Survey Results of Women Sexually Experienced with Both Circumcised and Uncircumcised Men

This chapter will report the results of a survey of women who have had the comparative experience of intercourse with both circumcised and intact (uncircumcised) men.

THE PURPOSE OF THE SURVEY

The purpose of the survey was to determine the impact circumcision—the surgical alteration of the male genitalia—has on the intercourse experience of the female partner. Specifically, what effect does it have on a woman's ability to:

- achieve vaginal orgasm (both single and multiple)
- maintain adequate vaginal lubrication
- develop vaginal discomfort
- enjoy intercourse

Additionally, the survey sought to find out if women can:

- discern different physical characteristics for both types of intercourse
- discern a difference in various positive and negative thoughts and emotions for both types of intercourse

HOW RESPONDENTS WERE RECRUITED AND SURVEY CONDUCTED

Classified ads were run in various publications (local and national) seeking women who have had experience with both types of men. Respondents were mailed a questionnaire to complete and return anonymously. Surveyed women were aware that their responses and comments could be used in a forthcoming book, though the title of the book was not mentioned.

The survey was conducted intermittently over several years and modified slightly from time to time in that some questions were restructured or reworded to make them more easily understood, but the context of the question was not changed. Women were given a brief introduction to the survey and were presented with line drawings of the two types of penises, both flaccid and erect, including the erection process of the natural penis. The survey questionnaire appears in Appendix F.

Of the 284 surveys sent out, 139 were completed and returned. Of the 139 surveys returned, one considered a man who was undergoing foreskin restoration as having a foreskin. This survey was excluded from analysis. The remaining 138 surveys were analyzed. The thought-provoking results are reported in the pages that follow. Albeit the survey is small, but its findings still tell a big story. Indeed, the survey's results were originally published in a supplement to the **BJU** (British Journal of Urology) **International** in January, 1999, analyzed statistically, and found to have statistical significance. (See Appendix E.)

A PREVIEW OF THE SURVEY'S FINDINGS

The vast majority of women indicated that they overwhelmingly preferred sex with a natural penis. And they were able to discern specific differences between the two types of intercourse.

Women were in broad general agreement with the following:

- Natural intercourse is more pleasurable.
- Natural penis thrusts more gently.
- Natural penis's strokes feel more softly-smooth and sensuous.
- Natural man's pubic area is in more constant contact with the woman's clitoral mound (due to the natural penis's propensity for using shorter strokes).

At the same time they concurred:

- Circumcised intercourse is less pleasurable.
- Circumcised penis thrusts rougher and tougher.
- Circumcised penis somehow feels too hard, even discomfortingly harder.
- Circumcised man's pubic area is in much less frequent contact with the woman's clitoral mound (due to the circumcised penis's propensity for using longer strokes).

Of paramount importance, women overall reported remarkably higher vaginal-orgasmic success rates with intact (uncircumcised) men. Firstly, they were able to achieve vaginal orgasm with a much higher percentage of intact men vs. circumcised men, coincidentally, exactly double. And secondly, for those men with whom they could achieve it, their rate of success was considerably higher when the man was intact. Thirdly, they achieved multiple orgasms more often with intact men.

Many such astonishing, and disconcerting, revelations turned up when the results of the survey were analyzed. Are these findings destined to change the sex life and sexual attitude of America's men and women forever?

"When falling in love and choosing a life partner, it never occurred to me to check the status of his penis first, but this survey has allowed me to see clearly that there are big differences and that I have strong feelings about my sexual experiences with each type."

A DETAILED ANALYSIS OF THE SURVEY'S RESULTS

Women's responses to the following category of questions brought to light the survey's **MOST IMPORTANT FINDING: Respondents overwhelmingly preferred intercourse with a partner with an anatomically complete penis.**

Question: For YOU, regardless of your vaginal-orgasmic capabilities, which type of intercourse simply **feels better during the overall experience**?

Circumcised	Natural
11 %	89 %

Question: During which type of sex do YOU **feel more relaxed, comfortable, and at ease**?

Circumcised	Natural
13%	87%

Question: You have been shipwrecked and washed ashore onto a deserted paradise island in the Pacific. Your rescue ship won't be by to pick you up for five years. On this island is only one other person—a man—a very attractive man, who is interesting to be with and is very likeable. Because you are in paradise, you will probably be having sex fairly often. When you get around to your first lovemaking encounter and you are slowly undoing his belt and pants, would you be wishing that he is

Circumcised	Natural
11 %	89 %

Author's Comment: The above question was designed to eliminate the personality factor and the quandary of some women regarding: Is it the man or the penis?

Question: Of your CIRCUMCISED experiences where the time of ACTUAL intercourse lasted for 8-10 minutes or more, as intercourse progressed,

Did you OFTEN start wishing to just get it over with? Yes No
— OR —

Did you OFTEN really get into it & want it to continue? Yes No

The same question was asked regarding their NATURAL intercourse experiences.

Results: Circumcised Natural

Often start wishing to just get it over with 70 % 9 %

Often really get into it & want it to continue 30 % 91 %

Author's Comment: What a contrast! What a reversal! For circumcised intercourse, 70% of women indicated that they "often start wishing to just get it over with." For natural, inversely, 91% indicated that they "often really get into it and want it to continue." Isn't the latter the way it should be? Isn't this the basis for "the tie that binds"?

Question: This question will ask you to assess your <u>overall</u> impression of sexual intercourse with CIRCUMCISED men, rating it as either a positive or negative experience. You may only indicate ONE number in your response, rating it from a negative (-) 10 to a positive (+) 10.

The same question was asked for NATURAL.

Results:

Circumcised intercourse received an average rating of +2 Natural intercourse received an average rating of +8 *Author's Comment:* Again, another eye-opener! But even more impressive, provocative, and revealing is the breakdown report for each individual number on the rating scale (Figure 13-1).

