



# BRENDON MAROTTA

AMERICAN CIRCUMCISION, INTACTIVISM, & THE HIDDEN TRUTH

PRESENTED BY THE HIGHERSIDE CHATS



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1  
00:00:04,010 --> 00:00:02,240  
embrace yourself because you're about to

2  
00:00:06,170 --> 00:00:04,020  
dive into another free first hour

3  
00:00:07,369 --> 00:00:06,180  
episode of the higher side chats and we

4  
00:00:08,780 --> 00:00:07,379  
just want to let you know that whether

5  
00:00:10,820 --> 00:00:08,790  
you're looking for a companion through

6  
00:00:12,350 --> 00:00:10,830  
your paranoid insomnia entertaining

7  
00:00:14,360 --> 00:00:12,360  
yourself through one of life's mundane

8  
00:00:16,070 --> 00:00:14,370  
activities or trying to ward off the

9  
00:00:18,680 --> 00:00:16,080  
internal scream to all those sad

10  
00:00:20,420 --> 00:00:18,690  
smothered Souls around the office THC is

11  
00:00:22,099 --> 00:00:20,430  
here and you should know that every

12  
00:00:24,109 --> 00:00:22,109  
episode of the higher side chats has an

13  
00:00:26,509 --> 00:00:24,119

entire second hour four plus members

14

00:00:29,000 --> 00:00:26,519

sign up at the higher side chats plus

15

00:00:31,580 --> 00:00:29,010

calm and you get years of plus show

16

00:00:32,990 --> 00:00:31,590

archives lifetime forum access the

17

00:00:36,380 --> 00:00:33,000

special invite to Greg Carl woods

18

00:00:39,979 --> 00:00:36,390

monthly joint sessions mp3s of THC music

19

00:00:42,350 --> 00:00:39,989

bonus episodes for videos and 10% off

20

00:00:44,299 --> 00:00:42,360

t-shirts grinders and whatever else ends

21

00:00:46,279 --> 00:00:44,309

up in the higher side store it's eight

22

00:00:48,110 --> 00:00:46,289

dollars a month that you won't miss so

23

00:00:49,790 --> 00:00:48,120

become a plus member and treat yourself

24

00:00:51,529 --> 00:00:49,800

in these troubled times always

25

00:00:53,540 --> 00:00:51,539

action-packed and commercial for you

26  
00:00:58,080 --> 00:00:53,550  
which means you'll unfortunately never

27  
00:00:58,090 --> 00:01:08,630  
[Music]

