a prophylactic effect on urinary tract infection". *Ped. Inf. Dis J* 1998; 17:1

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R.S. Van Howe, MD, Minocqua, Wisconsin

1. Co-author with Paul Fleiss, MD (convicted felon 1995) and F.M. Hodges (cocktail lounge pianist) on functions of human prepuce. *Sex Transm. Inf* 1998;74:364
2. Claimed to be "Consultant to American Academy of Pediatrics Task Force on Circumcision"- denied by AAP. *"Priorities"* 1997

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R.S. Van Howe, MD, Minocqua, Wisconsin

"There is no reason, other than cultural bias, why the current child abuse laws and laws prohibiting female circumcision are not applied to those performing involuntary male circumcision."

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R.S. Van Howe, MD, Minocqua, Wisconsin

"The latest "myth" used by circumcisers to perpetuate the surgery is that the use of topical and local anesthetics "eliminates" the pain of neonatal circumcision."

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New Anti-Circumcision Tactic- Target the Poor

- Continued high U.S. prevalence middle class circumcision
- 22 anti-circ. groups- International Coalition of Genital Integrity
- Lobby and pressure State Legislatures to "de-insure newborn circumcision for Medicaid recipients- to save money.

New Anti-Circumcision Tactic - Target the Poor (contd)

- 13 States convinced to discontinue newborn circumcision for Medicaid recipients
- In U.S. circumcision is a social advantage - uncircumcised boys usually immigrant offspring or poor. Some poor parents pay out-of-pocket.
- Anti-circ hypocrisy - Newborns should have the civil right to choose or refuse circumcision, but not poor people.

Dr. Robert Van Howe, Pediatrician, Minocqua, Wisconsin (93% circumcised)

"You're more likely to be struck by lightning than to suffer from penile cancer,"

Men's Health, 1998.

In U.S. 1200 penile cancer cases, 200 deaths annually essentially all in uncircumcised men. About 200 deaths annually from lightning strikes (FEMA*) but no known relationship to circumcision.

*Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)

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