Your OVERALL Imp	rocci	on of	Into	reall	rco w	ith C	TDC	IIMC	TCFI	Mon
TOUT OVERALL TIME	11 6221	011 01	Tille	rcoul	i se w	IIII C	IKC	UNIC	1961) Men
Negative Experience	-10	- 9	- 8	- 7	- 6	- 5	- 4	- 3	- 2	- 1
Number of Women	9	4	4	2	5	8	3	4	2	4
1/3 rated it a ne	gati	ve e	xpe	rien	ce	Tota	l Ne	gativ	es =	45
Positive Experience	+ 1	+ 2	+ 3	+ 4	+ 5	+ 6	+ 7	+ 8	+ 9	+10
Number of Women	3	6	9	5	13	10	19	17	2	6
80% rated it +'	7 or	bel	ow	7	Fotal	+ 9	thru	ı + 10	0 =	8
				,	Total	l + 8	thru	ı + 1	0 = 2	25
Your OVERALL I	mpre	ssion	of I	nterc	ourse	e witl	h NA	TUR	AL I	Men
Negative Experience	-10	- 9	- 8	- 7	- 6	- 5	- 4	- 3	- 2	- 1
Number of Women	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	1	0
Total Negatives = 4										
					10ta	1 110	San		-	
Positive Experience	+ 1	+ 2	+ 3			,	-	+ 8		+10
Positive Experience Number of Women	+ 1	+ 2	+ 3			,	-	1		+10
_				+ 4	+ 5	+ 6	+ 7	+ 8	+ 9	63

Figure 13-1. Breakdown report of overall impression of intercourse with circumcised and natural men.

Women's answers to the next group of questions brought out the survey's **SECOND MOST IMPORTANT FINDING: Respondents overwhelmingly concurred that the mechanics of coitus were different for the two groups of men.**

Question: Do you tend to agree or disagree with the following: The NATURAL man's pubic area stays in closer contact with the woman's clitoral area during intercourse because he tends to

use *shorter* strokes in his thrusting movements. He seems to gently "grind" or "jiggle" more, resulting in a pleasant pressuring of the woman's clitoral area which gives her greater pleasure.

Question: Do you tend to agree or disagree with the following: The CIRCUMCISED man's pubic area makes less contact with the woman's clitoral area during intercourse because he tends to use **longer** strokes in his thrusting movements. These longer thrusts result in less physical contact between his pubic mound and the woman's clitoral area.

- 71 % agreed that the natural penis tends to thrust with shorter strokes, resulting in more clitoral contact and greater pleasure.
- 73 % agreed that the circumcised penis tends to use longer strokes, resulting in less clitoral contact.

Author's Comment: Nearly 3/4 of the women agreed that the natural and circumcised penis thrust differently.

Question: Do you tend to agree or disagree with the following: In general, intercourse with the CIRCUMCISED man is more rough—they tend to pound or bang away and the penis feels discomfortingly harder during intercourse thrusting.

In contrast, the NATURAL man has gentler and more sensually tender sexual movements, and the penis does *not* feel discomfortingly hard during intercourse thrusting.

Please circle AGREE if you tend to agree with this entire statement, or underline those parts you tend to agree with. Comments:

If you disagree with this entire statement, circle DISAGREE, and explain in what way your experiences differ. Comments:

Author's Comment: Before delving into the results of the above question, first let me state that I eventually came to realize that I made a mistake combining so many concepts into one question. By doing so, it may have made it difficult for some women to agree with the statement *in its entirety*. At the very least, this should have been two separate statements—one for circumcised, one for natural. In the current edition of the survey, this question, for each type, is divided into 12 checkoffs. Although the question could have been constructed better, nevertheless, women were in broad general agreement with it, and the results are as follows:

- 74 % agreed, circumcised sex is rougher
- 72 % agreed, circumcised men tend to pound or bang away
- 67 % agreed, circumcised penis feels discomfortingly harder
- 87 % agreed, natural man thrusts more gently
- 89 % agreed, natural penis has more sensually tender movements
- 86 % agreed, natural penis does not feel discomfortingly hard

Author's Comment: It is interesting to note that more women found it easier to agree with the statements about natural, possibly because these positive experiences stood out in their mind. They were in less general agreement on the statements about circumcised men, possibly because the severity of the tightness of a man's circumcision can vary, and this can impact the intercourse experience.

The survey contained several questions that addressed vaginalorgasmic capabilities and the results led to: The THIRD MOST IMPORTANT FINDING: Women overall were less likely to achieve vaginal orgasm with circumcised men. They had considerably more success achieving vaginal orgasm when the man had a natural penis.

Author's Comment: The vast majority of surveyed women were capable of achieving vaginal orgasm, but 15 women were not capable of achieving it with either partner. These 15 women were excluded from analysis for this series of questions. (There may be other reasons why a woman cannot achieve vaginal orgasm besides the type of penis a man has—smoking, alcohol consumption, prescription-drug side effects, low vitamin B12 levels, and low histamine levels, among others, are all possible causes of sexual dysfunction. Also, the man may be at fault if he can't last long enough. And the woman may not be interactive enough to bring about her own orgasm. Position may also be a factor. I touch on these last three topics in Appendix A: How to Have an Orgasm 99.99% of the Time Using the Side-by-Side Position, and Appendix B: How To Minimize Premature Ejaculation.)

The survey defined vaginal orgasm as follows:

A VAGINAL ORGASM* is an orgasm that occurs during intercourse, brought about by your partner's penis and its accompanying pelvic movements and body contact, along with your own pelvic movements, with no simultaneous stimulation of the clitoris by hand. What happens during FOREPLAY is NOT OF CONCERN. But once serious intercourse thrusting begins, a vaginal orgasm is one which you feel was brought about by genital/pelvic movements and body contact/pressure.

Question: With how many CIRCUMCISED men have you been able to achieve a *VAGINAL* orgasm? number of men ____

The same question was asked for NATURAL.

^{*} This definition differs slightly from the one presented in Chapter 3. It is the actual definition used for the survey. Subsequently, it was refined for the book.

The following results were determined by dividing the number of men indicated in the above question by the total number of circumcised, or natural partners.

Women could achieve vaginal orgasm with:

36 % of their CIRCUMCISED partners

72 % of their NATURAL partners

Author's Comment: The percentage for NATURAL was coincidentally exactly double the percentage for CIRCUMCISED. These percentages differ from those in the *BJU* (see Appendix E) because the criteria was changed: women who could not orgasm with either type were excluded for the book's analysis.