28  
00:01:14,730 --> 00:01:11,969  
the planets puppet-masters on my shirt

29  
00:01:17,480 --> 00:01:14,740  
we have a plan it's clearly maybe

30  
00:01:20,340 --> 00:01:17,490  
something there beyond the realm of man

31  
00:01:23,490 --> 00:01:20,350  
until we've thoroughly tested every last

32  
00:01:26,020 --> 00:01:23,500  
clothes just did you find the boy you

33  
00:01:32,200 --> 00:01:26,030  
think you know much you really do

34  
00:01:40,580 --> 00:01:35,390  
we know the lying to us just don't know

35  
00:01:46,149 --> 00:01:40,590  
what to green where would we be without

36  
00:01:46,159 --> 00:01:56,160  
okay car wooden company

37  
00:02:01,090 --> 00:01:58,870  
all right higher side chatters brace

38  
00:02:03,610 --> 00:02:01,100

yourself for an off the radar ride today

39

00:02:05,920 --> 00:02:03,620

as we penetrate the Snickers stigmas and

40

00:02:07,360 --> 00:02:05,930

social awkwardness around a topic that I

41

00:02:09,790 --> 00:02:07,370

think you'll find is much more

42

00:02:11,050 --> 00:02:09,800

significant than you thought it was and

43

00:02:13,420 --> 00:02:11,060

I'm sure many of us would admit that

44

00:02:15,640 --> 00:02:13,430

culture can find itself in weird places

45

00:02:17,710 --> 00:02:15,650

and human beings have an uncanny

46

00:02:19,660 --> 00:02:17,720

tendency to blindly go with the herd

47

00:02:21,880 --> 00:02:19,670

that makes me think those advocates for

48

00:02:23,650 --> 00:02:21,890

origin theories that involve engineering

49

00:02:25,900 --> 00:02:23,660

us for obedience might be on to

50

00:02:28,240 --> 00:02:25,910

something because there's no other way I

51  
00:02:30,699 --> 00:02:28,250  
can rationalize a long tradition of

52  
00:02:33,640 --> 00:02:30,709  
cutting off parts of baby penises all

53  
00:02:36,460 --> 00:02:33,650  
the way into 2018 without ever so much

54  
00:02:38,560 --> 00:02:36,470  
as a real conversation about it who

55  
00:02:40,900 --> 00:02:38,570  
decided this was okay how did it get to

56  
00:02:43,090 --> 00:02:40,910  
be the norm and why like many important

57  
00:02:45,070 --> 00:02:43,100  
topics we consider here do so many

58  
00:02:46,960 --> 00:02:45,080  
people spout off a few regurgitated

59  
00:02:49,240 --> 00:02:46,970  
bullet points in support of it

60  
00:02:51,820 --> 00:02:49,250  
suspiciously as if it was implanted

61  
00:02:54,190 --> 00:02:51,830  
right in their brains well a vigorous

62  
00:02:56,410 --> 00:02:54,200  
and lengthy golfclap is an order for

63  
00:02:58,180 --> 00:02:56,420

today's guest filmmaker Brendan Murata

64

00:03:00,430 --> 00:02:58,190

for tackling this uncomfortable

65

00:03:02,530 --> 00:03:00,440

conversation head-on with his recently

66

00:03:04,930 --> 00:03:02,540

released and now award-winning film

67

00:03:06,759 --> 00:03:04,940

American circumcision which breaks down

68

00:03:08,800 --> 00:03:06,769

the arguments from both sides of the

69

00:03:11,170 --> 00:03:08,810

situation examines the history and

70

00:03:13,390 --> 00:03:11,180

explains the gory details and data we

71

00:03:15,699 --> 00:03:13,400

should all be fully aware of before we

72

00:03:18,550 --> 00:03:15,709

make up our minds about it like my

73

00:03:21,280 --> 00:03:18,560

teacher said in sex ed class so long ago

74

00:03:23,410 --> 00:03:21,290

if you can't talk about it you probably

75

00:03:25,300 --> 00:03:23,420

shouldn't be doing it so here to talk

76

00:03:27,610 --> 00:03:25,310

about everything you ever wanted to know

77

00:03:29,890 --> 00:03:27,620

about circumcision and probably more

78

00:03:32,020 --> 00:03:29,900

running my man welcome to the higher

79

00:03:34,690 --> 00:03:32,030

side thank you that was a great

80

00:03:36,039 --> 00:03:34,700

introduction thanks I like to have fun

81

00:03:38,020 --> 00:03:36,049

with those intros but I am really

82

00:03:40,000 --> 00:03:38,030

psyched and thankful that you're here

83

00:03:41,860 --> 00:03:40,010

when I heard about this film I thought

84

00:03:43,539 --> 00:03:41,870

you know that's interesting but I'm not

85

00:03:45,250 --> 00:03:43,549

sure it can carry a full episode of this

86

00:03:48,009 --> 00:03:45,260

show because how much is there to really

87

00:03:49,840 --> 00:03:48,019

know and well when I watched it I was

88

00:03:52,390 --> 00:03:49,850

definitely impressed learned way more

89

00:03:54,610 --> 00:03:52,400

than I expected to and I actually got

90

00:03:57,069 --> 00:03:54,620

emotional about it despite my heart

91

00:03:59,140 --> 00:03:57,079

being two sizes too small and maybe we

92

00:04:02,199 --> 00:03:59,150

should ease into this one with that

93

00:04:04,270 --> 00:04:02,209

classic cliché question of how did you

94

00:04:06,309 --> 00:04:04,280

find yourself making a film on the

95

00:04:08,770 --> 00:04:06,319

subject of

96

00:04:10,809 --> 00:04:08,780

so I think like most Americans it was

97

00:04:14,080 --> 00:04:10,819

not a topic I'd thought about a lot

98

00:04:15,550 --> 00:04:14,090

before it was something that I just sort

99

00:04:18,069 --> 00:04:15,560

of thought well there's nothing I can do

100

00:04:20,800 --> 00:04:18,079

about that now so why think about it it

101  
00:04:23,350 --> 00:04:20,810  
seems a little uncomfortable it seems a

102  
00:04:26,200 --> 00:04:23,360  
little weird and besides what is there

103  
00:04:28,270 --> 00:04:26,210  
really to know about this issue and at

104  
00:04:30,310 --> 00:04:28,280  
the time I was in Los Angeles I was

105  
00:04:32,860 --> 00:04:30,320  
working as a filmmaker and I was sort of

106  
00:04:35,590 --> 00:04:32,870  
focused on escapist things like horror

107  
00:04:38,110 --> 00:04:35,600  
films and sci-fi and you know stuff I

108  
00:04:39,640 --> 00:04:38,120  
got paid for essentially and at the same

109  
00:04:41,560 --> 00:04:39,650  
time I started going through a period in

110  
00:04:43,360 --> 00:04:41,570  
my life where I was looking at a lot of

111  
00:04:45,550 --> 00:04:43,370  
things that happened to me in early

112  
00:04:48,159 --> 00:04:45,560  
childhood that might have affected me

113  
00:04:50,140 --> 00:04:48,169

later on and I was reading a lot of the

114

00:04:52,749 --> 00:04:50,150

you know psychology stuff about how

115

00:04:54,370 --> 00:04:52,759

early life events impact you later and I

116

00:04:56,920 --> 00:04:54,380

would run across this in those readings

117

00:04:58,120 --> 00:04:56,930

and I thought well you know there's

118

00:04:59,560 --> 00:04:58,130

nothing I can do about that now it made

119

00:05:01,180 --> 00:04:59,570

me uncomfortable because I think like a

120

00:05:04,270 --> 00:05:01,190

lot of people I want to feel like I'm in

121

00:05:06,490 --> 00:05:04,280

control of my life and I can change you

122

00:05:07,570 --> 00:05:06,500

know my beliefs and my patterns and all

123

00:05:09,430 --> 00:05:07,580

of these other things but that was

124

00:05:10,779 --> 00:05:09,440

something I couldn't really change so I

125

00:05:13,450 --> 00:05:10,789

just kind of pushed it out of mind and

126  
00:05:15,670 --> 00:05:13,460  
then later I have a meditation practice

127  
00:05:17,890 --> 00:05:15,680  
and the meditation that I practice is

128  
00:05:20,500 --> 00:05:17,900  
just being present with whatever is

129  
00:05:22,870 --> 00:05:20,510  
there it's nothing mystical not trying

130  
00:05:24,460 --> 00:05:22,880  
to achieve any strange states of mind

131  
00:05:26,250 --> 00:05:24,470  
it's just whatever comes up in my

132  
00:05:28,719 --> 00:05:26,260  
consciousness I'd be present with it and

133  
00:05:32,620 --> 00:05:28,729  
during a meditation I had the word

134  
00:05:34,600 --> 00:05:32,630  
circumcision come into my mind and I had

135  
00:05:36,310 --> 00:05:34,610  
this really cold sensation in the body

136  
00:05:38,589 --> 00:05:36,320  
it was this very sort of uncomfortable

137  
00:05:41,379 --> 00:05:38,599  
feeling and it felt like all my energy

138  
00:05:43,180 --> 00:05:41,389

drained down to my belt and it happened

139

00:05:45,460 --> 00:05:43,190

a couple times during this meditation I

140

00:05:47,409 --> 00:05:45,470

thought that's really weird like some

141

00:05:49,570 --> 00:05:47,419

part of my consciousness clearly wants

142

00:05:51,490 --> 00:05:49,580

me to look at this so I'm gonna pay

143

00:05:54,040 --> 00:05:51,500

attention to this and actually do some

144

00:05:55,719 --> 00:05:54,050

research and one of the first things I

145

00:05:57,580 --> 00:05:55,729

found is something that we cover in the

146

00:06:00,760 --> 00:05:57,590

documentary something called foreskin

147

00:06:03,670 --> 00:06:00,770

restoration which is where men take the

148

00:06:06,159 --> 00:06:03,680

remaining skin that they have and slowly

149

00:06:07,810 --> 00:06:06,169

stretch it over time and this doesn't

150

00:06:09,790 --> 00:06:07,820

get back all the nerve endings of the

151  
00:06:11,890 --> 00:06:09,800  
foreskin but it does get back some of

152  
00:06:13,570 --> 00:06:11,900  
the form and function and creates a

153  
00:06:16,600 --> 00:06:13,580  
covering of that part of the body again

154  
00:06:17,769 --> 00:06:16,610  
and so I thought that's really weird but

155  
00:06:19,600 --> 00:06:17,779  
all my life I've been told there's

156  
00:06:21,010 --> 00:06:19,610  
nothing you can do about this and

157  
00:06:24,159 --> 00:06:21,020  
clearly there's something you can do

158  
00:06:27,670 --> 00:06:24,169  
about this so what else have I been told

159  
00:06:29,140 --> 00:06:27,680  
that isn't true and I started having one

160  
00:06:31,240 --> 00:06:29,150  
of my interview subjects called the

161  
00:06:32,950 --> 00:06:31,250  
obsessive Epiphany which is the moment

162  
00:06:34,570 --> 00:06:32,960  
when you realize there's more to an

163  
00:06:36,820 --> 00:06:34,580

issue than what your culture has told

164

00:06:38,159 --> 00:06:36,830

you and you start researching everything

165

00:06:41,050 --> 00:06:38,169

about it you know reading every book

166

00:06:44,499 --> 00:06:41,060

searching every article watching every

167

00:06:46,689 --> 00:06:44,509

film listening to every podcast and I

168

00:06:48,249 --> 00:06:46,699

felt like the things that I was learning

169

00:06:50,200 --> 00:06:48,259

were really important and things that

170

00:06:51,999 --> 00:06:50,210

the wider culture wasn't aware of and

171

00:06:54,129 --> 00:06:52,009

that I needed to communicate in some way

172

00:06:55,629 --> 00:06:54,139

and like I said my craft is as a

173

00:06:57,129 --> 00:06:55,639

filmmaker it's what I do professionally

174

00:06:58,659 --> 00:06:57,139

it's what I love doing it's what I've

175

00:07:01,209 --> 00:06:58,669

wanted to do since I was 14

176

00:07:03,279 --> 00:07:01,219

so films seem like the natural place to

177

00:07:05,950 --> 00:07:03,289

express that and that's what led to the

178

00:07:07,719 --> 00:07:05,960

documentary and you know within a month

179

00:07:09,879 --> 00:07:07,729

of learning all of this I was traveling

180

00:07:12,279 --> 00:07:09,889

up and down the coast interviewing every

181

00:07:14,559 --> 00:07:12,289

person whose book I'd read and whose

182

00:07:16,689 --> 00:07:14,569

website I'd seen and whose work I was

183

00:07:19,149 --> 00:07:16,699

aware of so that's what led to the film

184

00:07:21,070 --> 00:07:19,159

and I think that a lot of people are

185

00:07:23,559 --> 00:07:21,080

afraid to look at this issue because

186

00:07:25,779 --> 00:07:23,569

they have this idea that if they look at

