

DAY TWO: 26th November:

Elimination of Female Genital Mutilation

FGM, also known as female genital cutting and female circumcision, is the ritual cutting or removal of some or all, of the external female genitalia. The practice is rooted in gender inequality and attempts to control women's sexuality, and ideas about purity.

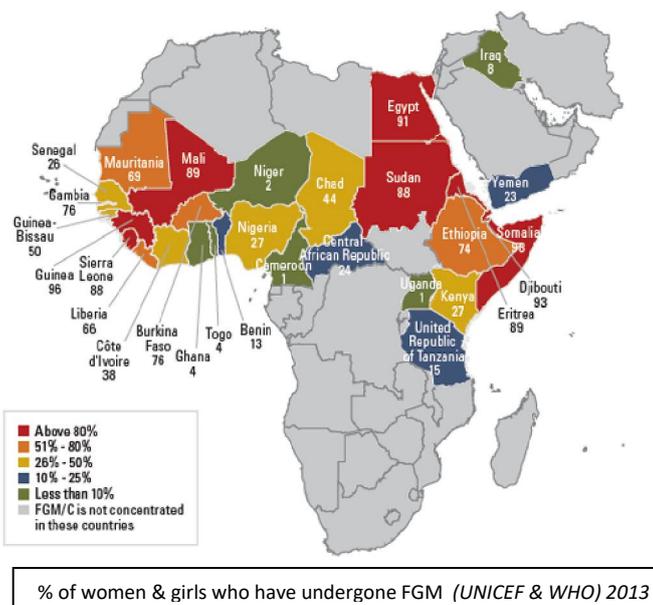
Fatima's story

Fatima lives in Somalia where she attends a school nearby. Her mother is a seamstress. Fatima, at 6 years of age, had a visit from her grandmother. All was pre-arranged and Fatima didn't know what was happening. *'They held my shoulders and knees, and I started crying and trying to close my legs. It was very terrible. I can never forget that. I was at home for seven days with acute pain in the area they cut. Don't do this to your daughters.'*

(Source: www.unicef.org/somalia)

Question:

What is my reaction to this true story?



Global Facts

- In 31 countries across three continents, with more than half of those cut living in Egypt, Ethiopia and Indonesia, 200 million girls and women alive today have undergone FGM
- FGM is carried out on young girls mostly between infancy and age 15 (UNICEF)
- Treatment of health complications of FGM in 27 high prevalence countries costs 1.4 billion USD per year (WHO 2020)

SEE: <https://data.unicef.org/resources/fgm-country-profiles/>

<https://data.unicef.org/resources/female-genital-mutilation-a-new-generation-calls-for-ending-an-old-practice/>

Laudato Si - Pope Francis:

'The Cry of the Earth, The Cry of the Poor'

'Each human being is a subject who can never be reduced to the status of an object' L.S.81

Beijing+20 (2015) reaffirmed

a major obstacle to ending violence against women, is the persistence of discriminatory attitudes and social norms that normalize and permit violence. Victim blaming attitudes are widespread across all countries.



UNICEF with UNFPA (UN Population Fund)

co-leads the global programme towards the elimination of FGM. It works with governments, communities, religious leaders and other partners to end the practice.

UN Sustainable Development Goals

SDG 5.3: *'Eliminate all harmful practices, such as child, early and forced marriage and female genital mutilation.'* This target reflects the international community's commitment to ending FGM by 2030.

CEDAW (Convention on the Elimination & all forms of Discrimination against Women)

Suggest reading this during the **16 Days**

<http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/cedaw/>

No. 14 - *That States parties take appropriate and effective measures with a view to eradicating the practice of female circumcision.*

No. 12 - *It requires States to eliminate discrimination against women in their access to health-care services throughout the life cycle*

ACTION to promote respect and equality between all women and men....

- Visit <http://www.endfgm.eu/female-genital-mutilation/what-is-fgm/>
- Promote the value of girls' education
- Support organisations promoting children's rights e.g. www.stopfgm.or.ke

Prepared by 'Future We Need' (FWN) a faith-based group with members from the Columbans, Franciscans, Josephites, Mercy, Presentation and Salesians.

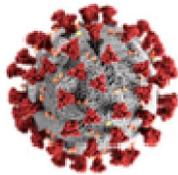
(Updated November 2020)

VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

is a systematic and widespread, human rights violation. It cuts across age, socio-economic, educational and geographic boundaries.



www.google.ie/search?q=images+of+orange+the+world+for+free



BEFORE

THE CORONA VIRUS PANDEMIC

243 million women and girls, aged 15-49, experienced sexual and/or physical violence by an intimate partner in the past year.

SINCE THE PANDEMIC

violence against women, especially domestic violence, has intensified.

EXACERBATING FACTORS INCLUDE

security, health and money worries,
cramped living conditions,
isolation with abusers,
deserted public spaces,
limited access to support services,

In some countries, resources and efforts have been diverted from violence against women response to immediate COVID-19 relief.

(unwomen.org)

UN CHIEF VIDEO MESSAGE 'WOMEN AND COVID-19'

(April 2020)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZIATLVKZ_ag

SEE: <https://www.unwomen.org/en/digital-library/multimedia/2020/4/infographic-covid19-violence-against-women-and-girls>

<https://www.unwomen.org/en/what-we-do/ending-violence-against-women/take-action/16-days-of-activism>



*of Activism
Against
Gender
Violence...*

DAY 2...

26th

November

**ELIMINATION OF
FEMALE GENITAL MUTILATION**



2020 UNiTE Campaign Theme:

*"Orange the World: Fund,
Respond, Prevent, Collect!"*