Question: With those CIRCUMCISED men with whom you were able to achieve a vaginal orgasm, approximately what percent of the time would you say you were able to achieve vaginal orgasm? ____ %

The same question was asked for NATURAL.

Among the 123 respondents capable of vaginal orgasm, 12 % reported the same frequency of vaginal-orgasmic success regardless of whether the man was natural or circumcised. However,

76 % reported an increased frequency with NATURAL

10 % reported increased frequency with CIRCUMCISED

Upon closer scrutiny, these results are even more revealing. Forty-seven women (38%) reported that their vaginal-orgasmic success increased by an **impressive** degree (**by three times or more**) with NATURAL. Conversely, only four women (3%) reported an impressive increase with CIRCUMCISED. (See Figure 13-2.)

Wo	men W	hos	se Vagi	nal-Or	gar	mic Succe	ess Incre	ased by 3 T	imes or N	More
w/Nat	ural Pa	rtı	ners, 4	7 Wome	en	(38%) In	creased	w/Circ, 4	4 (3%) In	crease
% w/ Circ	% w/ Nat		% w/ Circ	% w/ Nat		% w/ Circ	% w/ Nat		% w/ Nat	% w/ Circ
0	100		5	99		20	90		10	60
0	100		5	95		20	90		10	40
0	98		5	90		20	80		15	95
0	98		5	70		20	80		30	98
0	90		5	50		20	75			
0	90		5	50		20	60			
0	86		10	100		25	100			
0	80		10	99		25	75	Figure	13-2.	
0	75		10	98		25	75		sive gai	
0	70		10	80		30	100	success	_	азине
0	70		10	80		30	90			
0	70		10	75		30	90			
0	70		10	75		30	90			
0	60		10	60		Note	hat for	these won	nan	
0	50		10	50		more	than 2	/3 had on success	ly a	
0	30		10	30		with impre	circumessive i	cised, and ncrease v	l an	
2	60					natura				
2.	45									

In addition, with NATURAL partners, 34 women (28%) indicated **noteworthy** increases in vaginal-orgasmic success. In contrast, for CIRCUMCISED, only 7 women (6%) fell into the noteworthy category. (See Figure 13-3.) *In all, 66% of women indicated an impressive or noteworthy increase in their vaginal-orgasmic success for natural vs. 9% for circumcised.*

Some women (8%) had limited success with both types of partners and any differences reported were either marginal or nonexistent. Inversely, 18% had excellent rates of vaginal-orgasmic success (80% or above) with both types of partners. Still, even among these highly orgasmic women, 59% reported better success with their natural partners.

When this data was analyzed statistically, women were nearly 5 times likelier to achieve vaginal orgasm with natural partners than with circumcised partners (odds ratio = 4.62, see Appendix E.)

Question: If you are capable of achieving vaginal orgasm during your CIRCUMCISED intercourse experiences, have you generally been able to achieve MULTIPLE vaginal orgasms?

mostly yes	mostly no	rarely	never
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The same question was asked for NATURAL

Results:

Are you able to achieve MULTIPLE vaginal orgasms?						
	Mostly YES	Mostly NO	Rarely	Never		
Natural	41%	15%	20%	24%		
Circumcised	15%	21%	20%	44%		

,	Women	whose Va	aginal-(Orgamic Success Incre	ease was N	loteworth	y
w/Na	tural Pa	rtners, 3	4 Wom	nen (28%) Increased	w/Circ,	7 (6%) Ir	crease
% w/ Circ	% w/ Nat	% w/ Circ	% w/ Nat			% w/ Nat	% w/ Circ
0	8	50	100			0	10
0	10	50	100			35	85
0	10	50	95			40	50
0	15	50	75			50	80
10	20	50	75			50	75
10	25	50	75			50	70
20	45	50	70			80	90
25	60	50	70				
25	60	60	99	Figure 13-3.			
25	50	60	85	Noteworthy g in vaginal-org			
30	60	70	95	success	Same		
30	50	70	80				
40	100	70	75				
40	100	75	99				

Author's Comment: It is clear from the results of the above questions that the anatomically complete penis offers a woman a much greater chance of vaginal-orgasmic success. Though the popular press indicates that many women persist in wanting vaginal orgasms, some women indicated that they prefer other types, manual or oral. This is perfectly acceptable, of course, but how much is this influenced by the poor rate of vaginal-orgasmic success they had with their circumcised partners? If these women were conditioned to go for other types of orgasms due to their poor success rates with circumcised partners, this may carry over into subsequent sexual encounters. Of interest is the strong preference women who preferred vaginal orgasms had for natural partners (see Appendix E).

OTHER IMPORTANT SURVEY REVELATIONS

Shorter Duration of Intercourse

Question: Of your CIRCUMCISED intercourse experiences, how many men USUALLY (50-100% of the time) had their orgasm within 2-3 minutes after insertion? ___ number of men

The same question was asked for NATURAL.

Results:

Women indicated that, on average, 42% of their circumcised partners had a problem with premature ejaculation (as defined in the above question). They indicated that for natural 28% had a problem with premature ejaculation.

Clearly, premature ejaculation is a problem for both types of men, though not as severe for natural as it is for circumcised. My suggestion for eliminating or reducing premature ejaculation is discussed in Appendix B. It's a simple solution, but I found it very effective. **Question:** EXCLUDING your CIRCUMCISED intercourse experiences that only lasted 2-3 minutes, how long would you say your average CIRCUMCISED intercourse lasts (intercourse time only, NOT foreplay, etc.). This should be an overall estimated average.

The same question was asked for NATURAL.

Results:

According to these women, the estimated average length of circumcised intercourse is 11 minutes. For natural, 15 minutes. This indicates that natural intercourse lasts about 1/3 longer than circumcised intercourse. (Precious moments filled with pleasure, deepening the love bond—*Author's Comment*.)

Vaginal Lubrication

Question: During those intercourses with CIRCUMCISED men which lasted 5 minutes or longer, as intercourse progressed, did the amount of vaginal lubrication (circle one)

lessen stay about the same increase

The same question was asked for NATURAL.