187

00:07:28,930 --> 00:07:25,789

the issue of circumcision it's just

188

00:07:31,029 --> 00:07:28,940

gonna make them feel bad in some way and

189

00:07:32,920 --> 00:07:31,039

there's gonna be nothing they can do

190

00:07:34,689 --> 00:07:32,930

about it and what I found is very much

191

00:07:37,089 --> 00:07:34,699

the opposite that there's a lot you can

192

00:07:39,070 --> 00:07:37,099

do about it if you're willing to look at

193

00:07:42,249 --> 00:07:39,080

some of the difficult questions this

194

00:07:43,749 --> 00:07:42,259

issue raises so that's what the film

195

00:07:46,659 --> 00:07:43,759

explores and what we get into in the

196

00:07:48,040 --> 00:07:46,669

movie well well said and I think that is

197

00:07:50,219 --> 00:07:48,050

really the heart of the issue I think

198

00:07:53,740 --> 00:07:50,229

another thing is that people can be

199

00:07:55,179 --> 00:07:53,750

self-centered and to admit that there's

200

00:07:56,920 --> 00:07:55,189

something wrong with this issue might

201  
00:07:58,809 --> 00:07:56,930  
mean to admit that something bad

202  
00:08:01,179 --> 00:07:58,819  
happened to them or they might think

203  
00:08:02,769 --> 00:08:01,189  
well it happened to me I'm here you know

204  
00:08:05,529 --> 00:08:02,779  
I'm not gonna fight too hard to end this

205  
00:08:07,899 --> 00:08:05,539  
practice cuz it's too late for me those

206  
00:08:09,670 --> 00:08:07,909  
kind of thoughts but I do think the

207  
00:08:11,499 --> 00:08:09,680  
trauma issue is kind of interesting

208  
00:08:14,200 --> 00:08:11,509  
because one of your subjects in the

209  
00:08:16,360 --> 00:08:14,210  
film's mentions that people can have

210  
00:08:18,790 --> 00:08:16,370  
flashbacks or reoccurring nightmares

211  
00:08:21,429 --> 00:08:18,800  
about being laid out on a medical table

212  
00:08:24,040 --> 00:08:21,439  
with figures looking down on them and

213  
00:08:26,829 --> 00:08:24,050

some type of sexual experimentation

214

00:08:28,570 --> 00:08:26,839

happening that sounds like some other

215

00:08:30,329 --> 00:08:28,580

things that we cover on this show from

216

00:08:32,139 --> 00:08:30,339

time to time and I thought the

217

00:08:33,519 --> 00:08:32,149

correlation was interesting who knows

218

00:08:34,989 --> 00:08:33,529

where these things

219

00:08:36,939 --> 00:08:34,999

they come from maybe it can come from

220

00:08:38,949 --> 00:08:36,949

something like that it certainly seems

221

00:08:41,259 --> 00:08:38,959

traumatic and I guess in terms of

222

00:08:43,540 --> 00:08:41,269

framing up the topic what are some facts

223

00:08:45,369 --> 00:08:43,550

and statistics about circumcision you

224

00:08:47,290 --> 00:08:45,379

could tell us that might grease the

225

00:08:49,600 --> 00:08:47,300

wheels a bit and give us a general lay

226

00:08:51,400 --> 00:08:49,610

of the land I think one of the most

227

00:08:54,369 --> 00:08:51,410

shocking things that I learned in

228

00:08:57,610 --> 00:08:54,379

research for the documentary was that up

229

00:09:00,369 --> 00:08:57,620

until the late 1980s doctors believed

230

00:09:02,559 --> 00:09:00,379

that infants did not feel pain and would

231

00:09:05,769 --> 00:09:02,569

do the procedure without any anesthesia

232

00:09:08,139 --> 00:09:05,779

or pain relief and you can imagine a

233

00:09:09,759 --> 00:09:08,149

newborn infant being actually strapped

234

00:09:12,369 --> 00:09:09,769

them down to a four-point restraint

235

00:09:15,189 --> 00:09:12,379

called a circumstantially like a tiny

236

00:09:18,309 --> 00:09:15,199

rack for a baby and they will do this

237

00:09:19,449 --> 00:09:18,319

procedure on the child without any pain

238

00:09:21,100 --> 00:09:19,459

relief so the child is screaming

239

00:09:23,259 --> 00:09:21,110

throughout it and I think a lot of

240

00:09:25,569 --> 00:09:23,269

people think that it's done you know

241

00:09:28,239 --> 00:09:25,579

it's just a little snip as the culture

242

00:09:30,639 --> 00:09:28,249

likes to say when in reality they use a

243

00:09:32,590 --> 00:09:30,649

clamp and it's an involved 15 minute

244

00:09:34,150 --> 00:09:32,600

procedure and the foreskin is fused to

245

00:09:38,139 --> 00:09:34,160

the head of the glans it's very gruesome

246

00:09:39,549 --> 00:09:38,149

and shocking to look at and many of the

247

00:09:41,319 --> 00:09:39,559

activists I interviewed told me that

248

00:09:43,629 --> 00:09:41,329

just seeing the procedure for the first

249

00:09:45,040 --> 00:09:43,639

time was what made them want to become

250

00:09:47,650 --> 00:09:45,050

an activist was what made them feel like

251

00:09:50,350 --> 00:09:47,660

we have to change this part of the

252

00:09:52,449 --> 00:09:50,360

challenge of this issue is that like you

253

00:09:54,579 --> 00:09:52,459

said it hits on a lot of identity level

254

00:09:58,360 --> 00:09:54,589

things for people you know people will

255

00:10:00,490 --> 00:09:58,370

say about other procedures that they

256

00:10:03,040 --> 00:10:00,500

have like they'll say I had you know

257

00:10:04,990 --> 00:10:03,050

shoulder surgery or I had my tonsils out

258

00:10:08,350 --> 00:10:05,000

but when it comes to circumcision they

259

00:10:10,299 --> 00:10:08,360

say I am circumcised it's an identity

260

00:10:12,910 --> 00:10:10,309

thing it's part of who they are the same

261

00:10:16,389 --> 00:10:12,920

way you might say that you're white or

262

00:10:19,299 --> 00:10:16,399

black or gay and in reality circumcision

263

00:10:21,819 --> 00:10:19,309

is just another thing that happened to

264

00:10:23,319 --> 00:10:21,829

you and it isn't necessarily an identity

265

00:10:25,299 --> 00:10:23,329

level thing but we make it into that

266

00:10:27,369 --> 00:10:25,309

because it deals with the body because

267

00:10:29,889 --> 00:10:27,379

it deals with sexuality and genitals and

268

00:10:32,169 --> 00:10:29,899

so I think if people were to shift their

269

00:10:33,429 --> 00:10:32,179

frame a little bit in that way and to

270

00:10:35,230 --> 00:10:33,439

look at it as just as something that

271

00:10:36,970 --> 00:10:35,240

happened to them rather than a part of

272

00:10:38,799 --> 00:10:36,980

who they are then they would have a

273

00:10:41,079 --> 00:10:38,809

little more flexibility in thinking

274

00:10:42,699 --> 00:10:41,089

about the issue of okay well

275

00:10:44,949 --> 00:10:42,709

this is something that happened to me

276

00:10:47,799 --> 00:10:44,959

yes but is it really aligned with my

277

00:10:49,629 --> 00:10:47,809

values I think a lot of people too

278

00:10:50,799 --> 00:10:49,639

regularly you know really accept the

279

00:10:52,900 --> 00:10:50,809

idea that you have the right to make

280

00:10:54,879 --> 00:10:52,910

your own choices about your sexuality in

281

00:10:57,040 --> 00:10:54,889

your body and the argument that

282

00:10:59,439 --> 00:10:57,050

activists against circumcision are

283

00:11:01,239 --> 00:10:59,449

making is that human beings have the

284

00:11:03,819 --> 00:11:01,249

right to make their own decisions about

285

00:11:05,679 --> 00:11:03,829

their body and that to cut off part of

286

00:11:07,840 --> 00:11:05,689

someone's body without their consent is

287

00:11:10,720 --> 00:11:07,850

a violation of their basic human rights

288

00:11:12,249 --> 00:11:10,730

and when I framed its people that way

289

00:11:15,549 --> 00:11:12,259

you know when I talk to people they

290

00:11:17,379 --> 00:11:15,559

don't and so we've had a culture that

291

00:11:20,530 --> 00:11:17,389

just through inertia has framed this as

292

00:11:22,150 --> 00:11:20,540

a parental choice as if parents have the

293

00:11:25,600 --> 00:11:22,160

right to decide what body parts their

294

00:11:27,850 --> 00:11:25,610

children keep as opposed to an issue of

295

00:11:30,610 --> 00:11:27,860

human autonomy and human rights and

296

00:11:33,940 --> 00:11:30,620

sexual freedom

297

00:11:35,500 --> 00:11:33,950

now you mentioned the trauma that

298

00:11:37,150 --> 00:11:35,510

sometimes a little difficult to talk

299

00:11:39,550 --> 00:11:37,160

about because you can't really do a

300

00:11:41,350 --> 00:11:39,560

double-blind study where one group of

301  
00:11:43,330 --> 00:11:41,360  
people get circumcised and another group

302  
00:11:46,180 --> 00:11:43,340  
people don't and then they have exactly

303  
00:11:48,400 --> 00:11:46,190  
the same life experiences and background

304  
00:11:50,020 --> 00:11:48,410  
and all the other things in their life

305  
00:11:53,020 --> 00:11:50,030  
it's really hard to do a study like that

306  
00:11:55,270 --> 00:11:53,030  
and even on types of trauma that we

307  
00:11:57,490 --> 00:11:55,280  
accept culturally as having an impact

308  
00:12:00,280 --> 00:11:57,500  
like someone experiencing sexual abuse

309  
00:12:02,260 --> 00:12:00,290  
or rape as an adult it's even hard there

310  
00:12:03,940 --> 00:12:02,270  
to prove correlation yeah I think we all

311  
00:12:05,890 --> 00:12:03,950  
sort of intuitively understand that

312  
00:12:08,470 --> 00:12:05,900  
someone who experiences those things

313  
00:12:11,590 --> 00:12:08,480

will have trauma and that trauma might

314

00:12:13,960 --> 00:12:11,600

manifest itself in strange ways in ways

315

00:12:16,180 --> 00:12:13,970

that are difficult for that person to

316

00:12:18,220 --> 00:12:16,190

deal with now when it comes to

317

00:12:20,800 --> 00:12:18,230

circumcision there are some studies on

318

00:12:22,690 --> 00:12:20,810

the lasting impact of that pain there

319

00:12:25,120 --> 00:12:22,700

was a study that we cover in the film

320

00:12:28,510 --> 00:12:25,130

the anandhan hickey pain studies in the

321

00:12:30,460 --> 00:12:28,520

tateo pain studies which showed that

322

00:12:34,330 --> 00:12:30,470

there was a change in behavior from

323

00:12:36,070 --> 00:12:34,340

circumcision pain among infants and what

324

00:12:37,840 --> 00:12:36,080

they did was they tested children when

325

00:12:39,310 --> 00:12:37,850

they were being vaccinated and they

326

00:12:41,020 --> 00:12:39,320

found that one group of infants being

327

00:12:42,580 --> 00:12:41,030

vaccinated responded much more

328

00:12:44,200 --> 00:12:42,590

dramatically to the point so they give a

329

00:12:46,420 --> 00:12:44,210

child a vaccine they put the needle and

330

00:12:47,920 --> 00:12:46,430

for that some children you know it's

331

00:12:49,590 --> 00:12:47,930

uncomfortable for them but they're able

332

00:12:51,730 --> 00:12:49,600

to endure it and others react

333

00:12:53,230 --> 00:12:51,740

dramatically oh they act like this is

334

00:12:55,360 --> 00:12:53,240

the most horrible thing that's happened

335

00:12:56,680 --> 00:12:55,370

to them and so the researchers were

336

00:12:58,450 --> 00:12:56,690

trying to figure out why is one group of

337

00:12:59,950 --> 00:12:58,460

children responding so dramatically to

338

00:13:01,180 --> 00:12:59,960

the pain you know they're looking at

339

00:13:04,560 --> 00:13:01,190

with a breastfed where they not

340

00:13:07,390 --> 00:13:04,570

breastfed did they come from a different

341

00:13:09,090 --> 00:13:07,400

background or birth style or something

342

00:13:10,690 --> 00:13:09,100

like that and it was actually

343

00:13:12,400 --> 00:13:10,700

circumcision that was the defining

344

00:13:14,170 --> 00:13:12,410

factor so children who were circumcised

345

00:13:16,690 --> 00:13:14,180

responded much more dramatically to the

346

00:13:19,000 --> 00:13:16,700

