

A Sermon on the Taboos of Sexual Trauma

Sermon by Rev. Minister Angela Smith of COPE for July 14th, 2024 (and beyond)

[Revised on July 1st, 2025]

Welcome to this week's service. Today I'm going to give my best argument for enforcing and enhancing penalties for genital mutilation regardless of gender of victim. The sources for what I'm about to say are available in the following posts (read full threads for all citations) to X if not cited within the sermon as written:
<https://twitter.com/heal247/status/1803068222087770416> and
<https://twitter.com/heal247/status/1804661636575506936> .

Statistical Analysis of Health Risks Associated with Circumcision (Data from Google AI generated reports and search results including NIH, CDC and https://hpcvcentre.net/statistics/reports/MAR_FS.pdf)

COUNTRY	% OF MALES CIRCUMCISED (CUT)	STI RATE OF ENTIRE MALE POPULATION (CUT & UNCUT) (INCLUDING HIV)	PENILE CANCER RATE OF ENTIRE MALE POPULATION (CUT & UNCUT)
Sweden	5%	0.31%	0.0021%
Switzerland	5.9%	9.19%	<0.001%
USA	77-80%	20%	<0.001%
Vietnam	0.2%	17.3%	0.82%
China	5-14%	7%	0.00042%
United Kingdom	8.5-20.7%	1.397%	0.003%
Morocco	99.9%	17.7% (5.7% with HIV)	.07%

The above establishes that circumcision DOES NOT prevent STIs (including HIV) nor penile cancer. It also establishes that those claiming otherwise are misinformed and/or deliberately making false claims about any health benefits, where over 100 baby boys die in the US from circumcision annually (sources: https://www.researchgate.net/publication/240804903_Lost_Boys_An_Estimate_of_US_Circumcision-Related_Infant_Deaths & <https://people.com/newborn-nearly-bled-to-death-after-circumcision-parents-claim-1172329>) and health risks resulting from genital mutilation/circumcision include cancer, prostate issues (narrowing urethra), and for some imminent death. In terms of getting it for religious or cosmetic reasons, that is a throwback to slavery with the former and the vice of vanity with the latter suggesting the parent is a malignant narcissist or stupid and prone to superstition or otherwise unduly influenced by propaganda.

“The June 22, 1987 Boston Globe quoted Thomas Wiswell, M.D., as saying: “I have some good friends who are obstetricians outside the military, and they look at a foreskin and almost see a \$125 price tag on it. Each one is that much money. Heck, if you do 10 a week, that’s over \$1,000 a week, and they don’t take that much time.” (Lehman 1987)...

...Profit should never dictate morality, but in the case of nontherapeutic circumcision it does. In 1999 the American Academy of Pediatrics found that neonatal circumcisions in the United States added between \$150 and \$270 million annually to healthcare costs.

A Catholic mother from Indiana told me of her experience giving birth in a Catholic hospital. Three times doctors and nurses at the hospital solicited her to circumcise her son, even though she told them the first time that her decision was no. Solicitation and coercion for this unnecessary surgery is unethical, sexist, and must stop.

A man born and circumcised at a Catholic hospital described to me his feelings this way:

I am a man who has lived all of his life with the results of a circumcision done at birth. There does not a day go by that I don't feel a deep sense of loss and disfigurement as a result of this loss of the most sensitive tissue on my body. How can anyone deny the feelings of millions of men like me who were denied the right to a natural and normal sexuality for their entire life? I will never have any idea what has been taken from me, but I do know that I was damaged for life physically, sexually, emotionally, and spiritually by the horrible "nonsense" committed by a medical doctor who needed some quick and easy money for his Cadillac payment and didn't care about the damage done to me. I was born in a Catholic hospital in Kansas City, Missouri, in December of 1940, and I learned about sexual abuse by Catholic institutions as soon as I was born. Sex and violence met for the first time in my life in the few hours after birth in a Catholic hospital." Source: <https://www.catholicsagainstcircumcision.org/respect-for-bodily-integrity-a-catholic-perspective-on-circumcision-in-catholic-hospitals/>

What are the short-term and long-term adverse effects of genital mutilation?

Immediate and Short-Term Effects:

Bleeding: Bleeding, usually mild, is the most common complication.

