

## RESEARCH REPORT



Issue: Genital Mutilation and violation against Human Rights caused by religious rituals

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### **Definition of Key Terms**

#### Mutilation

Mutilation means to remove parts of the human body with a knife or any other blade. It's a process that is often not prepared or carried out well.

#### Circumcision

A kind of mutilation specially known for religious reasons.

### **Introduction**

Genital Mutilation is a current topic on the world. It's a global issue which is caused by rituals of different religions or organisations from ethnic groups. It often occurs against human rights but this is not a reason for some humans to stop doing these things to women or boys.

Genital Mutilation means to mutilate or remove genitals of women, girls or boys.

The origin of genital mutilation is not officially known but it is known that it is also founded by Australian aboriginals and native Africans. For the most of these peoples the rituals of genital mutilation are celebrated events. At the other hand there are also countries, which are mostly western countries, where the most humans are much more educated about religions and rituals where humans have to get hurt for some reasons are rejected for a lot of years.

### **General Overview**

At the western society the most people think that mutilation is a crime from the past but actually there are also over 20.000 mutilations every year and this is just a unofficial number of mutilations in Europe. If you look to the African countries you will see that for example in Egypt 97% of the women are genital mutilated.

The problem about genital mutilation and violation against human rights caused by religious rituals is the freedom of religion. For the most of the countries where genital mutilation happens, this topic is just like a celebration of growing up. For example the Samburu in Rift Valley (Kenya) celebrate every single mutilation with every inhabitant of these villages for a whole day. It's a tradition to celebrate growing up like for example the confirmation in Christian areas like Germany. But also in Germany you can see different opinions towards different kinds of mutilations. Circumcision for example is also a kind of mutilation for some humans but a lot of people all over the world think that this is actually an acceptable and supportable kind of religious ritual. So where should be the difference? Where is the limit? The answers to these questions go in a lot of different ways and that's the reason why this topic should be debated.

## **Major parties involved**

Genital mutilation is a current topic anywhere and anytime but the biggest percentage share is based at different African countries. Regarding to the fact that this topic is directly connected to religious rituals it seems obvious that also western countries like Spain etc. are included into genital mutilation.

## **Useful documents**

<http://www.ohchr.org/EN/Issues/Pages/WhatareHumanRights.aspx>

<http://www.un.org/en/documents/udhr/>

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Homosexuality>

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/LGBT\\_rights\\_by\\_country\\_or\\_territory](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/LGBT_rights_by_country_or_territory)

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/graphics/world/gay-rights/>

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/lgbt-rights>

<http://infographicworld.com/lgbt-rights-around-world/>

[http://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/HRC/RegularSessions/Session29\\_layouts/15/WopiFrame.aspx?source=EN/HRBodies/HRC/RegularSessions/Session29/Documents/A\\_HRC\\_29\\_2\\_ENG.DOCX&action=default&DefaultItemOpen=1](http://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/HRC/RegularSessions/Session29_layouts/15/WopiFrame.aspx?source=EN/HRBodies/HRC/RegularSessions/Session29/Documents/A_HRC_29_2_ENG.DOCX&action=default&DefaultItemOpen=1)

[http://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/HRC/RegularSessions/Session27\\_layouts/15/WopiFrame.aspx?source=EN/HRBodies/HRC/RegularSessions/Session27/Documents/A\\_HRC\\_27\\_36\\_ENG.doc&action=default&DefaultItemOpen=1](http://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/HRC/RegularSessions/Session27_layouts/15/WopiFrame.aspx?source=EN/HRBodies/HRC/RegularSessions/Session27/Documents/A_HRC_27_36_ENG.doc&action=default&DefaultItemOpen=1)

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mutilation>

<https://www.theguardian.com/society/2014/feb/06/what-is-female-genital-mutilation-where-happen>

[https://books.google.de/books?id=kEG6GaudxQEC&pg=PA13&lpg=PA13&dq=mutilation&source=bl&ots=e8aBktzibX&sig=h4pExIuD\\_NY5JL\\_9tYl4aVJa6XA&hl=de&sa=X&ved=0ahUKEwi-2KLv5ezSAhWBxxQKHx9xC9E4ChDoAQggMAE#v=onepage&q=mutilation&f=false](https://books.google.de/books?id=kEG6GaudxQEC&pg=PA13&lpg=PA13&dq=mutilation&source=bl&ots=e8aBktzibX&sig=h4pExIuD_NY5JL_9tYl4aVJa6XA&hl=de&sa=X&ved=0ahUKEwi-2KLv5ezSAhWBxxQKHx9xC9E4ChDoAQggMAE#v=onepage&q=mutilation&f=false)

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

<http://www.endfgm.eu/female-genital-mutilation/what-is-fgm/>