Results:

	Lessen	Stay the Same	Increase
Circumcised	46%	33%	21%
Natural	5%	30%	65%

Author's Comment: If the production of vaginal lubrication is an indication of the excitement of the female partner, then clearly natural intercourse overwhelmingly offers the more rewarding experience.

Vaginal Discomfort

Question: Regarding CIRCUMCISED intercourse, have you experienced vaginal discomfort during sex (or after having sex)? Please circle one. often occasionally rarely never

The same question was asked for NATURAL.

Results:

	Often	Occasionally	Rarely	Never
Circumcised	31%	45%	17%	7%
Natural	2%	21%	37%	40%

Author's Comment: When the results for "often" and "occasionally" are combined into one group, circumcised is 76%, natural 23% (w/only 2% often). At the other extreme, when the results for "rarely" and "never" are combined, natural is 77%, circumcised is 24%. Evidently, vaginal discomfort is a serious concern with circumcised intercourse. Since freedom from discomfort is a primary factor in the degree of pleasure a woman experiences, natural intercourse clearly offers a woman the better experience.

Negative Thoughts and Emotions Correlated with Intercourse

Question: During or after many CIRCUMCISED intercourses, have you noticed yourself having any of the feelings below? If so, indicate with (S)ometimes or (O)ften

The same question was asked for NATURAL.

Results: See Figure 13-4. Note: Scored as points.

During or after many of my intercourse experiences, I had the following feelings				
OFTEN (scored as 2 points) SOMETIMES (1 point)	Circ		Nat	
Irritability	81		11	
Unappreciated	97		14	
Sexually Violated	66		13	
Emotionally Aggravated	69		9	
General Out of Sync Feeling	94		9	
He Cared Very Little About My Sexual Satisfaction	115		16	
Except for My Vagina, He Didn't Seem to Know I Was There	78		8	
Bitchy, Argumentative	50		10	
Guilty	52		11	
We Had Two Separate Experiences (No Feeling of Unison)	114		18	
Our Thrusting Rhythms Were Out of Sync	99		18	
Felt Like I Was Used as a Masturbating Object	90		22	
Incomplete as a Woman	54		7	
I'm Glad It's Over	114		17	
TOTAL POINTS	820		178	
NONE of the above (number of responses)	20		80	

Figure 13-4. Negative thoughts and emotions correlated with intercourse

Author's Comment: Note that for natural, 80 women (58%) indicated "NONE of the above." For circumcised, negative thoughts and emotions occurred $4\frac{1}{2}$ times more often.

Question: During intercourse with most CIRCUMCISED men, do any of these thoughts often cross your mind? Please check all those that apply.

The same question was asked for NATURAL.

Results: See Figure 13-5.

During most of my intercourse experiences, the following thoughts often crossed my mind	Circ	Nat
He seems to be distanced from what I'm feeling	53	8
My mind wanders to other things	69	17
He seems to work too hard at it (like it's exercise)	77	5
He seems to concentrate on his sexual needs, not mine	61	8
He seems to work too hard to achieve orgasm	58	12
I seem to be becoming disinterested	56	4
My vagina doesn't seem to be enjoying this	58	12
When he's pumping, I'm afraid he might hurt me	61	6
We seem to be engaging in two separate experiences	41	13
I feel "on alert"	23	9
Frustration	38	5
Discomfort	52	7
A general feeling of discontentment	47	8
TOTALS	693	114
NONE of the above	9	82

Figure 13-5. Negative thoughts correlated with intercourse

Author's Comment: Note that for natural, 82 women (64%) indicated "NONE of the above," while for circumcised only 9

women indicated NONE. Also note, negative thoughts occurred 6 times more often for circumcised.

Positive Thoughts and Emotions Correlated with Intercourse

Question: How would you describe your GENERAL feelings after having sex with most CIRCUMCISED men? Please check all those that apply.

The same question was asked for NATURAL.

Results: See Figure 13-6.

Positive Feelings After Intercourse	Circ	Nat
A feeling of relaxation	45	98
A feeling of being at peace with myself and my partner	27	72
A sense of human warmth and closeness to my partner	43	96
A sense of a mutually satisfying experience	39	93
A sense of completeness and wholeness as a woman	26	80
A wonderful positive-feeling afterglow	37	88
Gee, that was really great	31	74
What a lover!!	15	75
TOTALS	263	676
NONE of the above	56	8

Figure 13-6. Positive thoughts and emotions after intercourse.

Author's Comment: Note that for circumcised, 56 women (41%) indicated NONE of the above, while for natural only 8 women indicated no positive feelings. Also note, positive feelings occurred 2½ times more often for natural.

AGE AND NUMBER OF PARTNERS

Participants ranged in age from 19 to 64. The average age was 37.3 years. The median number of circumcised partners was 8. The median number of intact partners was 2.

QUESTIONS YOU MAY HAVE WONDERED ABOUT WHILE READING THE SURVEY RESULTS

If natural intercourse is so spectacular, why didn't all women prefer it?

From my experience, having noticed such a remarkable difference between the two types of intercourse, I was surprised that the survey wasn't 100% in favor of natural. After carefully looking at the responses and comments of the 14* women who indicated that they prefer circumcised, I offer the following explanation.

First, all people are not equally perceptive. Some are more sensitive, observant, and aware than others. Some are not very perceptive at all. This is simply a characteristic of human nature.

Second, half of these 14 women experienced *only one natural* partner vs. many circumcised partners. If this one intact man happened to have a problem with premature ejaculation, or a foreskin that would not retract over the glans (thus abnormalizing the intercourse experience), or poor personal hygiene, or if the man was in some way a sexual cad, or if the relationship was particularly bad (all of which were indicated in comments), this

^{*} The results of the survey were originally published in a supplement to the *BJU* (British Journal of Urology) *International* (see Appendix E), which reported 20 women. It is reported here as 14 women because the criteria was changed. In the *BJU* article, the criteria was: *one favorable* response (for circumcised) *out of three* questions that asked specifically which type of penis they prefer. For *Sex As Nature Intended It*, the criteria was changed to: *two favorable responses* (for circumcised) *out of three*. Upon re-examining this aspect for the book, it seemed a more accurate assessment of their true opinion—2 out of 3 (a majority) instead of 1 of 3 (not a majority).

would incline these women away from natural in favor of circumcised. It could be inferred that it wasn't so much that they preferred circumcised as it was that they had a disagreeable experience with *one natural partner*. In a sense, it could be said that circumcised won by default rather than by virtue of its merits. These women may have swayed toward natural if they had had a broader base of experience with additional natural partners.