pain and the researchers attributed this

347

00:13:20,860 --> 00:13:19,010

to PTSD post traumatic stress disorder

348

00:13:23,320 --> 00:13:20,870

meaning that they believe that the

349

00:13:25,810 --> 00:13:23,330

children had this very painful

350

00:13:27,370 --> 00:13:25,820

experience of circumcision where again

351  
00:13:28,750 --> 00:13:27,380  
at the time this study was done it was

352  
00:13:31,840 --> 00:13:28,760  
being performed without any anesthesia

353  
00:13:33,910 --> 00:13:31,850  
and when they felt pain again

354  
00:13:35,200 --> 00:13:33,920  
there was a traumatic flashback to the

355  
00:13:37,660 --> 00:13:35,210  
pain of circumcision that they were

356  
00:13:41,650 --> 00:13:37,670  
reacting to in addition to the pain of

357  
00:13:43,210 --> 00:13:41,660  
that moment so you know again it is hard

358  
00:13:43,890 --> 00:13:43,220  
to sometimes put a one to one

359  
00:13:45,930 --> 00:13:43,900  
correlation

360  
00:13:47,790 --> 00:13:45,940  
or even talk about a particular person's

361  
00:13:49,950 --> 00:13:47,800  
pain without just simply accepting that

362  
00:13:52,320 --> 00:13:49,960  
that's their experience but there is

363  
00:13:55,050 --> 00:13:52,330

research that by the way is accepted by

364

00:13:56,430 --> 00:13:55,060

both sides of the debate that indicates

365

00:13:58,950 --> 00:13:56,440

that there is post-traumatic stress

366

00:14:00,120 --> 00:13:58,960

disorder from circumcision right I

367

00:14:01,980 --> 00:14:00,130

thought that was one of the most

368

00:14:04,350 --> 00:14:01,990

fascinating studies and it makes a lot

369

00:14:06,300 --> 00:14:04,360

of sense it's kind of like if you're in

370

00:14:07,770 --> 00:14:06,310

a room with someone who's been shot and

371

00:14:09,540 --> 00:14:07,780

you pull a gun out they're gonna have a

372

00:14:11,700 --> 00:14:09,550

reaction to that like get that thing

373

00:14:13,830 --> 00:14:11,710

away from me I know bad things happen

374

00:14:15,270 --> 00:14:13,840

when I'm involved with this kind of room

375

00:14:17,370 --> 00:14:15,280

and environment and you start bringing

376

00:14:19,800 --> 00:14:17,380

something out to touch me with it makes

377

00:14:21,870 --> 00:14:19,810

sense I mean intuitively as you said you

378

00:14:24,540 --> 00:14:21,880

can see how that kind of thing

379

00:14:25,920 --> 00:14:24,550

what happened and there's another moment

380

00:14:28,230 --> 00:14:25,930

in the film that I think is interesting

381

00:14:30,810 --> 00:14:28,240

where one of the pro circumcision guys

382

00:14:32,790 --> 00:14:30,820

says again downplaying it it's no big

383

00:14:35,070 --> 00:14:32,800

deal in fact sometimes babies sleep

384

00:14:36,180 --> 00:14:35,080

through the procedure and it's like you

385

00:14:38,010 --> 00:14:36,190

come back on the other side and say

386

00:14:40,170 --> 00:14:38,020

actually sometimes they go into shock

387

00:14:42,930 --> 00:14:40,180

from the procedure I wouldn't call it

388

00:14:45,000 --> 00:14:42,940

sleepy and I'd call it a protective

389

00:14:46,890 --> 00:14:45,010

haze to keep that you know pain

390

00:14:49,740 --> 00:14:46,900

threshold down or whatever it is but

391

00:14:52,320 --> 00:14:49,750

yeah I think that's just one of the

392

00:14:54,000 --> 00:14:52,330

issues surrounding the way people look

393

00:14:56,100 --> 00:14:54,010

at this thing and the language like you

394

00:14:58,590 --> 00:14:56,110

said the cultural Nick it's more than a

395

00:15:00,540 --> 00:14:58,600

nick and it's just interesting that

396

00:15:02,910 --> 00:15:00,550

someone who's such an advocate for that

397

00:15:05,520 --> 00:15:02,920

would be ignorant to the fact that no

398

00:15:08,340 --> 00:15:05,530

this is a reaction to pain this is going

399

00:15:11,300 --> 00:15:08,350

into shock yeah one of the things that I

400

00:15:14,010 --> 00:15:11,310

have found about this issue is that

401  
00:15:15,390 --> 00:15:14,020  
there seems to be a divide not just on

402  
00:15:17,130 --> 00:15:15,400  
people who are for and against

403  
00:15:20,280 --> 00:15:17,140  
circumcision but people who are willing

404  
00:15:22,620 --> 00:15:20,290  
to accept the emotions and feelings of

405  
00:15:24,540 --> 00:15:22,630  
others is valid and people who aren't

406  
00:15:27,480 --> 00:15:24,550  
and when you talk to a lot of pro

407  
00:15:30,000 --> 00:15:27,490  
circumcision advocates they feel like

408  
00:15:32,700 --> 00:15:30,010  
they have this data which indicates that

409  
00:15:35,220 --> 00:15:32,710  
circumcision is good and all of those

410  
00:15:37,020 --> 00:15:35,230  
human experiences and emotions and

411  
00:15:40,650 --> 00:15:37,030  
feelings can just be discounted because

412  
00:15:44,250 --> 00:15:40,660  
we don't know how to quantify them in an

413  
00:15:46,050 --> 00:15:44,260

academic paper and so when they talk

414

00:15:46,890 --> 00:15:46,060

about the pain that infants experience

415

00:15:48,780 --> 00:15:46,900

and things like that

416

00:15:50,670 --> 00:15:48,790

to anyone who's in the room when this

417

00:15:54,240 --> 00:15:50,680

procedures being done it's clear the

418

00:15:55,410 --> 00:15:54,250

child is in pain but among doctors and

419

00:15:57,700 --> 00:15:55,420

academics they say well we don't know

420

00:16:00,400 --> 00:15:57,710

how to quantify that so it must not

421

00:16:02,140 --> 00:16:00,410

list which is a huge leap I mean there's

422

00:16:05,560 --> 00:16:02,150

no studies to indicate that it doesn't

423

00:16:06,970 --> 00:16:05,570

exist and even among things like the

424

00:16:08,740 --> 00:16:06,980

study I mentioned where they show that

425

00:16:10,660 --> 00:16:08,750

there is post-traumatic stress disorder

426  
00:16:12,220 --> 00:16:10,670  
among some infants who've experienced

427  
00:16:14,110 --> 00:16:12,230  
this they'll say well that obviously

428  
00:16:16,270 --> 00:16:14,120  
just goes away when they're older and

429  
00:16:17,740 --> 00:16:16,280  
doesn't affect adults and it's like how

430  
00:16:20,500 --> 00:16:17,750  
do you know that there's no study to

431  
00:16:22,060 --> 00:16:20,510  
indicate that if anything the opposite

432  
00:16:23,590 --> 00:16:22,070  
would be true based on what we know

433  
00:16:25,240 --> 00:16:23,600  
about trauma and the way that affects

434  
00:16:28,750 --> 00:16:25,250  
people that if it isn't healed or dealt

435  
00:16:31,000 --> 00:16:28,760  
with it grows worse or its remains in

436  
00:16:33,910 --> 00:16:31,010  
the body so I think that there's another

437  
00:16:36,130 --> 00:16:33,920  
layer there and that layer again if you

438  
00:16:38,170 --> 00:16:36,140

understand the nature of trauma it makes

439

00:16:41,350 --> 00:16:38,180

sense that people would want to discount

440

00:16:43,510 --> 00:16:41,360

this or not admit it because that's a

441

00:16:45,310 --> 00:16:43,520

psychological defense against feeling

442

00:16:47,320 --> 00:16:45,320

those feelings because if they admit

443

00:16:48,850 --> 00:16:47,330

those feelings are valid in others they

444

00:16:52,060 --> 00:16:48,860

might have to admit they're valid in

445

00:16:55,090 --> 00:16:52,070

themselves and what does that mean deep

446

00:16:57,280 --> 00:16:55,100

man yes we are funny creatures but that

447

00:16:59,020 --> 00:16:57,290

pattern seems to exist in so many

448

00:17:01,540 --> 00:16:59,030

different issues and this is definitely

449

00:17:03,820 --> 00:17:01,550

one of them and one of the main things

450

00:17:06,820 --> 00:17:03,830

that I learned one of the first things I

451  
00:17:09,460 --> 00:17:06,830  
learned is about how the practice

452  
00:17:11,620 --> 00:17:09,470  
evolved or maybe we should say devolved

453  
00:17:14,410 --> 00:17:11,630  
over time because the amount of tissue

454  
00:17:16,960 --> 00:17:14,420  
that we removed today is a shockingly

455  
00:17:19,870 --> 00:17:16,970  
larger amount than was removed in the

456  
00:17:21,280 --> 00:17:19,880  
beginning right yeah I think one of the

457  
00:17:23,380 --> 00:17:21,290  
things that people think about this

458  
00:17:25,810 --> 00:17:23,390  
issue is they say well it's in the Bible

459  
00:17:27,550 --> 00:17:25,820  
so it must be okay because we sort of

460  
00:17:31,030 --> 00:17:27,560  
have a cultural bias that things in the

461  
00:17:33,310 --> 00:17:31,040  
Bible are probably okay and in reality

462  
00:17:36,280 --> 00:17:33,320  
the type of circumcision that was

463  
00:17:38,770 --> 00:17:36,290

practiced in ancient Israel in Old

464

00:17:41,680 --> 00:17:38,780

Testament you know Torah biblical times

465

00:17:44,350 --> 00:17:41,690

is different than the practice that we

466

00:17:46,330 --> 00:17:44,360

do in modern America so it used to be

467

00:17:47,950 --> 00:17:46,340

that they would only remove the very tip

468

00:17:50,560 --> 00:17:47,960

of the foreskin what's known as the

469

00:17:53,710 --> 00:17:50,570

ridge band the part that comes and hangs

470

00:17:55,450 --> 00:17:53,720

over the glans of the penis and they did

471

00:17:56,830 --> 00:17:55,460

that because it was fused to the head of

472

00:17:58,720 --> 00:17:56,840

the glans so the same way that your

473

00:18:01,390 --> 00:17:58,730

fingernail is fused to your finger when

474

00:18:03,010 --> 00:18:01,400

a child is born the foreskin is fused to

475

00:18:04,320 --> 00:18:03,020

the head of their glands and it makes

476

00:18:07,720 --> 00:18:04,330

sense from a biological perspective

477

00:18:09,820 --> 00:18:07,730

because a newborn infant doesn't need to

478

00:18:11,630 --> 00:18:09,830

use their penis in the way that an adult

479

00:18:14,539 --> 00:18:11,640

sexual being

480

00:18:17,750 --> 00:18:14,549

and usually in adolescence or when that

481

00:18:19,310 --> 00:18:17,760

child is older that barrier loosens and

482

00:18:21,020 --> 00:18:19,320

the foreskin is able to glide up and

483

00:18:22,910 --> 00:18:21,030

down the penis but when the practice

484

00:18:27,740 --> 00:18:22,920

first began it was just the ridge band

485

00:18:29,660 --> 00:18:27,750

and in the Hellenistic period and

486

00:18:32,630 --> 00:18:29,670

thousands of year hundreds of years

487

00:18:35,710 --> 00:18:32,640

later I should say there was a change in

488

00:18:38,630 --> 00:18:35,720

the practice and the change came because

489

00:18:41,240 --> 00:18:38,640

Jewish men wanted to participate in

490

00:18:43,039 --> 00:18:41,250

Roman athletic events and Roman athletic

491

00:18:45,560 --> 00:18:43,049

events were typically done in the nude

492

00:18:48,380 --> 00:18:45,570

and having the glans of your penis

493

00:18:50,030 --> 00:18:48,390

exposed was considered lewd you know if

494

00:18:51,680 --> 00:18:50,040

you think about it when the penis is

495

00:18:54,140 --> 00:18:51,690

flaccid when it's not erect

496

00:18:57,020 --> 00:18:54,150

that skin is going to cover the head of

497

00:18:58,789 --> 00:18:57,030

the penis and so having an exposed would

498

00:19:00,350 --> 00:18:58,799

be seen as lewd and sexual because that

499

00:19:02,630 --> 00:19:00,360

would only happen if someone was getting

500

00:19:04,280 --> 00:19:02,640

an erection and so these Jewish men

501  
00:19:05,870 --> 00:19:04,290  
would clip their foreskin forward they

502  
00:19:08,120 --> 00:19:05,880  
were essentially tie it over the head of

503  
00:19:09,590 --> 00:19:08,130  
the penis so that they looked like

504  
00:19:10,970 --> 00:19:09,600  
Romans because they didn't want to look

505  
