



**A LAW TO PROHIBIT FEMALE
CIRCUMCISION OR GENITAL
MUTILATION IN EKITI STATE**

NO. 6 OF 2002

EKITI STATE OF NIGERIA

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(

2002)

Commencement .

**ENACTED BY THE HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY OF EKITI
STATE OF NIGERIA AS FOLLOWS:**

1. In this Law, unless the context otherwise requires
"Genital Organ" means the sex organ of a female.
"Circumcision" means the act of cutting off the
clitoris of a female.
"Mutilation" means any cutting, incision, damage,
removal of any or all of the female sex organs.
Interpretation
2. No person shall circumcise or mutilate the genital
organ of any female, whether or not her consent
is obtained.
*Prohibition of
Circumcision etc.*
3. Any person who:
Offences
 - (a) performs the operation of female circumcision
or female genital mutilation;
 - (b) offers herself for circumcision or genital
mutilation;
 - (c) coerces, entices, induces any person to
undergo female circumcision or genital
mutilation or
 - (d) allows any female child or ward to be circumcised
or caused her genital organ to be mutilated, is
guilty of an offence and shall be liable on
conviction to a fine of Ten Thousand Naira or a
term of imprisonment not exceeding 2 years in the
first instance and to imprisonment for a term not
exceeding 3 years without an option of fine for
every subsequent conviction.

4. Subject to the provisions of the Constitution and all other Law enabling in that behalf, the following persons shall have powers to arrest offenders under this law: *Power of Arrest
1999 Constitution.*
- (a) members of the Police force;
 - (b) officers of the Ministry of Health;
 - (c) health Officers in the Local Government Areas;
 - and
 - (d) any other person authorized by Law.
5. Any person arrested under the provision of this Law shall be arraigned before a Magistrate. *Jurisdiction*
6. This Law may be cited as the Female Circumcision (Prohibition) Law, 2002. *Short Title*

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This Law seeks to prohibit some Harmful Traditional Practices prevalent in some communities in the Ekiti State against Women, like Female circumcision or genital mutilation, which may result in disastrous consequences on the physical and mental health of the victim.

ANNEXURE 1

A. WHAT FEMALE GENITAL MUTILATION ENTAILS

- (i) It entails using sterilized or in most cases un-sterilised objects for the practices;
- (ii) It entails carrying out the practice by unskilled/untrained persons.

B. THE HARMFUL EFFECTS

- (i) It amounts to infliction of avoidable mental, psychological and physical pains on the victim;
- (ii) It sometimes results in complications which either immediately or later in life could lead to:
 - (a) excessive bleeding (haemorrhage);
 - (b) infectious including STD's, tetanus, HIV;
 - (c) blood poisoning (septicemia);
 - (d) painful menstruation and sexual intercourse;
 - (e) phobia for sex, neurosis, razorphobia;
 - (f) keloid and cyst formation;
- (iii) It would lead to lack of confidence and feeling of inadequacy in sexual relationships;
- (iv) It could cause prolonged labour leading to obstruction and other consequences such as VVF, haematocolpos;
- (v) It increases infant mortality and morbidity;
- (vi) Any of the above effects could result in death.

ANNEXURE II

PREVALENCE OF FGM IN NIGERIA

Data from the National survey carried out between 1996 and 1997 revealed that FGM practiced nationwide with Type 1 being the most prevalent. It has a National prevalence rate of 40.5% for Adult women with variation as low as 0.6% in Yobe State and as high as 98.7% in Osun State. Estimated prevalence of FGM with zonal Aggregates in Nigeria is as follows:

South West Zone	-	0.1 – 93.8%
South East Zone	-	4.6 – 95.4%
South South Zone	-	0.2 – 79.2%
Middle Belt Zone	-	6.9 – 85.5%
North West Zone	-	6.2 – 76.2%
North East Zone	-	3.4 – 38.8%

This printed impression has been carefully compared by me with the Bill which has been passed by the Ekiti State House of Assembly and found by me to be a true copy of the said Bill.


.....
MR. M. OLU EKUNDAYO
Clerk of the House of Assembly

Governor's Assent

I hereby signify my assent to this Bill


.....
OTUNBA ADENIYI ADEBAYO
First Executive Governor of Ekiti State



Dated this 13th Day of August 2002