Good News for Intact Men
From Doctors Opposing Circumcision

Many men who have the extraordinary good fortune to have an intact penis just don’t know how lucky they are.

These days, more people are using the term “intact” – rather than uncircumcised – to describe the natural, unaltered penis. For too long, the word ‘uncircumcised' has been used to imply that something wasn’t done that should have been, or to imply that men with a foreskin are somehow inferior. Nothing could be further from the truth!

Whether due to wise and compassionate parents, a beneficent doctor, or just plain luck, you have been gifted with the sex organ that nature intended. And there are so many reasons to be thankful for being intact...

You have every bit of sexual and protective tissue you were meant to have. Your penis has many times the sensuous nerve endings as your circumcised buddies. The head of your penis is protected, kept moist, comfortable, healthy, and sensitive. Your intact penis enhances all sexual activities, and your enjoyment of intercourse and masturbation is beyond anything a circumcised man can ever experience. Not one inch of skin has been lost from your penis, so the skin is mobile. This helps your penis to work naturally with intercourse (a sleeve within a sleeve), making sex smooth and comfortable for you and your partner. There are so many reasons why Nature intended your penis to work this way!

You are not alone. Of the non-Muslim, non-Jewish population of the world, 19 out of 20 males have intact genitals. Almost all European, Asian, and South and Central American men are intact. In fact, the United States is the ONLY country in the world to circumcise the majority of its baby boys for non-religious reasons! But, even in the U.S., and among Jews and Muslims, more and more parents are keeping their boys intact. For example, in the U.S., about 50% of newborns are staying whole.
You were not harmed as a baby. As a vulnerable newborn baby, you were not taken from your mother’s loving arms, and strapped down to a board while your foreskin was torn away from the head of your penis, slit, crushed, sliced away, and thrown in the trash. You were spared from having a very sensitive part of your body mutilated without your consent. You never experienced the intense pain, fear, and trauma of all this, all the while screaming for them to "STOP!" You knew you were safe and protected in this world. You didn’t have to experience shock or withdrawal, or have your brain temporarily deprived of oxygen, your brain chemistry altered, or be imprinted with that trauma for life. You didn’t have to worry about losing your whole penis, hemorrhage, scarring, infection, losing too much skin, tight erections, meatal stenosis, adhesions, skin bridges, and more. Your life was not put at risk for nothing (yes, babies can die from circumcision).

(If you think this description is too much, watch the videos “Whose Body, Whose Rights?” or “An Elephant in the Hospital” on YouTube.)

You are normal! It’s natural and normal to have a foreskin. Every mammal has some kind of sheath or covering for their sex organ, for a lot of good reasons, as listed above. On very rare occasions, there are boys born without a foreskin, which is considered a birth defect. It makes no sense to remove the normal, functional, protective foreskin of an innocent, helpless, uninformed child, and convert a normal, natural penis into a defective organ!

You have a choice. If a man wants to be circumcised later in life, that should be his choice. If he was circumcised at birth and grows up to want an intact, natural penis – sadly, it’s too late for him! Your right to grow up with your whole body was respected, and you have the freedom to make your OWN decisions about how much of your sex organ you want to keep.
**Being happy about being intact.** Surveys have been done asking men how satisfied they were with being intact or not. One, from 1992, found 83% of intact men were happy, and 8% were unhappy being that way, while 53% of circumcised men were happy, but 38% were unhappy (again, with no recourse). Another, from 2015, found that, among intact men the largest group said they were extremely satisfied with being intact, while among circumcised men, the largest group said they were extremely dissatisfied being that way.

What might explain these results? This has not been well studied, and there are probably many factors. But surveys documenting men’s reports of the physical, sexual, and emotional harms of circumcision may explain some of it.

**Being “different” is good!** Although most intact men are more than happy as they are, sometimes growing up intact in a culture that routinely circumcises (like the United States) can make some men feel uncomfortably “different.” In the U.S., some intact men may have been shamed by circumcised friends, or girlfriends, who believed the many falsehoods that circumcision was better (all disproved). Some, not knowing all the advantages of having their whole penis, might have felt left out because most men they saw around them were cut. Some may have wished they had been circumcised as infants to spare them these feelings. A few intact men may have had themselves circumcised as adults (though many who do this, later deeply regret the decision, when it’s too late to go back).

Then again, depending on whether you had foreskin-positive messages and support growing up, or not, and how much you learned along the way about the value of having a foreskin and the harms of circumcision, none of this may ever have affected you. You may have been one of the many who felt completely happy with their natural bodies, and knew you would never ever wish to lose your foreskin. You may have felt sorry, or even angry, for those who had their penis cut as a baby, and you could not comprehend ever doing that to anyone else.

Remember all the ways you are lucky to have your whole penis – and if that’s “different” in our culture, then so be it. Be glad and grateful you’re different – gloriously different, the way nature made you!
Circumcision is a men’s issue. Think of all the men in this country who have had a part of their genitals removed at birth without their permission! This is, and should be, a men's rights issue. Just like female genital cutting, male genital cutting is about the violation of the child's basic human right to bodily integrity.

Once a man comes to realize the physical and ethical harms of circumcision, the choice is clear. For a circumcised man, you either fight against what was done to you to defend children, or you justify the violation of children to defend what was done to you. Fortunately, there is no such difficult choice facing intact men.

Sharing the message of Foreskin Pride with others.
Men who are fortunate enough to be intact should become more aware of the gift you have been given, and be proud of what nature intended you to have. When you share your positive experience as an intact man with others, you support other intact men and help parents make the choice to keep their own sons whole. Don’t be afraid to tell others about the valuable functions and benefits of having a foreskin.

And while you’re at it, please also speak out about children's rights to bodily integrity and choice about this most private part of their bodies. You can help keep the next generation of innocent baby boys from being physically, sexually, and emotionally harmed at birth. Promoting a gentle welcome to the world for these babies ensures that they will receive the same gift that you were given – one that might so easily be taken for granted – the gift of wholeness.

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