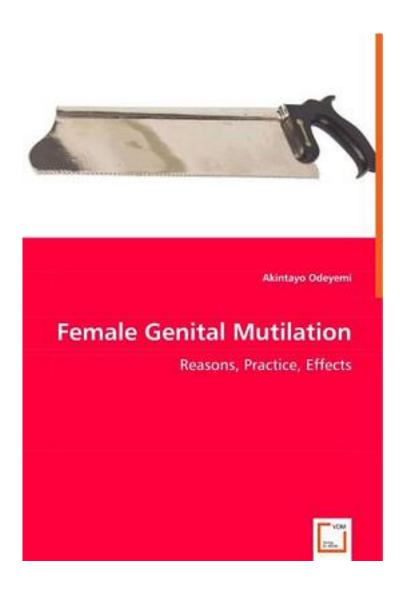
Female Genital Mutilation - Reasons, Practice, Effects



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Despite international hype on the subject, the practice of female genital mutilation (FGM) continues unabated in many societies. Like a majority of practices that are harmful to maternal health in most societies, female circumcision is carried out under the auspices of tradition or culture. While many African traditional practices have their good sides, female genital mutilation has proved to be very harmful. This study examines the reasons given for the practice and its effect on families, especially women. It also provides insights into why many societies are finding it difficult to eradicate the practice. The findings derived from the study, and recommendations given, will be very useful to community leaders, mothers, decision makers and anyone who have the opportunity of contributing to discussions on the future of the practice.

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