00:19:12,860 --> 00:19:10,980  
different and they didn't want to be

506  
00:19:16,970 --> 00:19:12,870  
singled out as weird or having had this

507  
00:19:19,130 --> 00:19:16,980  
strange surgery and the Jewish priests

508  
00:19:20,870 --> 00:19:19,140  
the rabbi didn't like that because this

509  
00:19:23,480 --> 00:19:20,880  
was supposed to make them look different

510  
00:19:26,419 --> 00:19:23,490  
and so they were trying to pass as

511  
00:19:29,570 --> 00:19:26,429  
Romans rather than identify as Jews so

512  
00:19:32,210 --> 00:19:29,580  
they changed the practice to remove not

513  
00:19:34,400 --> 00:19:32,220

just the very tip of the foreskin but

514

00:19:36,530 --> 00:19:34,410

the entire foreskin and would break it

515

00:19:39,049 --> 00:19:36,540

away and pull it forward and do what we

516

00:19:40,760 --> 00:19:39,059

now think of as circumcision and that's

517

00:19:43,400 --> 00:19:40,770

a lot more tissue and it's a lot more

518

00:19:45,409 --> 00:19:43,410

radical a procedure so anything when

519

00:19:47,960 --> 00:19:45,419

people talk about you know for example

520

00:19:50,120 --> 00:19:47,970

biblical circumcision they don't realize

521

00:19:51,770 --> 00:19:50,130

that what they're practicing is not what

522

00:19:53,930 --> 00:19:51,780

happened in ancient Israel it's

523

00:19:58,909 --> 00:19:53,940

something much more radical and it was

524

00:20:02,210 --> 00:19:58,919

done specifically to prevent Jewish men

525

00:20:04,039 --> 00:20:02,220

from passing as Gentiles yeah I thought

526

00:20:06,560 --> 00:20:04,049

that little bit of history with the

527

00:20:10,130 --> 00:20:06,570

Roman games was really fascinating and

528

00:20:13,549 --> 00:20:10,140

it's weird how little microcosms like

529

00:20:15,440 --> 00:20:13,559

that can explode into this tradition

530

00:20:17,990 --> 00:20:15,450

that most people in America have

531

00:20:20,180 --> 00:20:18,000

experienced and just makes no sense and

532

00:20:23,270 --> 00:20:20,190

has no relation to anything in their

533

00:20:25,130 --> 00:20:23,280

life and the religious aspect is also

534

00:20:28,910 --> 00:20:25,140

interesting because I grew up in a

535

00:20:30,740 --> 00:20:28,920

Catholic school where everyone I knew

536

00:20:33,170 --> 00:20:30,750

was circumcised except the one kid who

537

00:20:35,150 --> 00:20:33,180

was adopted from overseas and that's how

538

00:20:37,190 --> 00:20:35,160

I learned there even was a difference

539

00:20:39,800 --> 00:20:37,200

when I was a kid because we just had one

540

00:20:42,230 --> 00:20:39,810

example and you know he felt like the

541

00:20:45,170 --> 00:20:42,240

odd man out little did he know that we

542

00:20:46,610 --> 00:20:45,180

were all traumatized and damaged in a

543

00:20:49,190 --> 00:20:46,620

sense I mean I don't want to be overly

544

00:20:50,540 --> 00:20:49,200

dramatic but when you watch the film you

545

00:20:51,350 --> 00:20:50,550

can't help but have those kind of

546

00:20:54,050 --> 00:20:51,360

feelings about it

547

00:20:55,880 --> 00:20:54,060

and oddly it's not a Christian or

548

00:20:57,830 --> 00:20:55,890

Catholic tradition and I guess the Bible

549

00:21:00,080 --> 00:20:57,840

says that you know once you have the

550

00:21:02,660 --> 00:21:00,090

Jesus sacrifice that you no longer have

551  
00:21:04,760 --> 00:21:02,670  
to make these kind of blood sacrifices

552  
00:21:06,170 --> 00:21:04,770  
or alterations and that's a curious

553  
00:21:07,430 --> 00:21:06,180  
thing because I guess it gets back to

554  
00:21:09,920 --> 00:21:07,440  
the point that it's more of an American

555  
00:21:12,740 --> 00:21:09,930  
tradition than it is a religious one and

556  
00:21:15,350 --> 00:21:12,750  
we're the only Western civilized country

557  
00:21:17,570 --> 00:21:15,360  
in the world that has this non religious

558  
00:21:19,990 --> 00:21:17,580  
circumcision tradition which is I guess

559  
00:21:24,110 --> 00:21:20,000  
why the film is called American

560  
00:21:26,300 --> 00:21:24,120  
circumcision exactly and I think a lot

561  
00:21:28,640 --> 00:21:26,310  
of people in America think of it as a

562  
00:21:31,430 --> 00:21:28,650  
Christian thing when in reality the New

563  
00:21:32,960 --> 00:21:31,440

Testament says that circumcision is a

564

00:21:36,080 --> 00:21:32,970

mutilation and you're not supposed to

565

00:21:37,400 --> 00:21:36,090

perform it that essentially circumcision

566

00:21:40,100 --> 00:21:37,410

in the Jewish tradition is a blood

567

00:21:41,780 --> 00:21:40,110

sacrifice and in Christianity the idea

568

00:21:43,700 --> 00:21:41,790

is that Christ was the last blood

569

00:21:46,460 --> 00:21:43,710

sacrifice you know he died for everyone

570

00:21:50,180 --> 00:21:46,470

sins and so if you're performing blood

571

00:21:52,790 --> 00:21:50,190

sacrifices for some sort of reason in

572

00:21:54,290 --> 00:21:52,800

the Christian tradition then you're sort

573

00:21:56,300 --> 00:21:54,300

of denying your faith in Christ you're

574

00:21:58,600 --> 00:21:56,310

saying well his sacrifice wasn't enough

575

00:22:01,630 --> 00:21:58,610

so we need to do this other stuff

576

00:22:02,890 --> 00:22:01,640

and America is unique in this practice

577

00:22:05,620 --> 00:22:02,900

that is part of the reason the film has

578

00:22:09,039 --> 00:22:05,630

the title that it does most of the world

579

00:22:10,960 --> 00:22:09,049

does not practice this it's practiced in

580

00:22:12,760 --> 00:22:10,970

Jewish nations and Jewish culture and

581

00:22:14,590 --> 00:22:12,770

it's practiced in Muslim nations and

582

00:22:17,980 --> 00:22:14,600

Muslim culture and some tribal parts of

583

00:22:19,750 --> 00:22:17,990

Africa but it's really small I mean

584

00:22:21,760 --> 00:22:19,760

there's like a tiny percentage around

585

00:22:24,460 --> 00:22:21,770

the world for you know obvious reasons

586

00:22:25,990 --> 00:22:24,470

the fact that there's a lot of people

587

00:22:28,120 --> 00:22:26,000

from different cultures living across

588

00:22:31,299 --> 00:22:28,130

the world but really it's a uniquely

589

00:22:34,900 --> 00:22:31,309

American practice to have routine infant

590

00:22:36,700 --> 00:22:34,910

circumcision and I think a lot of

591

00:22:38,590 --> 00:22:36,710

Americans assume that this is something

592

00:22:39,970 --> 00:22:38,600

normal that everyone does it you know

593

00:22:42,010 --> 00:22:39,980

I've seen threads where there's some

594

00:22:44,020 --> 00:22:42,020

boomer in the thread essentially saying

595

00:22:47,250 --> 00:22:44,030

well I had the placenta cut and that's

596

00:22:49,330 --> 00:22:47,260

obviously the same thing and it's not

597

00:22:50,830 --> 00:22:49,340

they just sort of have this idea it's

598

00:22:53,409 --> 00:22:50,840

just a standard routine thing that

599

00:22:55,330 --> 00:22:53,419

everyone does when in fact Americans are

600

00:22:57,430 --> 00:22:55,340

in the minority here and actually even

601  
00:23:00,940 --> 00:22:57,440  
in America the rate of circumcision is

602  
00:23:02,680 --> 00:23:00,950  
dropping so a child born today when

603  
00:23:06,100 --> 00:23:02,690  
they're an adult will probably be in the

604  
00:23:07,840 --> 00:23:06,110  
minority if they're circumcised hmm it's

605  
00:23:09,909 --> 00:23:07,850  
all just so interesting and getting back

606  
00:23:11,830 --> 00:23:09,919  
to the procedure itself in the tissue

607  
00:23:13,720 --> 00:23:11,840  
that's removed I thought this was really

608  
00:23:15,850 --> 00:23:13,730  
important and one of the film's subjects

609  
00:23:18,760 --> 00:23:15,860  
Glenn Callender the founder of the

610  
00:23:20,500 --> 00:23:18,770  
Canadian foreskin awareness project he

611  
00:23:21,970 --> 00:23:20,510  
says something that really stuck out to

612  
00:23:23,980 --> 00:23:21,980  
me where he mentions the feminist

613  
00:23:25,510 --> 00:23:23,990

movement and how one of the major points

614

00:23:27,340 --> 00:23:25,520

was that women were not getting enough

615

00:23:28,870 --> 00:23:27,350

sexual pleasure because the culture was

616

00:23:30,730 --> 00:23:28,880

so repressed that they didn't have

617

00:23:32,440 --> 00:23:30,740

enough knowledge of their own bodies of

618

00:23:34,840 --> 00:23:32,450

the clitoris the g-spot and all this

619

00:23:37,240 --> 00:23:34,850

sort of stuff but the real irony is that

620

00:23:39,010 --> 00:23:37,250

men are actually further back than women

621

00:23:41,110 --> 00:23:39,020

are because we are so ignorant about

622

00:23:43,870 --> 00:23:41,120

what's actually cut off and how we're

623

00:23:45,340 --> 00:23:43,880

affected and it's a big deal can you

624

00:23:48,010 --> 00:23:45,350

talk to us a little bit about this

625

00:23:50,529 --> 00:23:48,020

aspect and the actual tissue that's

626

00:23:52,749 --> 00:23:50,539

removed and some of the other parts

627

00:23:55,060 --> 00:23:52,759

right if you look at female sexuality

628

00:23:57,879 --> 00:23:55,070

and the way that we understand female

629

00:24:00,339 --> 00:23:57,889

sexuality now it's known that women have

630

00:24:02,680 --> 00:24:00,349

different parts that get different types

631

00:24:04,749 --> 00:24:02,690

of orgasm so for example the orgasm that

632

00:24:06,369 --> 00:24:04,759

comes from the clitoris is different

633

00:24:09,639 --> 00:24:06,379

than the orgasm that comes from the

634

00:24:11,469 --> 00:24:09,649

g-spot and there is a cultural

635

00:24:12,849 --> 00:24:11,479

conversation or at least a conversation

636

00:24:15,489 --> 00:24:12,859

among people who are talking about

637

00:24:17,259 --> 00:24:15,499

sexuality openly that those are

638

00:24:19,299 --> 00:24:17,269

different and there are different types

639

00:24:20,499 --> 00:24:19,309

of pleasure whereas when we look at the

640

00:24:23,829 --> 00:24:20,509

way that we understand male pleasure

641

00:24:26,169 --> 00:24:23,839

it's this very simplistic you know the

642

00:24:28,089 --> 00:24:26,179

penis goes in and it feels good on that

643

00:24:31,029 --> 00:24:28,099

part of the body and we don't talk about

644

00:24:33,159 --> 00:24:31,039

different types of male pleasure or that

645

00:24:35,259 --> 00:24:33,169

the different parts of men's genitals

646

00:24:36,879 --> 00:24:35,269

might have different sensations we just

647

00:24:40,479 --> 00:24:36,889

sort of see the penis all as one

648

00:24:42,099 --> 00:24:40,489

structure largely because the additional

649

00:24:46,089 --> 00:24:42,109

parts of that part of the body have been

650

00:24:48,609 --> 00:24:46,099

removed in American culture so if you

651  
00:24:51,399 --> 00:24:48,619  
actually look at the full intact male

652  
00:24:53,169 --> 00:24:51,409  
genitals there are multiple types of

653  
00:24:55,299 --> 00:24:53,179  
sensation you can get from different

654  
00:24:57,430 --> 00:24:55,309  
parts of it there is the ridge band

655  
00:24:59,680 --> 00:24:57,440  
which is the very tip of the foreskin

656  
00:25:02,979 --> 00:24:59,690  
that acts almost has a drawstring that

657  
00:25:06,069 --> 00:25:02,989  
holds the foreskin over top the edge of

658  
00:25:07,089 --> 00:25:06,079  
the glans and if you look at the nerve

659  
00:25:08,859 --> 00:25:07,099  
endings there there's some of the most

660  
00:25:10,209 --> 00:25:08,869  
concentrated in the male body there's a

661  
00:25:12,279 --> 00:25:10,219  
high concentration of what are known as

662  
00:25:14,680 --> 00:25:12,289  
meissner's corpuscles which are the kind

