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A sexual violence type: Female genital mutilation

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A significant public health problem around the world that has been more on the agenda due to immigration is female genital mutilation (FGM). FGM is the damage to woman's exterior genital organ by cutting in different levels with cultural, religious and other unrelated health causes. Nowadays, with the rise of immigration rate, an increase is seen in the number of the women and girls who suffered from FGM which is a sort of sexual violence. In addition, a part of women and girls are at risk of practicing FGM. Although FGM is not being supported by any religion, people are exposed to this case by lots of religious leaders or traditional applicants who have been respected by the society. Moreover, FGM is one of the biggest obstacle in front of achieving gender equality. Because, FGM has been adopted as a necessity part of growing a reasonable girl, virginity before marriage and protection of loyalty to husband after marriage, a symbol of stepping into womanhood, and a part of cultural heritage. Furthermore, it is aimed prevention of women's pleasure from sexuality. Besides excessive physical and psychological traumas, women who are exposed to FGM practice encounter with bleeding, infection, üriner retansiyon, disorders in sexual function, infertilité, high risk labor cases and death. Most of the women living in the countries where FGM is practiced wish this practice to be terminated. Also, it has been shown that men are more eager than women that FGM should be terminated. However, due to social pressure, girls and women continue to force this practice. In this direction, the education of parents and promoting public awareness by health professionals will solve this matter with helping international cooperation.

Key words: female genital mutilation, nursing, reproductive problems

Biography

Sidar Aytekin is student of PhD program from Inönü University Institute of Health Science. She has been working as a clinical nurse in Diyarbakır province of Turkey since 2013.

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