

## GENITAL MUTILATION OF CHILDREN IS TORTURE. II

**The Ashley Montagu Campaign Against the Torture  
and Mutilation of Children  
<http://MontaguNoCircPetition.org>**

Presents The Following SIGNATURES Collected at

*The 11th International Symposium on Circumcision, Genital Integrity, and Human Rights, Berkeley CA 29-31 July 2010*

*In support of the following Resolution:*

Circumcision tortures its victims. Whether, with intent or in ignorance, the **Genital Mutilation of Children Is An Act of Torture**, as the stripping of skin from the body is universally recognized as an act of torture. This is particularly true for the infant/child where the glans and foreskin are fused as a single biological unit that protects the glans. Many infants do not scream because they are in shock and cannot scream.

[http://www.salem-news.com/articles/december072007/circumcisions\\_12707.php](http://www.salem-news.com/articles/december072007/circumcisions_12707.php) **See letters to:**

*Senator Patrick J. Leahy, Chair, Senate Judiciary Committee 25 August 2010*

*Judith S. Palfrey, M.D., President, American Academy of Pediatrics 25 August 2010*

**GENITAL MUTILATION IS TORTURE**



## INSTITUTE OF HUMANISTIC SCIENCE

1140-23 Savannah Road  
Lewes, DE 19958  
302.645.7436

jprescott34@comcast.net  
<http://www.violence.de>  
<http://montagunocircpetition.org>  
<http://tffuture.org/violence>  
<http://tffuture.org/blog/1181>

25 August 2010

Senator Patrick J. Leahy  
Chairman, Senate Judiciary Committee  
Committee on the Judiciary  
224 Dirksen Senate Office Bld.  
Washington, DC 20510

Att: Bruce Cohen, Staff Director and Chief Counsel

Dear Chairman Leahy,

The 14<sup>th</sup> Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, as the whole of the U.S. Constitution, is sacred to all Americans, particularly our newborns and children, who are dependent for their health and survival on this nation of laws and justice.

This nation has been torn apart over the issue of torture, once thought to be a settled issue of U.S. Constitutional and International Law. Tragically, many Americans are uncertain about what constitutes torture and some deny its existence in this country, as the treatment of prisoners' worldwide attest, e.g. waterboarding, affirmed throughout history as torture.

Yet, cultural customs are so ingrained and commonplace that some Americans do not recognize that they are committing torture in the practice of "medicine", re the recent scandal created by the Committee on Bioethics Policy Statement—Ritual Cutting of Female Minors of the *American Academy of Pediatrics*.

The strong opposition by the Genital Integrity Community forced AAP President Dr. Judith Palfrey, M.D. to renounce the decision of its Bioethics Committee with the statement:

"The AAP reaffirms its strong opposition to FGC and counsels its members not to perform such procedures. As typically practiced, FGC can be life-threatening. Little girls who escape death are still vulnerable to sterility, infection, and psychological trauma." The AAP does not endorse the practice of offering a "clitoral nick". This minimal pinprick is forbidden under federal law and the

AAP does not recommend it to its members. The AAP is steadfast in its goal of protecting all young girls from the harms of FGC.” (April 26, 2010).

Tragically, this “psychological trauma” is forced upon male children by routine genital mutilation (circumcision) where the glans and foreskin, which are fused as a single biological unit that protects the glans, is shredded apart from one another when no pathology of the genitals is present—the only justification for this painful surgery.

You might want to ask Dr. Palfrey why “a clitoral nick” is medically unacceptable and being illegal while a more traumatic injury inflicted upon male children is medically acceptable and legal? Traumatic brain injury and Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) of the infant/child, as a consequence of genital mutilation, is a real possibility but remains uninvestigated by the National Institutes of Health, despite many urgent requests for such investigations. Appeals to end this medically sanctioned sexual assault against infants and children have been ignored.

<http://www.violence.de/prescott/letters/Levy1945.html>

[http://www.violence.de/prescott/letters/LtCollins\\_1.Oct.2009.html](http://www.violence.de/prescott/letters/LtCollins_1.Oct.2009.html)

Enclosed is a copy of a **Resolution on The Genital Mutilation of Children Is Torture** presented for SIGNATURES at *The 11th International Symposium on Circumcision, Genital Integrity, and Human Rights, Berkeley CA 29–31 July 2010*; Signatures collected; my letter to you of 31 May 2010; Judge Flaherty’s OPINION in *McFall v Shimp*, in The Court of Common Pleas of Allegheny County, Pennsylvania, July 26, 1978 No. GD 78–17711 that stated:

“OPINION: The question posed by the Plaintiff, is that, in order to save the life of one of its members by the only means available, may society infringe upon ones absolute right to his “bodily security”... Forceable extraction of living body tissue causes revulsion to the judicial mind. Such would raise the spectre of the swastika and the Inquisition, reminiscent of the horrors this portends... An Order will be entered denying the request for a preliminary injunction.”