663  
00:25:16,689 --> 00:25:14,690

of sensory touch nerves that are in your

664

00:25:18,729 --> 00:25:16,699

hand they're also the kind that you have

665

00:25:20,589 --> 00:25:18,739

around your lips and all the openings of

666

00:25:22,239 --> 00:25:20,599

the body and if you think about it it

667

00:25:24,519 --> 00:25:22,249

would make sense from a biological

668

00:25:26,379 --> 00:25:24,529

perspective that we would have a lot of

669

00:25:28,299 --> 00:25:26,389

nerve endings around the openings of the

670

00:25:30,369 --> 00:25:28,309

body because if something is being put

671

00:25:32,259 --> 00:25:30,379

inside you you know you'd want to know

672

00:25:34,930 --> 00:25:32,269

about it right so there's a lot of

673

00:25:36,549 --> 00:25:34,940

sensation there in the ridge band of the

674

00:25:38,349 --> 00:25:36,559

foreskin there's a lot of sensation in

675

00:25:40,779 --> 00:25:38,359

the frenulum which is that part on the

676

00:25:42,519 --> 00:25:40,789

underside of the penis that holds the

677

00:25:44,829 --> 00:25:42,529

unit of a friend ulam in your lip it

678

00:25:47,349 --> 00:25:44,839

holds your lip in place and your tongue

679

00:25:49,359 --> 00:25:47,359

down and again there's a lot of

680

00:25:51,249 --> 00:25:49,369

sensation there and depending on how

681

00:25:53,259 --> 00:25:51,259

someone was circumcised they may have

682

00:25:54,999 --> 00:25:53,269

more of that sensation left than others

683

00:25:56,979 --> 00:25:55,009

again it's not like there's a dotted

684

00:25:59,440 --> 00:25:56,989

line on men that says like cut here

685

00:26:01,899 --> 00:25:59,450

right so this procedure is done very

686

00:26:03,940 --> 00:26:01,909

unevenly person to person and there are

687

00:26:05,440 --> 00:26:03,950

some people that got to keep more

688

00:26:07,330 --> 00:26:05,450

the sensation that they were born with

689

00:26:08,799 --> 00:26:07,340

and there are others who had more remove

690

00:26:12,009 --> 00:26:08,809

so some men may still have their friend

691

00:26:13,690 --> 00:26:12,019

ulam and if they were to run an

692

00:26:14,769 --> 00:26:13,700

experiment on themselves to see what

693

00:26:17,379 --> 00:26:14,779

they could feel with that part of the

694

00:26:18,580 --> 00:26:17,389

body they would feel a lot more there

695

00:26:20,680 --> 00:26:18,590

than they might feel in the head of the

696

00:26:22,659 --> 00:26:20,690

penis the head of the penis is actually

697

00:26:25,090 --> 00:26:22,669

one of the least sensory parts of the

698

00:26:27,669 --> 00:26:25,100

man if you look at the number of nerve

699

00:26:30,190 --> 00:26:27,679

endings it's actually more so the inner

700

00:26:32,409 --> 00:26:30,200

lining of the foreskin that has more and

701  
00:26:34,980 --> 00:26:32,419  
again you know if you are circumcised

702  
00:26:37,509 --> 00:26:34,990  
there'll be a scar line and there's

703  
00:26:40,269 --> 00:26:37,519  
tissue below that scar line that's a

704  
00:26:42,639 --> 00:26:40,279  
maybe a little darker and a little

705  
00:26:44,710 --> 00:26:42,649  
rougher and tissue above it that's a

706  
00:26:46,269 --> 00:26:44,720  
little lighter and if you were to just

707  
00:26:48,549 --> 00:26:46,279  
run your finger over that there would

708  
00:26:50,500 --> 00:26:48,559  
probably be more sensation on the

709  
00:26:52,090 --> 00:26:50,510  
remaining inner lining of the foreskin

710  
00:26:54,279 --> 00:26:52,100  
the area above that scar line then there

711  
00:26:56,049 --> 00:26:54,289  
would be below and I know that this is

712  
00:26:58,480 --> 00:26:56,059  
may seem a bit graphic to some people

713  
00:27:02,470 --> 00:26:58,490

this is like a very in-depth discussion

714

00:27:05,440 --> 00:27:02,480

of sexuality and probably more than most

715

00:27:08,409 --> 00:27:05,450

men or really anyone has had a guy about

716

00:27:09,850 --> 00:27:08,419

male sexuality before but I think it's

717

00:27:11,769 --> 00:27:09,860

important to have that conversation

718

00:27:14,830 --> 00:27:11,779

because we've had that conversation

719

00:27:17,289 --> 00:27:14,840

around women and think about where women

720

00:27:20,080 --> 00:27:17,299

would be and how much pleasure they get

721

00:27:21,159 --> 00:27:20,090

out of their sexuality if we lived in a

722

00:27:24,009 --> 00:27:21,169

time when we didn't even acknowledge

723

00:27:25,450 --> 00:27:24,019

that women had orgasms which is there

724

00:27:27,850 --> 00:27:25,460

have been periods of history when that

725

00:27:30,549 --> 00:27:27,860

was the case right so we haven't had

726  
00:27:31,690 --> 00:27:30,559  
that conversation yet about men and if

727  
00:27:33,879 --> 00:27:31,700  
we're willing to have that conversation

728  
00:27:36,159 --> 00:27:33,889  
if we're willing to acknowledge these

729  
00:27:38,350 --> 00:27:36,169  
aspects of our biology and our sexuality

730  
00:27:40,360 --> 00:27:38,360  
then we could start to experience those

731  
00:27:42,370 --> 00:27:40,370  
types of pleasure and even if you are

732  
00:27:44,710 --> 00:27:42,380  
circumcised even if you don't have all

733  
00:27:49,070 --> 00:27:44,720  
of those parts you'll be more aware of

734  
00:27:51,410 --> 00:27:49,080  
the pleasure you can get so instead of

735  
00:27:53,180 --> 00:27:51,420  
just having a generalized feeling that

736  
00:27:55,340 --> 00:27:53,190  
this is like okay well when I have sex

737  
00:27:57,080 --> 00:27:55,350  
it feels good you'll be aware of the

738  
00:27:59,360 --> 00:27:57,090

places in your body it feels good and

739

00:28:02,420 --> 00:27:59,370

able to get more pleasure from them

740

00:28:05,390 --> 00:28:02,430

mm-hmm yes I definitely think it is

741

00:28:07,190 --> 00:28:05,400

important yet uncomfortable but through

742

00:28:09,760 --> 00:28:07,200

that lens of looking at women's

743

00:28:13,400 --> 00:28:09,770

sexuality I mean any guy who has

744

00:28:16,340 --> 00:28:13,410

investigated a lot of that stuff in the

745

00:28:18,830 --> 00:28:16,350

interest of pleasing women I think it

746

00:28:22,100 --> 00:28:18,840

creates a good template to think about

747

00:28:23,870 --> 00:28:22,110

the possibilities of the male orgasm and

748

00:28:26,420 --> 00:28:23,880

stuff this guy Glenn calendar

749

00:28:28,220 --> 00:28:26,430

he calls himself a professional foreskin

750

00:28:30,710 --> 00:28:28,230

demonstrator and apparently he does

751

00:28:32,990 --> 00:28:30,720

these demonstrations well he'll even

752

00:28:34,310 --> 00:28:33,000

show videos of the different orgasms I

753

00:28:35,840 --> 00:28:34,320

mean because how else do you do it you

754

00:28:38,270 --> 00:28:35,850

know it might be embarrassing for him

755

00:28:40,490 --> 00:28:38,280

but he's trying to do something positive

756

00:28:42,380 --> 00:28:40,500

and so you got to show this stuff he

757

00:28:44,420 --> 00:28:42,390

shows videos of him having five

758

00:28:46,820 --> 00:28:44,430

different orgasms in two minutes all

759

00:28:50,060 --> 00:28:46,830

kinds of things that I think a lot of

760

00:28:51,680 --> 00:28:50,070

guys would find to be strange even guys

761

00:28:53,870 --> 00:28:51,690

who've had a lot of sex and that's

762

00:28:56,450 --> 00:28:53,880

what's really interesting to me is you

763

00:28:59,000 --> 00:28:56,460

can have sex hundreds of times without

764

00:29:01,460 --> 00:28:59,010

ever really thinking about this kind of

765

00:29:04,070 --> 00:29:01,470

stuff and it's just a weird way that the

766

00:29:06,980 --> 00:29:04,080

brain works yeah well if you think about

767

00:29:09,920 --> 00:29:06,990

how people's misconceptions about sex

768

00:29:11,210 --> 00:29:09,930

get challenged or changed I mean when

769

00:29:13,400 --> 00:29:11,220

you were a kid you probably had all

770

00:29:16,850 --> 00:29:13,410

sorts of misconceptions about sex right

771

00:29:18,920 --> 00:29:16,860

mm-hm and the way that you change your

772

00:29:21,560 --> 00:29:18,930

perspective on those is usually either

773

00:29:25,250 --> 00:29:21,570

you learn through first-hand experience

774

00:29:27,020 --> 00:29:25,260

or someone tells you and when it comes

775

00:29:30,590 --> 00:29:27,030

to the issue of circumcision and the

776

00:29:32,540 --> 00:29:30,600

foreskin most people don't have

777

00:29:34,400 --> 00:29:32,550

experience with that part of the body

778

00:29:36,710 --> 00:29:34,410

especially if they're men especially if

779

00:29:39,560 --> 00:29:36,720

they're straight men they only know the

780

00:29:40,940 --> 00:29:39,570

body that they have and the wider

781

00:29:42,890 --> 00:29:40,950

culture doesn't clear up those

782

00:29:44,150 --> 00:29:42,900

misconceptions in fact it reinforces

783

00:29:46,550 --> 00:29:44,160

misconceptions and creates new

784

00:29:49,670 --> 00:29:46,560

misconceptions so there's no point at

785

00:29:51,500 --> 00:29:49,680

which those childlike misconceptions

786

00:29:53,810 --> 00:29:51,510

about the body would ever be challenged

787

00:29:55,850 --> 00:29:53,820

and so that's part of the reason you

788

00:29:57,950 --> 00:29:55,860

have to have a very direct conversation

789

00:29:59,210 --> 00:29:57,960

about things on this issue because the

790

00:30:01,580 --> 00:29:59,220

wider culture isn't having that

791

00:30:03,590 --> 00:30:01,590

conversation mm-hmm and you know we

792

00:30:06,530 --> 00:30:03,600

consider female circum

793

00:30:08,210 --> 00:30:06,540

so repulsive and barbaric like how could

794

00:30:11,450 --> 00:30:08,220

you remove the clitoris but the frenulum

795

00:30:13,130 --> 00:30:11,460

this area is similar to what could

796

00:30:15,860 --> 00:30:13,140

equate to a male clitoris and we're

797

00:30:17,990 --> 00:30:15,870

removing all of it or most of it or some

798

00:30:20,090 --> 00:30:18,000

of it like you said there's no standard

799

00:30:21,950 --> 00:30:20,100

which is scary enough but these

800

00:30:24,890 --> 00:30:21,960

sensitivity studies you talk about in

801  
00:30:26,990 --> 00:30:24,900  
the film prove that the most sensitive

802  
00:30:29,690 --> 00:30:27,000  
part was the foreskin and in circumcised

803  
00:30:31,760 --> 00:30:29,700  
men it's the ring from the scar and

804  
00:30:36,200 --> 00:30:31,770  
that's interesting in itself but they

805  
00:30:39,530 --> 00:30:36,210  
say they could equate for its 75% loss

806  
00:30:41,960 --> 00:30:39,540  
of fine touch sensation eighty thousand

807  
00:30:46,390 --> 00:30:41,970  
to a hundred thousand of those Meissner

808  
00:30:49,090 --> 00:30:46,400  
corpuscles removed that's insane man

809  
00:30:51,360 --> 00:30:49,100  
it's a lot and I think too in Western

810  
00:30:53,980 --> 00:30:51,370  
culture there is this narrative that

811  
00:30:56,920 --> 00:30:53,990  
female circumcision is this horrible

812  
00:30:58,870 --> 00:30:56,930  
thing designed to destroy women's

813  
00:31:01,030 --> 00:30:58,880

sexuality and that circumcised women

814

00:31:04,140 --> 00:31:01,040

basically can't even enjoy their bodies

815

00:31:07,000 --> 00:31:04,150

at all whereas male circumcision is this

816

00:31:09,160 --> 00:31:07,010

medical procedure which somehow improves

817

00:31:11,440 --> 00:31:09,170

and makes men healthier and there's a

818

00:31:13,390 --> 00:31:11,450

lot of sexism in that narrative there's

819

00:31:16,420 --> 00:31:13,400

an idea in there that men and male

820

00:31:18,640 --> 00:31:16,430

sexuality is somehow born wrong in need

821

00:31:21,430 --> 00:31:18,650