Third, if a woman has a preconceived mindset that the natural penis looks odd, or that it's abnormal, or unclean, etc., this may adversely affect her attitude toward the intercourse experience. She may not be able to relax her prejudices long enough to develop an appreciation for the natural experience. Several women who chose circumcised made prejudicial comments, mostly centered around a concern for cleanliness or a dislike for the look of the natural penis, indicating a tendency to choose the familiar and shun the unfamiliar.

Fourth, some women, who were not able to distinguish much of a difference (their natural experience may have occurred quite some time ago) and were currently engaged in a satisfactory relationship with a circumcised man (usually their husband), may have chosen circumcised because they were pleased overall with the man they were presently with at the time of the survey. Their decision may have been based more on "the man" and the satisfactory relationship rather than on the attributes of the penis.

Other factors may also influence a woman's decision, as discussed in the next section (omitted in this section to avoid repetition).

If all things had been equal—same number of partners; same amount of experience with both types of partners; lack of prejudice because the natural penis is in the minority; lack of preconceived ideas that the circumcised penis is cleaner, etc.; and the fact that most women were currently with a circumcised partner or may have had their sons circumcised, evoking a certain amount of denial and concern—I propose that the natural penis would have approached total approbation.

Although all women did not choose natural, keep in mind that only 14 out of 138 chose circumcised. And of these 14, three women rated circumcised and natural about the same on the negative (-) 10 to a positive (+) 10 ratings question.

The thing that struck me, as I looked over the surveys of women who chose circumcised, was the lack of jubilant accolades. They dutifully checked off choices but rarely applauded the joys of sex in their responses and comments.

In contrast, women who chose natural often spoke glowingly about the sexual charms of the natural penis. Yet, this type of enthusiasm for circumcised was virtually completely lacking when women preferred circumcised. If I were to write this book from a point of view that extolled circumcised, I would have had a pittance of comments to punctuate my points. Essentially, even though these women indicated they favored circumcised, they "damned it with faint praise."

Possible reasons why a woman, asked casually, may indicate she doesn't notice a difference between the two penis types.

A male acquaintance, who knew I was writing this book, told me that when he casually asked a few women if they could tell the difference between the natural and circumcised penis during intercourse, they didn't have much to say. I would like to offer an explanation for why this may be so.

First, a woman may actually notice a difference, but may not be inclined to talk about it openly, especially if the person asking the question is a male.

Second, as mentioned, quite a few women commented that they didn't consciously realize the extent of the differences until filling out the specifics of the survey, which prompted them to think about and analyze their past experiences.

Third, a woman may notice differences, but she may not attribute them to the penis. If she has experienced only one intact man (they being so rare in America), she may be inclined to think that "differences are just *his* individual technique."

Whereas, if she were to experience more than one, she may notice a commonality among her natural partners and realize that the differences are due to the type of penis.

Fourth, age (experience) is a definite factor. Some women may have had their natural experience in their earlier years, when they were not as qualitatively discerning, *especially if they were not looking for or expecting a difference*. Age and experience (more exposures to natural intercourse) bring insight into the differences.

Last and most important, a woman may offhandedly reply that she can't feel the physical difference between the two types of penises, per se, during intercourse. And, by and large, this is an accurate statement. Because the vagina is predominantly innervated with *pressure-sensitive nerves* that are not equipped to discern fine-touch stimuli; thus, it cannot definitively delineate differences in the *physical structure* of the two penis types.

However, women of the survey were able to identify several differences between the two *types of intercourse* and the quality of pleasure they experienced. This is because: *It is not the penis's structure that a woman predominantly feels, but rather her vagina's reaction to the penis's structure, movements, and sexing*. The natural penis (with its giveability and foreskin's cushioning) induces the vagina to relax, to soften, to moisten, thereby making it more sensuously receptive to pleasure. The circumcised penis, on the other hand (with its abnormal hardness and scraping action), causes the vagina to tense up, to tighten, to dry out, thus making it comparatively insensitive and less receptive to pleasurable feelings.

The above can vary depending on how tightly the man is circumcised, how vigorously he thrusts, and how long intercourse lasts. If a man is loosely circumcised, is moderately aggressive in his thrusting, or lasts only a few minutes, the vagina's reaction will not be as severely negative. Thus, some women may not notice the degree of negativity that other women notice.

Why is the number of surveyed women so small? Can the results of such a small sampling of women be applied to the general population?

The number of women is small for several reasons. To begin with, only classified ads were used to search for prospects, and even ads run in national publications with large circulations elicited only a few respondents. (Apparently, very few people read classified ads.) Next, women had to qualify by having had sex with both types of men, and since there are so few intact men in America, this narrowed the field. Then, women had to be uninhibited and interested enough to send for the survey. Lastly, after getting the ten-page survey, which might put them off, they had to take their personal time to fill it out and return it. My original goal was 1,000 women, but this would have been beyond my financial capabilities.

However, even though the number of women is small, the results still tell a big story. This was not a close contest. The intact penis was the overwhelming choice, even though it was the underdog, due to its minority status and the derogatory myths that surround the uncircumcised penis.

Although the survey sampled only a small number of women, it did include women of all ages, from all areas of the country. It could be postulated that if the numbers were greater, 1,000 or 10,000, the results might not differ significantly. This is similar to election night results where only a small number of precincts have reported and yet the final results of the election can be predicted within a small margin of error. It is not entirely unreasonable to assume that this sampling of women, although small, represents the opinion of women overall who have experienced both types of intercourse. As mentioned, the results of the survey were originally published in a supplement to the *BJU* (British Journal of Urology) *International* in January, 1999, analyzed statistically, and found to have statistical significance. (See Appendix E.)

In the final analysis, even if there were no survey of women, previous chapters explaining the sexual functions of the foreskin make it clear that the natural penis, by its very structure, offers an infinitely more rewarding experience for the woman.

Were the survey's results derived from a random sampling of women?