[http://www.violence.de/prescott/letters/McFall\\_v\\_Shimp.pdf](http://www.violence.de/prescott/letters/McFall_v_Shimp.pdf);

my letter of 31 May 2010 to Andrew G. Oosterbaan, Chief, Child Exploitation and Obscenity Division, Department of Justice; supporting letters of April 8, 1995 and of April 19, 1995 from Drs Francis Crick and Jonas Salk, respectively of *The Ashley Montagu Resolution To End The Genital Mutilation of Children Worldwide: A Petition To The World Court, The Hague*; and the *Universal Declaration on Circumcision, Excision, and Incision*, a Resolution unanimously passed by **The First International Symposia On Circumcision**, Anaheim, CA March 1-3, 1989 and its published proceedings in *The Truth Seeker* “**Crimes of Genital Mutilation**” July/August 1989.

<http://montagunocircpetition.org>

<http://www.violence.de/politics.shtml#GMChildren>

[http://www.violence.de/prescott/Genital\\_Mutilation\\_of\\_Children.html](http://www.violence.de/prescott/Genital_Mutilation_of_Children.html)

The May/June 1989 edition of *The Truth Seeker* contains Barbara Honegger’s “**A Proposed “Bodily Sovereignty” Amendment To The U.S. Constitution**”, which compliments Judge Flaherty’s OPINION. It is requested that you take whatever action is necessary to make Judge Flaherty’s OPINION the law of the land, copy attached.

[http://www.violence.de/prescott/letters/Bodily\\_Sovereignty\\_Amendment.pdf](http://www.violence.de/prescott/letters/Bodily_Sovereignty_Amendment.pdf)

I and my associates are requesting from you any actions that you can take to enforce the equal protection clause of the **14<sup>th</sup> Amendment** to provide equal protection of male children given the federal protection given to female children under **PL 104-208** that declared Female Genital Mutilation a Federal Crime, (1997), as onerous and unlawful. <http://mgmbill.org/usfgmlaw.htm>;  
[http://www.violence.de/prescott/letters/McFall\\_v\\_Shimp.pdf](http://www.violence.de/prescott/letters/McFall_v_Shimp.pdf)

I am copying this letter with enclosures to Howard Dean, M.D., Dr. Judith Palfrey, President, American Academy of Pediatrics; Marilyn F. Milos, R.N, Executive Director, *NOCIRC*, George C. Denniston, M.D. *Doctors Opposing Circumcision*; J. Steven Svoboda, J.D., *Attorneys for the Rights of the Child* and Van Lewis, Administrator, Ashley Montagu website, <http://montagunocircpetition.org>.

Your attention to these critical life issues is appreciated.

Respectively,

James W. Prescott, Ph.D.  
Director

Cc: Howard Dean, M.D.  
Judith Palfrey, M.D.  
Marilyn F. Milos, R.N.  
George C. Denniston, M.D.  
J. Steven Svoboda, J.D.  
Van Lewes

#### Enclosures

1. Letter of 31 May 2010 to Chairman Leahy
2. Resolution: Genital Mutilation of Children Is Torture
3. Signatures: Genital Mutilation of Children Is Torture
4. Judge Flaherty's OPINION, 26 JULY 1979
5. Letter OF 31 MAY 2010 to Andrew G. Oosterbaan
6. Letter of 8 April 1995 from Francis Crick
7. Letter of 19 April 1995 from Jonas Salk
8. Universal Declaration on Circumcision, Excision, and Incision
9. The Ashley Montagu Resolution To End The Genital Mutilation of Children
10. Barbara Honegger "Bodily Sovereignty" Amendment To The U.S.Constitution.

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25 August 2010

Judith S. Palfrey, MD, FAAP  
President  
American Academy of Pediatric  
PO Box 927,  
Elk Grove Village, IL 60009-0927.