Infection: Infection can occur, even when sterile conditions are maintained.

Pain: Pain is expected during and after the procedure.

Urethral complications: Issues like meatal stenosis (narrowing of the urethral opening) or urethrocutaneous fistulas (abnormal openings between the urethra and skin) can occur.

Poor cosmetic results: Scarring can occur, especially if the foreskin was previously adherent.

Inclusion Cysts that may become malignant. (short-term and potential long-term)

Long-term:

Meatal stenosis, a narrowing of the urethral opening is thought to result either from chronic meatitis that leads to scarring or from mild ischemia of the glans during circumcision. In either case, the meatus is normally placed, but the lower surface of the meatus adheres to itself, causing the opening to be smaller and less oval than is normal. In more severely affected boys, in whom deflection of the urinary stream, dribbling of urine, dysuria, or urinary frequency are related to the stenosis, meatomy may be recommended.

Circumcision can also cause pathologic phimosis. When circumcision is performed on a boy with penile web or buried penis, the circumferential edge can pull together in a purse-string fashion and result in the penis being trapped under circumcision site, creating a secondary phimosis. In some cases, good outcomes have been reported with watchful waiting, but surgical correction may be necessary.

The creation of a fistula between the urethra and the skin is another complication of circumcision. It occurs when there is injury to the urethra. This is thought to be most likely if there is aggressive clamping or suturing on the ventral surface of the glans or penile shaft as the urethra lies quite close to the skin in this area. Surgical correction is necessary.

Necrosis is a rare complication, but it has been reported as a complication of circumcision in the setting of infection or injudicious use of an electrocautery device to control bleeding.

Amputation of the glans is a rare but devastating complication of circumcision which has been reported with inappropriate placement of the Mogen clamp. The clamp is designed to allow the device to open only enough to allow the foreskin, and nothing else, into the area of compression, but if placed incorrectly with all or part of the glans admitted into this area, amputation will occur.

If recognized promptly with both the amputated piece (in a saline-soaked sponge) and the patient transported immediately to a pediatric urologist, successful reattachment of the glans may be possible.

And, again, death is a possible adverse effect, not just death of the penis (necrosis). (Sources include: <https://med.stanford.edu/newborns/professional-education/circumcision/complications.html>)

Narrowing urethra and urinary issues are a symptom of prostate cancer. (Source: <https://www.mayoclinic.org/diseases-conditions/prostate-cancer/symptoms-causes/syc-20353087#:~:text=A%20big%20reason%20to%20get,different%20from%20normal%20cells%20are.>)

The male foreskin is the same part and has the same function as the female clitoris. Genital mutilation of girls and boys is the same exact procedure. In the US, circumcision was most widely performed in the 1950s and incidents of rape and other violent crimes

skyrocketed in the 1970s. With the decline of the genital mutilation of baby boys, the decline of rape has followed and is down since the 1970s. Circumcision of baby boys is done without anesthesia and no pain-killers following the butchery because they are too young for effective pain medication. Propagandists claim it prevents certain types of cancer. The truth is that some studies suggest it prevents penile cancer in childhood but increases the risk of invasive penile cancer in adulthood. The truth is also that less than 1% of men are ever diagnosed with any form of penile cancer. And, if you are female and unable to imagine being genitally mutilated by way of having your clitoris removed with or without anesthesia and pain management, please ask yourself “If my doctor told me I needed a full mastectomy to prevent breast cancer which I only have a 13% chance of ever developing, would it be worth it to prevent breast cancer just in case? If your answer is “no” to that, then that’s your answer on circumcision and the genital mutilation of baby boys too.

Circumcised men are always uncomfortable as their packages don’t stay naturally moist as the foreskin protects and heals the penis. So, while if they had their foreskin they would get wet for their partners, without it they are too dry. The mouth, eyelid, and clitoris all have similar salivating glands and men who have been circumcised may need oral assistance before vaginal penetration. The alternative is using artificial lubricant which is petroleum-based and bad for the environment. In addition, women’s bodies react to a dry penis feeling unattractive or not attractive enough bringing the relationship into question resulting in over-compensation in the realm of physical augmentation, make-up, and the like. Circumcised men know there is something wrong with them, but don’t always know the source of their suffering or how to properly address it.

