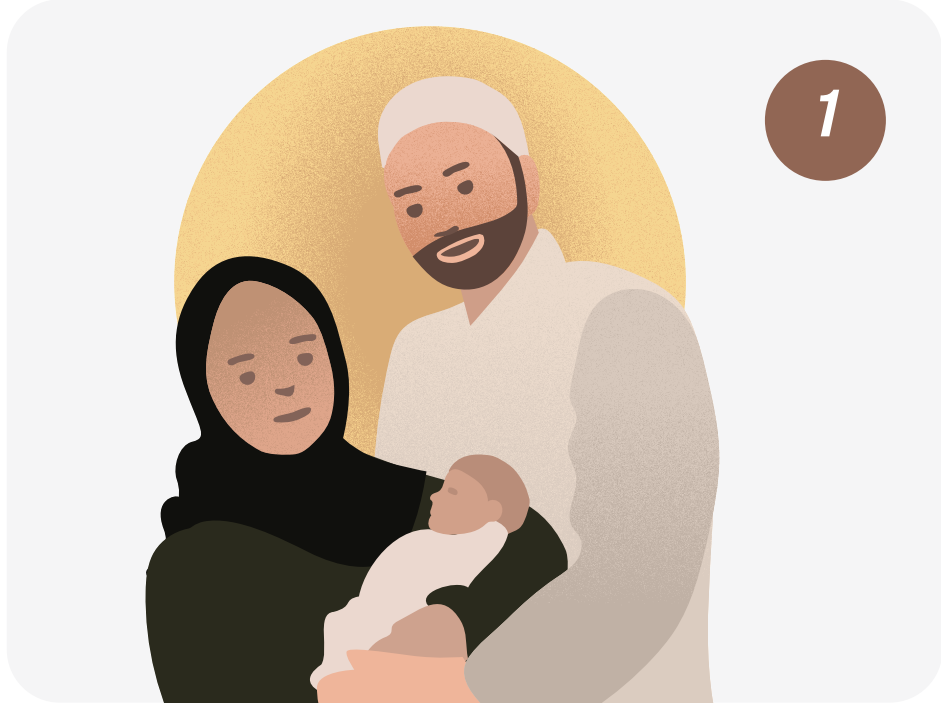




RELIGIOUS & CULTURAL CONSIDERATIONS

There are many non-harmful
birth rituals and naming ceremonies
to welcome a new baby.



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RELIGIOUS & CULTURAL CONSIDERATIONS

No major religious text supports FGM/C. It is not prescribed in the ***Qur'an***, the ***Bible***, or any other holy scripture. The practice is ***cultural, not religious***, and has been passed down through tradition rather than faith. Many religious leaders have publicly stated that FGM/C has ***no basis in religion*** and should not be associated with spiritual or moral purity.

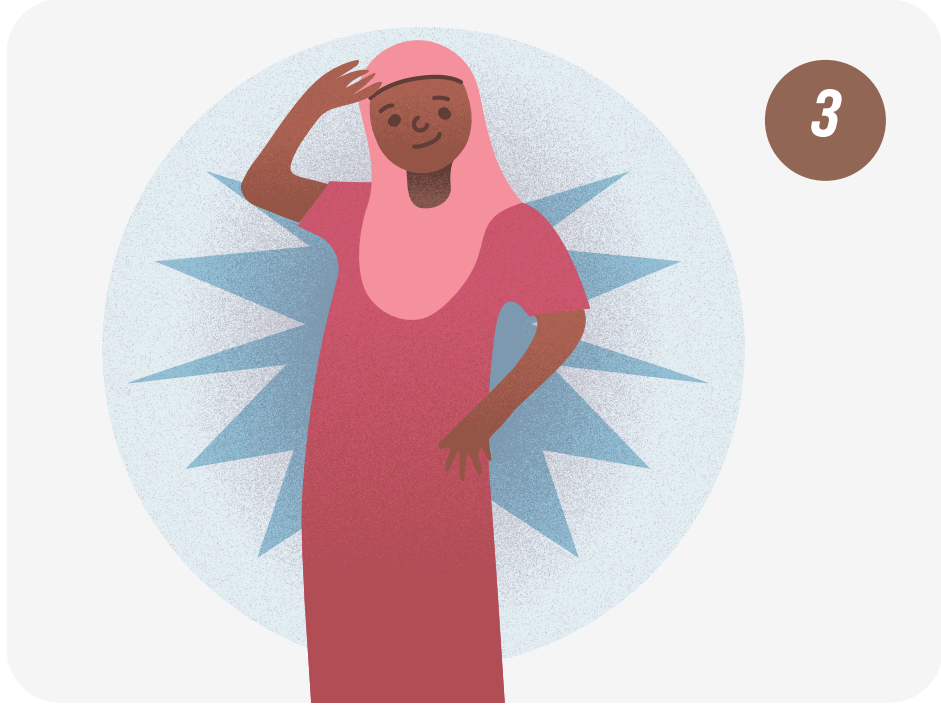


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RELIGIOUS & CULTURAL CONSIDERATIONS

There are many ways families and communities can celebrate girls and women, keeping them safe from harmful traditional practices.