Respondents to my ads in various publications knew I was looking specifically for women experienced with both types of men. Thus, the survey does not represent a random sampling of women from the general population.

When I originally formulated the survey, I knew that I could discern several differences between the two types of penises and the overall intercourse experience, but I wasn't sure other women would notice these differences and be able to express them. Thus, I was interested only in women with the dual experience of both types of men, to see what they had to say on this issue.

A random sampling would have been an exercise in futility, besides being economically infeasible. It didn't make sense to me to run ads soliciting women for a general sexual survey and then have to sift through piles of surveys from women who have not had the comparative experience and are thus not qualified to have an opinion on this matter.

Also, I must add that 64 respondents (slightly over 45%) were solicited through an ad in an anti-circumcision newsletter. However, when their responses were compared with the other respondents, there were no significant differences. Furthermore, at no time were the sexual subjects of this book discussed in the aforementioned newsletter. In addition, I emphasize that virtually all the information contained herein concerning circumcision's effects on adult sexuality is essentially new information and was virtually unknown to even the most avid anti-circumcisionist back in 1993, which is when these particular women took part in the survey (and incidentally, well before the popularity of the internet).

Therefore, respondents could not have collaborated or merely repeat the thoughts they heard from others. The individuality of each respondent's reporting is evidenced by the originality of their quoted comments throughout the book and at the end of this chapter.

CRITICS OF THE SURVEY WILL SAY that a sampling of 138 women isn't large enough to draw any firm conclusions. But just as 100 fatal auto crashes alerted people to the defects in Firestone tires that led to their total recall from the marketplace, these survey findings of 138 voices clearly show consistent patterns that point to abnormalities attendent with circumcised intercourse and may very well lead to the total abandonment of circumcision as a cultural practice.

Critics may say, too, that the way in which women were gathered constitutes a selection bias because some respondents possibly had a special interest in the topic and some may have recognized beforehand that there were differences between the two types. However, this selection bias may be compensated to the degree that each respondent acted as her own control, using her subjective criteria on both types of penises. In other words, it's reasonable to assume that respondents simply reported on their own experiences giving honest evaluations.

Notably, many women commented that they did not give this matter much thought until filling out the survey, and taking the time to contemplate on it. As one woman commented, "I never realized it until I started thinking about it now...but I now realize that I feel natural men are better lovers, generally." And as another commented, "I had to do some thinking on this questionnaire. I was surprised that most of my past sexual encounters that were great were with natural men. I hadn't given it any thought before this." Many women, perhaps most, simply saw the ad, saw that they qualified, and decided to participate because they had never taken part in a sexual survey. In fairness to the importance of this issue, the findings cannot be completely attributed to selection bias.

If I had coldly sampled the general population, many of whom have a preconceived aversion, even repugnancy, to the natural

penis due to its minority status and the many derogatory myths that surround it, this in itself would represent a selection bias, heavily weighted in favor of the circumcised penis. For the circumcised penis is considered the norm in this country and is so culturally entrenched, many women may think themselves abnormal if they didn't favor it. Moreover, most women have circumcised husbands or have had their sons circumcised, and thus have a vested interest in seeing that the circumcised penis remains in favor.

Although most women of the survey almost assuredly approached it with an open mind, by sampling a group who were selected to a degree, it may have allowed some women who have an opinion on this important issue to become involved and have a voice. But this is not necessarily a bad thing. In many cases historically, the astute, perspicacious views of the observant few lead the way to the enlightenment of the majority. In the end, it shouldn't really matter how the women were gathered. What matters is: Does the surgically altered circumcised penis affect the sexual pleasure and love bond between a man and woman? And if it does, then why should we continue to defend circumcision just because it represents the status quo?

HAVE ANY OTHER SURVEYS ADDRESSED WOMEN'S PREFERENCES FOR THE CIRCUMCISED VS. UNCIRCUMCISED PENIS?

In 1988, an Iowa survey of 145 women reported in the *Journal of Sex Education and Therapy* concluded that most women prefer circumcised partners for sexual activity. I would like to explain why this study is vastly misleading in its conclusions and does not merit serious consideration.

Most importantly, 83.5% of the participants reported having had sex with only one type of partner (78% only w/circumcised and 5.5% only w/uncircumcised). The 78% experienced with only circumcised are not qualified to make a judgment on which type of penis they prefer for sexual activity because they never had sex with the natural penis. Since the circumcised penis is the

cultural norm and thus the only type of experience these women knew, it is a foregone conclusion that they would choose the type with which they were familiar. My comments on the above 5.5% for natural appear after my next point.

Secondly, these women were selected because they had all given birth to sons approximately a month before they were surveyed. Eighty nine percent (89%) had circumcised their sons. Realistically, how could they be expected to choose natural after having just had their sons circumcised?

As stated above, 5.5% had sex only with natural partners. Again, these women are not qualified because they knew only the one type of experience. It could almost be said with certainty that it would never occur to these women that sex could be different with a circumcised penis. Thus, they would think that the only difference between the two types is appearance. In 1988, the circumcised penis was the cultural norm and a woman would likely choose it for this reason alone. Also, as part of the survey, women were shown pictures of the two penis types. A woman might indicate a preference for the circumcised penis because she thought it *looked* sexier—that is, the flaccid circumcised penis, with the glans permanently exposed, closely resembles the *natural* penis in its erect, erotic state. This may lead her to wrongly surmise that it is superior for sexual activity. Some women may only develop an appreciation for the look of the flaccid natural penis after realizing that it offers superior sexual pleasure, compared to circumcised.

The remaining women, 16.5%, had sexual experience with both types of partners. These are the only participants truly qualified to make a judgment on which penis type they prefer for sexual activity. However, for these women, age and degree of experience are at question. We can safely assume that most of these women were young, since they had recently given birth. As stated several times, age (experience) is a definite factor in a woman's abililty to discern the sexual differences between the two types of penises. These might not jump out at them at a young age, and even if they did notice differences, they would most likely attribute them to *the man's technique* and not the

penis type. Also, the study did not indicate the degree of experience these women had with natural partners. Since these were young women, they might have based their judgments on one-night stands or short-term relationships. These kinds of sexual encounters may not provide enough experience for a young woman to realize that the natural penis is sexually superior.