Dear Dr. Palfrey,,

Please find enclosed my letter with enclosures to Senator Leahy, Chairman, Senate Judiciary Committee concerning the violation of 14<sup>th</sup> Amendment Rights of male children, re PL 104-208 to receive equal protection of the laws, as female children enjoy under PL 104-208; a petition with Signatures of a *Resolution on the Genital Mutilation of Children Is Torture*, collected at **The 11<sup>th</sup> International Symposium on Circumcision, Genital Integrity, and Human Rights**, Berkeley, CA 29-31 July 2010; the recent actions of the American Academy of Pediatrics concerning female genital mutilation; and the overriding **OPINION** of Judge Flaherty in McFall v Shimp that stated, in part, **“Forceable extraction of living body tissue causes revulsion to the judicial mind”**.

Your leadership in protecting male children, as you have shown in protecting female children, is requested.

Sincerely,

James W. Prescott, Ph.D.  
Director

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<http://montagunocircpetition.org>  
<http://ttfuture.org/violence>

1 October 2009

Francis S. Collins, M.D., Ph.D.  
Director, National Institutes of Health  
9000 Rockville Pike, Building 1  
Bethesda, MD 20892-2152

[NIHinfo@od.nih.gov](mailto:NIHinfo@od.nih.gov)

Dear Dr. Collins,

As you are aware, the genital mutilation of children is an extraordinary sexual assault against helpless infants and children, which has no scientific or moral justification.

Judge J. Flaherty (1978) in The Court of Common Pleas of Allegheny County, Pennsylvania. Civil Division. McFall v Shimp rendered his OPINION; "...**Forceable extraction of living body tissue causes revulsion to the judicial mind.** Such would raise the spectre of the swastika and the Inquisition, reminiscent of the horrors this portends... An Order will be entered denying the request for a preliminary injunction".

Perinatal and postnatal circumcision (forceable extraction of living tissue) from healthy newborns that benefits others not only "causes revulsion to the judicial mind" but also to the moral mind.

It is well known that Federal Law establishes Female Genital Mutilation as a crime (PL 104-208), which was enacted on September 30, 1996 and the criminal provisions became effective on March 30, 1997. The 14<sup>th</sup> Amendment states "nor deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws", which extends the criminal sanctions under PL 104-208 to male children.

In letters to Attorney General Eric Holder, Jr, **an injunction against circumcision of male children that calls for the forceable removal of healthy penile tissue was requested and which is consistent with the principles of PL 104-208 and Judge Flaherty's OPINION (attached).**

It is requested that your scientific and moral leadership and judgment support this call for declaring the genital mutilation of children an act of torture that violates PL 104-208 and would recognize the protection of male children under the 14<sup>th</sup> Amendment which states "nor deny to

any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws". The criminal sanctions under PL 104-208 for violating female children would apply to male children.

Your personal support for *The Ashley Montagu Resolution To End the Genital Mutilation of Children Worldwide: A Petition To The World Court, the Hague*, which affirms that the genital mutilation of children is a violation of the *United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights*; the *United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child*; and other international covenants is requested. The Montagu Resolution has received the support of Nobel Laureate Dr. Francis Crick; Dr. Jonas Salk, Founder, The Salk Institute for Biological Studies and many other leading citizen-scientists, attached.

These issues are being addressed by **NOCIRC and The Ashley Montagu Campaign Against the Torture and Mutilation of Children** at the 2009 Annual Convention of the *American Academy of Pediatrics*, Exhibit Booth #957, Washington Convention Center, October 16-20, 2009, which you are invited to visit.

A major theme of the 2009 AAP convention *Pediatrics for the 21st Century (Peds 21): Fostering Healthy Futures* cannot become a reality with the continuing genital mutilation of children.

Again, your scientific and moral leadership is requested.

Sincerely,

James W. Prescott, Ph.D.  
Director

Cc Marilyn Fayre Milos, R.N.  
Executive Director, NOCIRC, <http://www.nocirc.org>

Van Lewis  
Administrator, [MontaguNoCircPetitionAdmin@gmail.com](mailto:MontaguNoCircPetitionAdmin@gmail.com)

Attorney General Eric Holder, Jr.  
Department of Justice

Secretary Kathleen Sebelius  
DHHS

President Barack Obama  
The White House

<http://www.nocirc.org/symposia/fourth/endorse1.pdf>  
<http://www.nocirc.org/symposia/fourth/endorse2.pdf>  
[http://www.violence.de/prescott/letters/Bodily\\_Sovereignty\\_Amendment.pdf](http://www.violence.de/prescott/letters/Bodily_Sovereignty_Amendment.pdf)  
[http://www.violence.de/prescott/letters/McFall\\_v\\_Shimp.pdf](http://www.violence.de/prescott/letters/McFall_v_Shimp.pdf)  
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AwBCEIbVkuY&feature=related>