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RELIGIOUS & CULTURAL CONSIDERATIONS

FGM/C violates ***autonomy***. Respecting autonomy means honouring a person's right to make informed decisions about their own body. Young girls are not able to consent or understand the consequences of FGM/C.

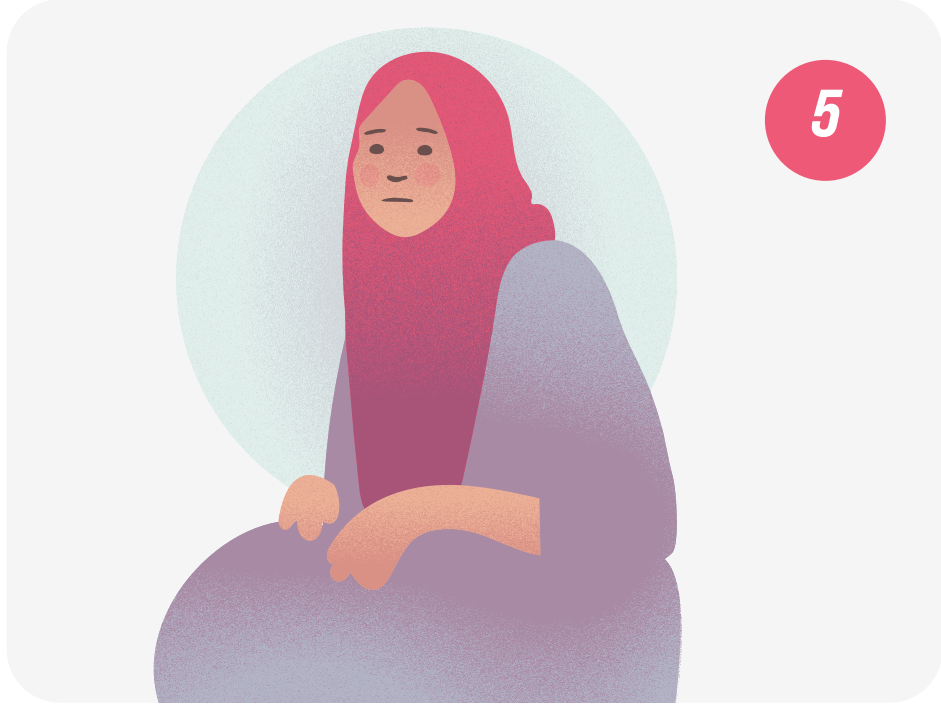


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The normalisation of FGM/C often leads girls and women to accept pain, scarring, and sexual or reproductive health issues as “normal,” preventing them from seeking medical care or recognising that they have experienced harm.



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Some believe FGM/C prevents promiscuity,
but there is no evidence that uncircumcised
girls are more sexually active.



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SOCIAL ISSUES

The emotional trauma from cutting can cause significant mental health issues later in life.



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There is a global call to action to eradicate the harmful practice of FGM/C and many communities are abandoning the practice.



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Justice involves fairness and equality in healthcare. FGM/C is a gender-based practice that discriminates against girls and women, depriving them of their right to bodily integrity and equal health protection under the law.



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SOCIAL ISSUES

FGM/C is violence against women and girls and is
a sexual reproductive health rights issue.
All girls and women deserve the freedom to
have these rights.



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United Nations Sustainable Development Goal 5:
Gender Equity - achieve gender equality and
empower all women and girls - identifies a mandate
to eliminate harmful practices such as FGM/C.



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In many countries FGM/C is illegal,
and those who request it or practice it may
face criminal charges.



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HEALTH CONSEQUENCES

Health professionals are taught to “do no harm” and follow the guidance of the International Confederation of Midwives, FIGO, UNFPA, and WHO, which clearly state that FGM/C has no health benefits, can cause lifelong harm, is a violation of bodily integrity, and must never be performed on any girl.



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HEALTH CONSEQUENCES

Some types of FGM/C can later cause complications in pregnancy and birth. Many women will require additional care to deliver their babies safely.



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HEALTH CONSEQUENCES

Babies and young girls suffer pain, bleeding and distress at the time of cutting/pricking.



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HEALTH CONSEQUENCES

Even when performed in a hospital by
a health practitioner, FGM/C is never safe.



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HEALTH CONSEQUENCES

Infections may occur and carry a high risk of causing significant harm to babies and girls.



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HEALTH CONSEQUENCES

FGM/C is potentially harmful and an unnecessary practice. It has NO medical benefits.



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HEALTH CONSEQUENCES

Scarring, nerve damage, sexual dysfunction
and long-term chronic illness can occur
because of FGM/C.



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HEALTH CONSEQUENCES

Midwives are NOT trained to perform ANY form of FGM/C. It is NOT in their scope of practice, and is a violation of medical ethics and human rights principles.



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Beneficence requires actions that promote the wellbeing of individuals. Since FGM/C has no medical benefits and can cause harm, pain, and psychological trauma, performing or supporting it contradicts this principle.



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Non-maleficence means “do no harm.”
FGM/C causes both immediate and long-term
harm; therefore, it directly violates the
principle of non-maleficence.



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