



## Children & Family Party

Children & Family Party  
27 Old Gloucester Street  
London WC1N 3AX

Mohammad Yasin MP  
Duchess House  
2A Duke Street  
Bedford MK40 3HR

3 May, 2022

Dear Mr Yasin,

Thank you for your letter in response to my email concerning non-therapeutic male circumcision, also known as Male Genital Mutilation (MGM), or *khitan*,<sup>1</sup> the Islamic term. I shall henceforth use the term 'MGM' in this document.

This letter is an open letter, and will be posted on both our party website<sup>2</sup> and our Facebook page.<sup>3</sup> I have highlighted in yellow the questions I should like you to reply to, and I'll be happy to publish your response on the same websites.

You may recall I met you soon after you were first elected an MP in 2017, where I raised the issue. You told me confidently that if there is a conflict for a British Muslim between the law and his religion and/or culture, the person should obey the law. You told me you'd look into the points I was making about the illegality of carrying out MGM, and contact me in due course. I never heard from you since that meeting five years ago, until you responded to my recent email. You write in your letter:

As you are aware, circumcision, the act of surgically removing the foreskin, is permitted in the UK for medical and religious reasons.

This statement is *deeply* disingenuous, and you must surely know it. The procedure is only 'permitted' in the sense that the law of the land is being ignored, and prosecutions not brought. British human rights lawyers are united in making the following points, which were also made by Philip Davies MP in his talk on MGM on International Men's Day, 2018:<sup>4</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Khitan\\_\(circumcision\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Khitan_(circumcision))

<sup>2</sup> <http://cafp.uk>

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/ChildrenandFamilyParty/>

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=R6pHLf7acE>

1. Performing MGM is a crime under the Offences Against the Person Act 1861, being the infliction of at least actual bodily harm and possibly grievous bodily harm, with neither a therapeutic benefit nor consent from the baby or child in question being possible.
2. It is a foundational principle of British jurisprudence that no exceptions to the law are permissible for religious or cultural reasons.
3. It would require a parliamentary override for MGM to be legalised, and such an override has never existed.

Do you accept the lawyers' (and Philip Davies's) position on these three matters? If not, please detail your reasoning. If you do accept them, then surely you would want Muslims to obey the law of the land, cease carrying out MGM with immediate effect, and for prosecutions to be brought against the criminals concerned if the practice doesn't end?

You may be aware that female circumcision, also known as Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) or *khafd*,<sup>5</sup> the Islamic term, is found mostly within and adjacent to Muslim communities. Prevalence rates among various Muslim nations depend on the ethnicity and location. You'll surely be aware that FGM is specifically illegal in the UK, although – as Philip Davies pointed out in the aforementioned speech – it was *already* illegal under OAPA 1861. I assume that you'll agree with us in welcoming the protection of females from genital mutilation in the UK, do you not think that males should get equal protection, by making the FGM Acts gender-neutral?

You write in your letter that:

NHS guidance advises that the risks associated with male circumcision when carried out by qualified and experienced doctors are small.

Of course this avoids the obvious point that the risks stem from a procedure which is *unnecessary*. Over many years of campaigning on this matter, I have found that Muslims and Jews share the same ignorance about MGM as the general population. MGM is ALWAYS very harmful, for a number of reasons, one being that 90% of the Meissner's Corpuscles,<sup>6</sup> the soft-touch nerve cells in the penis which give men pleasure during sex, are in the foreskin. On our YouTube channel<sup>7</sup> we have a playlist<sup>8</sup> of 112 video and audio files on MGM.

I repeat the point that I'd appreciate meeting senior figures in the Muslim community in Bedford and Kempston, to explain our position on MGM. Can you possibly facilitate that? It would be good to meet up with you for a face-to-face discussion. Thank you.

Yours sincerely,

Mike Buchanan  
Party leader

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<sup>5</sup> [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Religious\\_views\\_on\\_female\\_genital\\_mutilation#khafd](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Religious_views_on_female_genital_mutilation#khafd)

<sup>6</sup> [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tactile\\_corpuscle](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tactile_corpuscle)

<sup>7</sup> <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCKhX1c3ow6BrzdZP3ydpeZQ/videos>

<sup>8</sup> [https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLjMscr0TpRqgDT--hnKe3XOKXypbM\\_R2K](https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLjMscr0TpRqgDT--hnKe3XOKXypbM_R2K)