of fixing and there's this idea that

822

00:31:23,260 --> 00:31:21,440

female bodies are somehow more to be

823

00:31:25,360 --> 00:31:23,270

protected and more special than male

824

00:31:28,270 --> 00:31:25,370

bodies and there's also an idea in there

825

00:31:31,180 --> 00:31:28,280

that American cultural practices are

826

00:31:33,220 --> 00:31:31,190

universally good and okay and foreign

827

00:31:36,160 --> 00:31:33,230

practices the practices of brown people

828

00:31:40,180 --> 00:31:36,170

and African people are somehow really

829

00:31:42,310 --> 00:31:40,190

bad and awful and barbaric and when you

830

00:31:44,919 --> 00:31:42,320

actually look at the two procedures they

831

00:31:46,630 --> 00:31:44,929

are more similar than different because

832

00:31:49,030 --> 00:31:46,640

there is no culture that practices

833

00:31:51,640 --> 00:31:49,040

female circumcision that doesn't also

834

00:31:52,870 --> 00:31:51,650

practice male circumcision there are

835

00:31:54,490 --> 00:31:52,880

cultures that just practice male

836

00:31:57,030 --> 00:31:54,500

circumcision but there's no culture that

837

00:31:59,440 --> 00:31:57,040

just practices female circumcision and

838

00:32:00,820 --> 00:31:59,450

the circumcised women especially those

839

00:32:04,090 --> 00:32:00,830

I've interviewed in the film who I've

840

00:32:06,640 --> 00:32:04,100

talked to almost always say that male

841

00:32:08,799 --> 00:32:06,650

circumcision is also wrong and they see

842

00:32:12,190 --> 00:32:08,809

the two practices as comparable and

843

00:32:13,660 --> 00:32:12,200

similar and it's really only privileged

844

00:32:15,220 --> 00:32:13,670

white people and people from Western

845

00:32:16,990 --> 00:32:15,230

nations who somehow make a distinction

846

00:32:19,360 --> 00:32:17,000

between the two because they want to see

847

00:32:21,760 --> 00:32:19,370

their version of genital cutting as good

848

00:32:23,710 --> 00:32:21,770

and beneficial and don't necessarily

849

00:32:28,810 --> 00:32:23,720

want to look at the similarities between

850

00:32:31,450 --> 00:32:28,820

those practices and let's do talk about

851

00:32:33,490 --> 00:32:31,460

some of the pro arguments or the common

852

00:32:35,380 --> 00:32:33,500

misconceptions the things that people

853

00:32:37,900 --> 00:32:35,390

who are listening now might get faced

854

00:32:39,400 --> 00:32:37,910

with if they start trying to become

855

00:32:41,560 --> 00:32:39,410

advocates for this kind of stuff what

856

00:32:44,049 --> 00:32:41,570

are the typical talking points and how

857

00:32:46,540 --> 00:32:44,059

accurate are they so part of the

858

00:32:48,940 --> 00:32:46,550

challenge with pro circumcision talking

859

00:32:52,090 --> 00:32:48,950

points is that they fit in a headline

860

00:32:53,799 --> 00:32:52,100

and don't make a lot of sense when you

861

00:32:57,130 --> 00:32:53,809

start deconstructing them so when you

862

00:33:00,090 --> 00:32:57,140

say well it's cleaner okay cleaner how

863

00:33:04,310 --> 00:33:00,100

do you mean less sure

864

00:33:06,440 --> 00:33:04,320

like do you have a study to back that up

865

00:33:08,539 --> 00:33:06,450

does soap and water not cure whatever

866

00:33:10,249 --> 00:33:08,549

cleanliness problems you think this part

867

00:33:12,110 --> 00:33:10,259

of the body might have is there

868

00:33:13,970 --> 00:33:12,120

something inherently dirty about the

869

00:33:16,370 --> 00:33:13,980

genitals and sexuality that somehow

870

00:33:19,220 --> 00:33:16,380

different than say you know the inside

871

00:33:20,509 --> 00:33:19,230

of your ear or your mouth it doesn't

872

00:33:23,180 --> 00:33:20,519

make a lot of sense when you start

873

00:33:24,950 --> 00:33:23,190

breaking it down and part of the reason

874

00:33:26,389 --> 00:33:24,960

these sort of cultural memes don't make

875

00:33:30,049 --> 00:33:26,399

a lot of sense is when you trace them

876

00:33:31,879 --> 00:33:30,059

back their origin is different than the

877

00:33:33,289 --> 00:33:31,889

way that they're used now so when you

878

00:33:36,139 --> 00:33:33,299

hear the meme that well it's cleaner

879

00:33:40,430 --> 00:33:36,149

somehow that actually goes all the way

880

00:33:43,940 --> 00:33:40,440

back to an era when we thought sexuality

881

00:33:45,889 --> 00:33:43,950

was dirty in some way and when that

882

00:33:49,930 --> 00:33:45,899

cultural meme began it wasn't just that

883

00:33:52,549 --> 00:33:49,940

circumcision somehow made the genitals

884

00:33:54,110 --> 00:33:52,559

physically cleaner but also morally

885

00:33:57,200 --> 00:33:54,120

cleaner that there was something dirty

886

00:33:59,149 --> 00:33:57,210

about sexual pleasure that needed to be

887

00:34:00,740 --> 00:33:59,159

fixed and that we're moving the most

888

00:34:04,310 --> 00:34:00,750

sensitive part of the body could fix

889

00:34:06,049 --> 00:34:04,320

this so that people would not engage and

890

00:34:07,399 --> 00:34:06,059

you know abhorrent sexuality more and

891

00:34:09,980 --> 00:34:07,409

literally it was actually even promoted

892

00:34:11,569 --> 00:34:09,990

as a cure for masturbation that was one

893

00:34:13,280 --> 00:34:11,579

of the reasons that circumcision began

894

00:34:17,540 --> 00:34:13,290

in America and the Victorian era as a

895

00:34:19,250 --> 00:34:17,550

cure for masturbation so when someone

896

00:34:21,319 --> 00:34:19,260

says in modern times will it's cleaner

897

00:34:24,470 --> 00:34:21,329

they're obviously not coming from the

898

00:34:27,349 --> 00:34:24,480

same frame of mine as a Victorian trying

899

00:34:30,319 --> 00:34:27,359

to stop masturbation yet that cultural

900

00:34:32,540 --> 00:34:30,329

meme has gone through the culture so

901  
00:34:35,480 --> 00:34:32,550  
much that it's just repeated sort of

902  
00:34:38,960 --> 00:34:35,490  
that thought and when you go into a lot

903  
00:34:40,460 --> 00:34:38,970  
of pro circumcision talking points they

904  
00:34:42,740 --> 00:34:40,470  
sort of fall apart under similar

905  
00:34:45,169 --> 00:34:42,750  
scrutiny you know there's this idea sons

906  
00:34:47,240 --> 00:34:45,179  
need to match their fathers will do you

907  
00:34:48,800 --> 00:34:47,250  
remember comparing penises with your

908  
00:34:50,680 --> 00:34:48,810  
father as a child is this something that

909  
00:34:54,260 --> 00:34:50,690  
like people do like that's absurd

910  
00:34:57,200 --> 00:34:54,270  
there's no young man who feels a deep

911  
00:35:01,430 --> 00:34:57,210  
need for him to match his father in that

912  
00:35:03,920 --> 00:35:01,440  
way and I think that that statement that

913  
00:35:05,780 --> 00:35:03,930

justification really comes from the

914

00:35:08,210 --> 00:35:05,790

insecurities of fathers who want their

915

00:35:10,160 --> 00:35:08,220

sons to look like them

916

00:35:11,599 --> 00:35:10,170

proce circumcision groups will sometimes

917

00:35:12,980 --> 00:35:11,609

to make medical arguments about

918

00:35:15,560 --> 00:35:12,990

circumcision they will say that it

919

00:35:18,849 --> 00:35:15,570

reduces sexually transmitted diseases

920

00:35:20,979 --> 00:35:18,859

that it reduces the spread of HIV

921

00:35:24,099 --> 00:35:20,989

which again these are diseases that

922

00:35:26,259 --> 00:35:24,109

adults get sexual adults not necessarily

923

00:35:27,999 --> 00:35:26,269

infants and when you go into the

924

00:35:32,009 --> 00:35:28,009

research of those when you actually

925

00:35:36,370 --> 00:35:32,019

break down the data there's a lot of

926

00:35:39,039 --> 00:35:36,380

inconsistencies and it doesn't look like

927

00:35:40,809 --> 00:35:39,049

good science but again in order to do

928

00:35:43,089 --> 00:35:40,819

that you have to go really deep into the

929

00:35:44,920 --> 00:35:43,099

data and most people read the headline

930

00:35:46,390 --> 00:35:44,930

they don't even read the abstract at

931

00:35:48,849 --> 00:35:46,400

these scientific studies they read the

932

00:35:50,469 --> 00:35:48,859

headline in the popular science and news

933

00:35:51,699 --> 00:35:50,479

and they think well I'm circumcised and

934

00:35:54,099 --> 00:35:51,709

I don't want to get those things so that

935

00:35:57,120 --> 00:35:54,109

must be good but when you get into the

936

00:35:59,829 --> 00:35:57,130

data on them it's really suspicious

937

00:36:01,479 --> 00:35:59,839

right I thought that was interesting too

938

00:36:03,880 --> 00:36:01,489

I mean a lot of misconceptions are

939

00:36:07,449 --> 00:36:03,890

addressed and it makes me think about

940

00:36:09,640 --> 00:36:07,459

sexual abuse in general because a lot of

941

00:36:12,339 --> 00:36:09,650

times there's a pattern where the cycle

942

00:36:14,410 --> 00:36:12,349

continues or victims later in life

943

00:36:16,599 --> 00:36:14,420

become offenders and it's just

944

00:36:19,660 --> 00:36:16,609

interesting that this circumcision cycle

945

00:36:21,789 --> 00:36:19,670

has kind of the same pattern it could

946

00:36:24,939 --> 00:36:21,799

possibly be an element in the

947

00:36:27,789 --> 00:36:24,949

circumcision soup but regardless with

948

00:36:29,469 --> 00:36:27,799

the HIV rates and STD rates that's

949

00:36:32,170 --> 00:36:29,479

something that I think people have heard

950

00:36:34,779 --> 00:36:32,180

this claim that circumcised men have 60%

951  
00:36:36,910 --> 00:36:34,789  
lower HIV rates it's something addressed

952  
00:36:38,049 --> 00:36:36,920  
in the film and then someone makes the

953  
00:36:41,589 --> 00:36:38,059  
point well that's interesting because

954  
00:36:43,989 --> 00:36:41,599  
America has the highest HIV and highest

955  
00:36:46,420 --> 00:36:43,999  
circumcision rates so how can it really

956  
00:36:49,599 --> 00:36:46,430  
be preventive because clearly we're

957  
00:36:51,489 --> 00:36:49,609  
number one in both categories yeah I've

958  
00:36:54,759 --> 00:36:51,499  
heard it said that circumcision is a

959  
00:36:56,469 --> 00:36:54,769  
cure in search of a disease meaning that

960  
00:36:59,259 --> 00:36:56,479  
when this practice was started in

961  
00:37:01,120 --> 00:36:59,269  
America HIV was not the reason it was

962  
00:37:02,709 --> 00:37:01,130  
done it was done for other reasons and

963  
00:37:04,660 --> 00:37:02,719

when those reasons were disproved they

964

00:37:06,819 --> 00:37:04,670

found a new reason so there's a

965

00:37:09,309 --> 00:37:06,829

continual cycle to try to find a reason

966

00:37:11,049 --> 00:37:09,319

to keep doing this as the reasons we

967

00:37:14,079 --> 00:37:11,059

were doing it are disproved and don't

968

00:37:16,749 --> 00:37:14,089

make sense anymore and HIV is the latest

969

00:37:18,789 --> 00:37:16,759

one because HIV is sort of one of the

970

00:37:21,999 --> 00:37:18,799

scariest medical things out there now

971

00:37:23,620 --> 00:37:22,009

right it's the big bed if you will but

972

00:37:27,370 --> 00:37:23,630

when you actually get into the data of

973

00:37:30,759 --> 00:37:27,380

that the claim that it reduces HIV by 60

974

00:37:32,529 --> 00:37:30,769

percent is a relative risk reduction and

975

00:37:36,159 --> 00:37:32,539

the absolute

976  
00:37:39,789 --> 00:37:36,169  
reduction is closer to under two percent

977  
00:37:42,549 --> 00:37:39,799  
so if you're outside and you go inside

978  
00:37:45,489 --> 00:37:42,559  
you have reduced the relative risk of

979  
00:37:49,029 --> 00:37:45,499  
getting hit by a meteor by thousands

980  
00:37:50,919 --> 00:37:49,039  
