

Intact America

Children's Rights

<https://www.intactamerica.org/>

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changing the way America thinks about circumcision

Dear Marilyn: I have read that the foreskin produces anti-microbial agents, including Langerhans cells. Is that true? What are Langerhans cells? Richard in Virginia Dear Richard: Yes, Richard, Langerhans cells have important immunological properties. Langerhans cells...

Richard Schwartzman, a psychiatrist who wrote and spoke about child rearing, including the harm of infant circumcision, passed away on July 20, 2022. He was 83 and is survived by an immediate family that includes Rebecca Wald, her husband, and their children. For...

By Marilyn Milos, RN Sometimes the retractable foreskin of an adult male will close down; this condition is called "pathological phimosis." Too often, when men who have developed pathological phimosis consult with a urologist or other physician, they are told that the...

As a newborn, he probably will not recall being restrained, or his penis being clamped and cut (one in five men say they do remember it). What he is unaware of is that his brain may not develop normally because of the severe pain and trauma.

As a man, he might be reminded daily that his penis is not whole, not fully functional, and has a scar running around it. And he might know that he may still suffer from complications, like being at an increased risk for erectile dysfunction.

%

Three quarters of all American males are walking around today with an important part of their penis missing. Many are oblivious to the damage. All have been harmed, and they and their sexual partners have never had the chance to enjoy the protective and pleasurable qualities of the foreskin.

Mothers are solicited an average of eight times by doctors and nurses to agree to having their newborn sons circumcised. Peddling this unnecessary surgery is profiteering, violates the AMA's code of ethics, and is illegal in many states.

Every day, thousands of newborn boys are forcibly restrained and their penises are surgically and permanently altered. Even if they receive pain relief during the procedure, circumcision is still painful and traumatic. Many boys will experience complications, some severe, and a few will die.

%

Four out of ten intact (not circumcised) boys will experience having their foreskin forcibly torn from its foundation by misguided adults. This traumatic, painful and unnecessary action can lead to complications, such as bleeding, infection and eventual amputation of the foreskin. Early traumas are known to cause developmental and lifelong psychological problems.

Now, as more boys are remaining intact, more are at risk for Forced Foreskin Retraction (FFR). It is time for America to take a refresher course on penile care.

Keep abreast of intactivist breaking news, current events, and ongoing programs.

Stay informed with our monthly newsletter.



Visit our [entry-level companion website](#) where you can learn the history of circumcision in America and arguments for and against, plus a parents guide for talking about it with doctors.