FINAL COMMENTS

This survey has shortcomings that may garner it more than its fair share of criticism, especially since its iconoclastic findings strike home personally to so many people. My experience has taught me that there is a great deal of hardheadedness and emotionalism associated with the circumcision issue, particularly since many parents have circumcised their sons. And circumcised men, themselves, may have difficulty facing up to the idea that they could be deficient or inferior in their sexuality.

But despite its small sampling of women and other shortcomings, its message is clear. Circumcision is not only an extreme tragedy for the male victim, but also has adverse effects on the sexual pleasure of the female partner. And this may ultimately prove to have a detrimental effect on the love bond, affecting the very core of our society—the family unit. To deny this concept and defend circumcision is, in a word, nonsensical. We must confront this issue, acknowledge it, change our attitudes, embrace its truths, and get on with our lives, knowing that tomorrow's child will enter the world in a better way, and that humanity, and the world, will be a better place because of it. And for those men of today, who have been the victims of this absurd and tragic practice, we must now give our wholehearted support in their endeavors to restore.

BE SURE TO READ WOMEN'S COMMENTS ON THE PAGES THAT FOLLOW

WOMEN'S COMMENTS

The quotes that follow were compiled from survey comments. The seriousness of their worth and the heartfelt sentiment they express are epitomized in the words of the following respondent:

"I'm so glad you're working on this topic. Women who have had sexual experience with both types have an important message to send to the men of America—spoken from the deepest tissues of our bodies."

WOMEN'S COMMENTS REGARDING NATURAL

- "With natural, all the rainbow of sensations is there."
- "I have never been anything but ecstatic when having intercourse with my natural husband, nor have I ever refused him entry, since I looked forward to it as much as he."
- "My sexual experiences with three natural men were extraordinary in the gentleness, sensuality, and mutuality of the experience."
- "A natural man is more sensitive, affectionate, wanting to please, maybe because they know the true feeling of sensitivity and stimulation."
- "Natural is incredibly more erotic and attuned to me. Penis felt softer, velvety, lovely."

- "Couldn't get enough of him!" (Draws a Smile Face)
- "Ongoing phases of unfolding, deepening passion and fulfillment."
- "My husband is the only natural man I have ever had intercourse with, and he has almost always been able to help me experience a vaginal orgasm, whereas with circumcised men, it happened rarely."
- "It was better, he seemed more excited and his response to my touch made me feel like I was really a great lover."
- "More comfortable, more moisture, less of the rubbing that leaves you sore."
- "One reason I prefer the natural penis is because it greatly enhances my enjoyment of giving oral sex. I have two sons who I have chosen to leave natural."
- "Another very distinctive difference in my experience with circumcised versus natural partners was that the natural men were more *embracing* during intercourse. They held me close and rubbed against me more overall. Whereas, in contrast, circumcised men just want to prop themselves up on hands and knees and stroke themselves, so there's not as much overall body contact."
- "I like the way natural men thrust."
- "Natural men have a more laid-back approach. They don't seem to feel as rushed or pressured to achieve orgasm. They seem to enjoy the act more than the resulting orgasm."

- "I feel totally satisfied with my natural partner's penis.

 Natural is more relaxing! I love to make love to a natural penis!"
- "I felt as if I wanted the natural penis inside me all the time. It felt so wonderful."
- "Wow, Wow, Wow!"
- "The man I lost my virginity to was the son of Greek immigrants. I do remember that when stroking him, it just seemed to flow easily, naturally exciting him. I didn't need any lubricant. However, you can't stroke my circumcised husband's penis dry. It is uncomfortable to say the least."
- "I've experienced very *deeply satisfying* intercourse only with natural men."
- "My last natural intercourse was more than 20 years ago but I remember it very well. I have two sons by my circumcised husband. My decision to leave them natural was greatly influenced by the sweet and gentle natural man I knew in Kentucky in 1977.
- "The uncircumcised man is a much better sexual partner, leaving emotional issues aside."
- "I believe natural sex is better sex."
- "Natural feels very different; my first circumcised penis felt like a dildo."
- "I do notice that there is almost constant contact with my clitoris and he does jiggle quite a lot."

- "My first lover was natural, and when I later went with my second lover who was circumcised, I found I liked thinking about my natural lover's penis more, but I did love him more." [Author's Comment: Did she love the natural man more because sex with him was better? Did she love the circumcised man less because the sex was not as good?]
- "Natural intercourse is a much more pleasant experience—soft. I felt that I contributed to our mutual pleasure."
- "I've always felt there was quite a difference in the two types of penises and I strongly favor natural men. It's a real tragedy that any male should undergo circumcision. The foreskin is there for a reason."
- "Natural intercourse felt more right somehow. More appropriate and normal."
- "The first few times with my husband, who is natural, I was surprised that I didn't have the pain afterwards that I did with my circumcised ex-boyfriend, especially since my husband's penis was larger."
- "Intercourse with the natural man gives me a lot more pleasure and is much more satisfying. I would rate it higher than 10 if I could."
- "There does not seem to be a feeling of mutual satisfaction with circumcised men in my experience. I feel natural men are better lovers.
- "There is much more tenderness, it's much more a joint experience rather than one-sided."

- "Gentler and less abrasive, the man seems more male and I, in turn, more female."
- "I'm very surprised because I thought the gentleness had to do with the individual himself... but maybe not."
- "There is definitely more clitoral area stimulation with natural."
- "I hear a lot of women saying they think a natural penis is ugly and wouldn't want to have sex with one, but they've never tried it. I felt that way too before I had sex with a natural man."
- "It felt great, like nothing I had ever felt before. I was easily brought to a vaginal orgasm."
- "Pelvic thrusting and body contact is more tender."
- "The whole experience is better. It's more intimate."
- "Softer, deeper, less friction, more sensuous."
- "Even when it goes on for a long time, I never feel bruised or abraded."
- "I much prefer sex with an uncircumcised man. It is much more pleasurable. There's something very nice about it that's hard to explain."
- "With natural, fellatio is much easier. On circumcised men, I always felt like I was choking and gagging because my mouth, throat, and hands had to do all the work. With the natural penis, the extra skin does the work."