The Catholic Church via St. Thomas says the reason for circumcision is to kill the man and the only way to save him is if he dies before circumcision. This is followed later by baptism in holy water being rebirthed as property of the church endowed now with the Holy Spirit.

I’m a peaceful woman who does not resort to violence. I am a survivor of sexual assault and battery. I was sodomized when I was 6 years old by a circumcised man. I have always been committed to truth and virtue. I wanted to know why anyone would do something so evil. I’m sure they are wondering that themselves and when told it was God’s will likely started hating religion and reasonably so.

Church or not, the US is a nation of laws. Some have already been convicted of the crime of genital mutilation of females in the US. I expect baby boys to get the same justice and protection even if grown men now with children of their own whether through criminal prosecution of their “doctors” or through the biggest class action lawsuit the US has ever seen. If the genital mutilation doesn’t stop immediately, January 6th and September 11th will be long-forgotten and seem like nothing I imagine. The root of all criminal violence is genital mutilation and it is time to cut it out. There will be no over-turning of that ban and the current criminalization of the procedure covering girls applies to boys too and always has or else the law needs correcting. Do you want them to permit it on baby girls too?

There can be no more churches that fail to align with the law in regards to respect for individual rights and respect that all men are created equal and will be retaining the right to their full package. See, the right to pursue happiness is an inalienable God-given right and genital mutilation prevents and/or hinders exercise thereof.

I hope everyone enjoys Independence Day and I expect everyone to act like they understand the US and French Revolutions were inspired by the Lollard Movement which came after the Peasant Revolt of 1381, which is where you'll find our founding fathers at COPE. Priest John Ball, Wat Tyler, and Priest/Professor John Wycliffe are the founding fathers of COPE. Priest John Ball and Wat Tyler were executed by the Catholic Church (Archbishop of Canterbury) for leading the Peasant Revolt of 1381 and John Wycliffe died of natural causes but his remains were drawn and quartered, burned, and the ashes scattered in the River Swift. The Catholic Church did that to COPE's founding fathers for demanding an end to forced tithing. Are you awake yet?

SPECIAL NOTE: You may also wish to see this thread: <https://twitter.com/heal247/status/1808879206081909019> . Circumcision AKA genital mutilation can result in excess loss of blood, infection, severe untreatable pain depending on age of victim, penile injury, inclusion cysts (which may become malignant epidermal inclusion cysts/cancerous), meatal stenosis (Meatal stenosis is an abnormal narrowing of the urethral opening (meatus). If the narrowing becomes significant, urine will have trouble flowing from the bladder and may cause the bladder to not empty completely. If left untreated, this can lead to urinary tract infections and kidney problems.), and going for a specific aesthetic amounts to elective cosmetic surgery with serious health risks that imperil and forever impact the overall health and wellness of the victims/survivors. Genital mutilation/circumcision is a crime when done to girls. "Female genital mutilation (FGM) has been a federal crime in the United States since 1996." <https://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/justice-department-and-federal-partners-recognize-zero-tolerance-day-female-genital-0#:~:text=FGM%20is%20a%20form%20of,the%20purpose%20of%20performing%20FGM>. Equal protection makes it a crime where boys are the victims too. Please demand prosecution to the fullest extent and end the maiming now.

FINAL NOTE: Please learn more about this issue and support the following organizations combating this unnecessary evil and cruel practice:

Doctors Opposing Circumcision: <https://www.doctorsopposingcircumcision.org/>

Intact America: <https://intactamerica.org/>

Sign the Petition: <https://chnng.it/yR9RRmFhNZ>

For those interested in starting #TaoFu Self-Defense Exercises, please see <https://www.cope.church/taofu.htm> and begin at any time.

There are opportunities to send messages, receive mystery bonus blessings, and more with or without donating available now on our "Pass the Basket" page at <https://www.cope.church/basket.htm> . Thank You.

"And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free." John 8:32 KJV Willful blindness is an abomination.

COPE accepts Feedback, critical and complimentary. Learn more at <https://www.cope.church/feedback.htm> . For the sake of keeping myself and others humble, a sense of humor is welcome on all sides.