- "I have chosen a partner that is circumcised. I wish he weren't. My fantasies are usually about natural penises. I love the look of a natural penis and I do believe that just seeing it adds to the pleasure felt during intercourse. Natural penises are much more fun to have oral sex with."
- "My natural partner kept more constant contact and pressure on my whole genital area during intercourse, so I never felt like he was 'banging away' but that he was with me and pleasuring me."
- "My natural lover seems more aware of where my body is in relation to his; we become one in motion, not two using each other for our own separate ends, as with circumcised."
- "I wish it could last all night long. Once a natural penis is in your vagina, you wish it could stay forever."

WOMEN'S COMMENTS REGARDING CIRCUMCISED

- "I cried a lot in the dark—both during and after circumcised intercourse."
- "I had a feeling of sadness, lack of satisfaction, emptiness, and frustration after intercourse with my circumcised husband. I never remember feeling like a whole woman during my marriage."
- "It takes a lot of *work* to achieve vaginal orgasm with a circumcised partner."
- "I have experienced a situation where a circumcised man has difficulty entering me as a result of my vaginal muscles tightening up."

- "I've often said to myself, after one of these circumcised encounters: 'I'd have been better off masturbating.' Certainly once a woman has had good sex with a natural man, a circumcised man is like a cripple in comparison."
- "When the man is too forceful with his thrusting, I lose all sense of feeling. I no longer desire to reach an orgasm."
- "After a while, I began to realize I liked the natural penis better. When I was a little younger and more socially active, the first thing I wanted to know about a man wasn't 'What's your sign?'—it was, 'Are you circumcised?'"
- "The glans of the circumcised male feels rough, and the shaft is very hard, unnatural. It is not the same as with a natural penis."
- "Most of the time after the initial romantic stage was past, I felt like a blow-up doll could have done the job."
- "Sometimes it's too much work for too little reward. When it's over, I think to myself, 'Thank God he finally came!'"
- "Circumcised penis is hard and unforgiving—less elasticity."
- "I never made the connection between this feeling of hostility and circumcised sex until now. I can't believe the BIG difference with a natural man."
- "With circumcised, the pain was sometimes excruciating."

- "I sincerely hope *something* can be done to eliminate the practice of circumcision. I have suspected for many years that it is a primary factor in the problems between the sexes—everything from the divorce rate to domestic violence."
- "Afterwards, it was just as if we were strangers that didn't even connect. I often wondered why I was even putting myself through all the trouble of this unenjoyable sex!"
- "Sometimes it seemed that I was simply a receptacle for him to use instead of a partner and lover."
- "When you have to apply lubrication and provide your own stimulation and you're sore afterward the whole thing seems like an exercise in futility. Often, I've sensed the man wasn't *really* satisfied either—and this mutual dissatisfaction contributes to problems elsewhere in a relationship."
- "I have gone as far as to get into arguments directly after intercourse, upon which I'd end up kicking the guy out for being a lousy lover! I'd often find myself wondering, 'Is that all there is?'"
- "I dried out and suffered from post-intercourse irritation and soreness."
- "During intercourse, the thrusts hurt my insides; after, the pain way up in my vagina lasts about a day."
- "I admit to feeling aggravated toward the circumcised man. Mostly because of our poor relationship or my not being able to reach orgasm. It seemed like he should do something about it but he would or could not."

- "Circumcised men feel like a dry stick inside you and the way they pound away trying to get off leaves the woman's pubic mound and cervix bruised. Either that, or they get off so quick they leave you wondering what happened."
- "I desire to get it over with—it gets very uncomfortable. I've gently told my husband this. I try to have enough foreplay so that he is close to orgasm when we start insertion."
- "Vaginal tissues get rubbed raw with a circumcised penis. I always thought sex was painful until I had intercourse with an uncircumcised man. With the natural penis, I didn't experience abrasion."
- "Yes, with circumcised, have difficulty being entered vagina tightens up. Many times this experience was as if the vagina was rejecting the circumcised man. I have not had this feeling with a natural man."
- "Circumcised thrusting seems to be hard and fast, therefore eliminating any pleasure I might feel in my clitoris."
- "The prolonged, long thrusts were too exhausting and not very pleasurable. I generally feel frustrated, that I am a failure as a woman. Sometimes it leaves me feeling irritable, but I don't express this to my partner."
- "With circumcised men, my vaginal muscles tighten up. With natural men, my vaginal opening is much more relaxed and accepting of the penis. I always seem so relaxed with my natural man. Never with the circumcised."

- "I often think and feel that he is not paying attention to me or in sync with my breathing or thrusts."
- "Long thrusts for extended periods of time cause great discomfort."
- "They seem to need a lot more violent thrusting to achieve orgasm."
- "An absence of moisture and rubbing that leaves you sore are a real problem with circumcised penises."
- "I've always had to use a lubricant with a circumcised partner—and the ones who aren't 'minutemen' tend to take so long that I feel blistered afterward."
- "It has often crossed my mind that circumcised men should be issued one of those blow-up dolls—and stay away from living creatures with feelings!"
- "These longer thrusts can sometimes make the cervix sore both during and after intercourse."
- "I feel very strongly that I experienced a lot of pain with my circumcised partner. The circumcised penis hurts. But with my natural partner, I have no pain, only pleasure."
- "A lot of circumcised men seem to be so desensitized they have to really work to achieve orgasm—and being partner to one of these types is a real punishment! You dry out and start feeling sore and it just isn't any fun at all. But with my natural experiences, it was just the reverse; it feels good to begin with, I produce copious amounts of lubrication, and the longer the encounter lasts, the more the pleasure escalates."

- "Feelings of sadness at my partner's apparent numbness and disconnection."
- "Unfortunately, men of my generation, born here in the U.S., all seem to be circumcised. I wonder what deep-rooted psychological problems circumcision has caused them."
- "We women with circumcised partners are living our whole lives without the holy experience of true sexual communion, and it is a loss of monumental proportions. It hurts our souls, our spirits. I know I am deeply wounded by it, and I sense that most women also are. Tragic."
- "In my experiences with circumcised men, they just don't have the desire, passion, and erotic behavior."