percent yet what are the chances of that

981  
00:37:52,509 --> 00:37:50,929  
really happening right so people will

982  
00:37:56,169 --> 00:37:52,519  
sort of jack up their statistics by

983  
00:37:57,999 --> 00:37:56,179  
talking about relative risk and it's

984  
00:37:59,949 --> 00:37:58,009  
worth mentioning to the studies that are

985  
00:38:01,929 --> 00:37:59,959  
used to justify this claim we're all

986  
00:38:04,779 --> 00:38:01,939  
carried out in sub-saharan Africa and

987  
00:38:06,789 --> 00:38:04,789  
don't necessarily apply to United States

988  
00:38:08,890 --> 00:38:06,799

so the reasons people get HIV in the

989

00:38:10,929 --> 00:38:08,900

United States are different than those

990

00:38:12,699 --> 00:38:10,939

in sub-saharan Africa especially in

991

00:38:15,819 --> 00:38:12,709

places where you know oftentimes there

992

00:38:18,789 --> 00:38:15,829

isn't clean running water and on top of

993

00:38:21,130 --> 00:38:18,799

all that even if we were to accept that

994

00:38:23,289 --> 00:38:21,140

circumcision reduced HIV by a certain

995

00:38:24,969 --> 00:38:23,299

percent we wouldn't accept that claim in

996

00:38:27,400 --> 00:38:24,979

the case of female circumcision we would

997

00:38:30,130 --> 00:38:27,410

say well adult women have the right to

998

00:38:32,349 --> 00:38:30,140

their own body and even if something

999

00:38:35,079 --> 00:38:32,359

done to their bodies would reduce the

1000

00:38:36,309 --> 00:38:35,089

transmission of HIV they have the right

1001  
00:38:37,509 --> 00:38:36,319  
to make their own decision about that

1002  
00:38:39,630 --> 00:38:37,519  
and there are have been studies that

1003  
00:38:42,640 --> 00:38:39,640  
suggest that female circumcision reduces

1004  
00:38:44,439 --> 00:38:42,650  
HIV but those studies very interestingly

1005  
00:38:46,539 --> 00:38:44,449  
have been scrapped partway through

1006  
00:38:48,099 --> 00:38:46,549  
because the researchers were afraid it

1007  
00:38:50,199 --> 00:38:48,109  
would be used as a justification for

1008  
00:38:52,609 --> 00:38:50,209  
female circumcision so the cultural

1009  
00:38:54,650 --> 00:38:52,619  
double standards play here too

1010  
00:38:57,679 --> 00:38:54,660  
and the sequence I had on the HIV

1011  
00:38:59,900 --> 00:38:57,689  
studies in its first version was about

1012  
00:39:02,239 --> 00:38:59,910  
an hour long I could do a whole

1013  
00:39:04,880 --> 00:39:02,249

documentary just on those studies and

1014

00:39:07,729 --> 00:39:04,890

the problems and challenges with them

1015

00:39:09,979 --> 00:39:07,739

there's the fact that more people left

1016

00:39:12,799 --> 00:39:09,989

the study than stayed in it there is the

1017

00:39:15,289 --> 00:39:12,809

fact that the group that was circumcised

1018

00:39:16,910 --> 00:39:15,299

got medical counseling that the other

1019

00:39:18,380 --> 00:39:16,920

group didn't medical counseling by the

1020

00:39:20,900 --> 00:39:18,390

way in which they were told to use

1021

00:39:24,109 --> 00:39:20,910

condoms and the circumcised group used

1022

00:39:26,569 --> 00:39:24,119

condoms at a higher rate so right there

1023

00:39:28,640 --> 00:39:26,579

do the studies show that circumcision

1024

00:39:31,039 --> 00:39:28,650

has an effect on HIV or that a group

1025

00:39:34,640 --> 00:39:31,049

that uses condoms at a higher rate gets

1026

00:39:36,829 --> 00:39:34,650

HIV at a lower rate I mean and this the

1027

00:39:38,150 --> 00:39:36,839

people involved were paid you can go you

1028

00:39:40,519 --> 00:39:38,160

know down the list of different

1029

00:39:41,959 --> 00:39:40,529

challenges with these studies and then

1030

00:39:43,640 --> 00:39:41,969

there's a null to another conversation

1031

00:39:47,329 --> 00:39:43,650

to have about the amount of money that

1032

00:39:50,539 --> 00:39:47,339

went through them so 40 million dollars

1033

00:39:53,809 --> 00:39:50,549

from PEPFAR from you the taxpayer went

1034

00:39:56,359 --> 00:39:53,819

to circumcision campaigns in Africa to

1035

00:39:58,099 --> 00:39:56,369

stop the spread of HIV and there's been

1036

00:39:59,870 --> 00:39:58,109

significant money contributed from the

1037

00:40:01,759 --> 00:39:59,880

Gates Foundation and from the Clinton

1038

00:40:04,699 --> 00:40:01,769

Foundation from all these big groups

1039

00:40:06,949 --> 00:40:04,709

that ought to be able to know that the

1040

00:40:09,859 --> 00:40:06,959

data involved does not really justify

1041

00:40:11,689 --> 00:40:09,869

this and a lot of people have suggested

1042

00:40:14,380 --> 00:40:11,699

that there might be something strange

1043

00:40:16,640 --> 00:40:14,390

going on there but again you know

1044

00:40:19,400 --> 00:40:16,650

there's not a lot that comes out of

1045

00:40:21,919 --> 00:40:19,410

these circumcision campaigns in Africa

1046

00:40:23,839 --> 00:40:21,929

that isn't from the people that are

1047

00:40:26,660 --> 00:40:23,849

doing them and it would require further

1048

00:40:29,870 --> 00:40:26,670

investigation to really understand why

1049

00:40:31,429 --> 00:40:29,880

all this money is going to that but what

1050

00:40:33,650 --> 00:40:31,439

we do cover in the documentary is

1051  
00:40:37,699 --> 00:40:33,660  
whether or not those studies are true

1052  
00:40:40,429 --> 00:40:37,709  
and applicable to America and I think if

1053  
00:40:42,919 --> 00:40:40,439  
you go through the data it doesn't make

1054  
00:40:45,199 --> 00:40:42,929  
a lot of sense to even apply those to an

1055  
00:40:46,279 --> 00:40:45,209  
American setting where I just don't

1056  
00:40:47,660 --> 00:40:46,289  
think that most people when they're

1057  
00:40:52,039 --> 00:40:47,670  
making decisions for their children's

1058  
00:40:54,169 --> 00:40:52,049  
health are really worried about HIV so

1059  
00:40:56,179 --> 00:40:54,179  
much that they're going to hold their

1060  
00:40:58,160 --> 00:40:56,189  
child down and rip part of their body

1061  
00:41:00,949 --> 00:40:58,170  
off as they scream in pain like it does

1062  
00:41:03,709 --> 00:41:00,959  
not make sense under scrutiny I agree

1063  
00:41:05,509 --> 00:41:03,719

and interestingly enough before I ever

1064

00:41:06,980 --> 00:41:05,519

heard of this documentary I wasn't a

1065

00:41:09,620 --> 00:41:06,990

conversation with some

1066

00:41:11,390 --> 00:41:09,630

friends and one of them disclosed me

1067

00:41:14,240 --> 00:41:11,400

that they had to have an adult

1068

00:41:16,790 --> 00:41:14,250

circumcision for medical reasons I

1069

00:41:20,510 --> 00:41:16,800

didn't pry too much but they did say

1070

00:41:23,450 --> 00:41:20,520

that it is night and day different the

1071

00:41:25,430 --> 00:41:23,460

sexual experience and the feeling and I

1072

00:41:28,010 --> 00:41:25,440

thought it was just very unique to get

1073

00:41:30,410 --> 00:41:28,020

that insight from a person who would

1074

00:41:32,810 --> 00:41:30,420

have have that procedure at adulthood so

1075

00:41:34,640 --> 00:41:32,820

they actually could compare and it stuck

1076

00:41:36,880 --> 00:41:34,650

out to me and then this documentary

1077

00:41:39,109 --> 00:41:36,890

confirmed a lot of what he was saying

1078

00:41:41,900 --> 00:41:39,119

man when I'm listening to it I just

1079

00:41:44,359 --> 00:41:41,910

can't get over the the question of who

1080

00:41:46,970 --> 00:41:44,369

cares like what kind of person or

1081

00:41:48,980 --> 00:41:46,980

organization is passionate about making

1082

00:41:51,200 --> 00:41:48,990

sure this happens like you mentioned you

1083

00:41:53,510 --> 00:41:51,210

have these clips of politicians like

1084

00:41:55,640 --> 00:41:53,520

Hillary Clinton announcing millions of

1085

00:41:57,650 --> 00:41:55,650

dollars dedicated to circumcising

1086

00:42:00,050 --> 00:41:57,660

Africans and everybody just stands up

1087

00:42:02,090 --> 00:42:00,060

and applauds and it's like why do you

1088

00:42:04,490 --> 00:42:02,100

care how about getting them running

1089

00:42:07,359 --> 00:42:04,500

water or something like that I mean it's

1090

00:42:10,130 --> 00:42:07,369

just an odd thing to be preoccupied with

1091

00:42:11,850 --> 00:42:10,140

unless there's some kind of other agenda

1092

00:42:14,670 --> 00:42:11,860

I'm not aware of

1093

00:42:18,960 --> 00:42:14,680

so I've heard two theories on why

1094

00:42:21,540 --> 00:42:18,970

organizations are pushing circumcision

1095

00:42:25,680 --> 00:42:21,550

as a practice the first and probably

1096

00:42:28,890 --> 00:42:25,690

most likely is medical liability so the

1097

00:42:30,630 --> 00:42:28,900

organizations involved have practice

1098

00:42:33,330 --> 00:42:30,640

circumcision as a medical practice for a

1099

00:42:35,340 --> 00:42:33,340

long time in particular the American

1100

00:42:36,900 --> 00:42:35,350

Academy of Pediatrics which is you know

1101  
00:42:40,770 --> 00:42:36,910  
one of the largest pediatric trade

1102  
00:42:42,810 --> 00:42:40,780  
organizations in the country and if they

1103  
00:42:45,900 --> 00:42:42,820  
were to say that this practice they've

1104  
00:42:49,560 --> 00:42:45,910  
been doing a long time is actually

1105  
00:42:51,300 --> 00:42:49,570  
harmful is not necessary then they would

1106  
00:42:53,940 --> 00:42:51,310  
open themselves up to lawsuit and

1107  
00:42:56,220 --> 00:42:53,950  
malpractice insurance is one of the

1108  
00:42:58,320 --> 00:42:56,230  
biggest expenses for any doctor and any

1109  
00:42:59,850 --> 00:42:58,330  
doctor's organization and if they were

1110  
00:43:02,700 --> 00:42:59,860  
to say that there's a possibility that

1111  
00:43:05,690 --> 00:43:02,710  
every circumcised man in America would

1112  
00:43:08,030 --> 00:43:05,700  
have a potential lawsuit against them

1113  
00:43:10,650 --> 00:43:08,040

which is a lot of money so it would

1114

00:43:14,850 --> 00:43:10,660

financially destroy them

1115

00:43:17,550 --> 00:43:14,860

and so the theory is that their legal

1116

00:43:19,590 --> 00:43:17,560

team has said you absolutely can never

1117

00:43:21,330 --> 00:43:19,600

condemn circumcision you can say well

1118

00:43:22,770 --> 00:43:21,340

maybe there's some benefits and there's

1119

00:43:24,810 --> 00:43:22,780

some risks but we leave it up to the

1120

00:43:28,020 --> 00:43:24,820

parents to decide but you can't say it's

1121

00:43:31,710 --> 00:43:28,030

wrong so that's one theory and then the

1122

00:43:35,930 --> 00:43:31,720

other is that if circumcision were to be

1123

00:43:37,770 --> 00:43:35,940

challenged on moral and ethical grounds

1124

00:43:39,090 --> 00:43:37,780

medical circumcision were to be

1125

00:43:43,230 --> 00:43:39,100

challenged that it would also threaten

1126

00:43:44,940 --> 00:43:43,240

religious circumcision and if you say

1127

00:43:46,320 --> 00:43:44,950

well you don't have the right to cut off

1128

00:43:49,020 --> 00:43:46,330

part of a child's body without his

1129

00:43:51,090 --> 00:43:49,030

consent in a medical setting then that

1130

00:43:52,320 --> 00:43:51,100

might also apply to a religious setting

1131

00:43:54,330 --> 00:43:52,330

because people have religious freedom

1132

00:43:57,030 --> 00:43:54,340

you know if you're a Christian you can't

1133

00:43:58,650 --> 00:43:57,040

tattoo a cross on your child you can't

1134

00:44:01,290 --> 00:43:58,660

practice female circumcision on your

1135

00:44:03,290 --> 00:44:01,300

daughter if that's your religion why

1136

00:44:06,090 --> 00:44:03,300

would you be allowed to do something as

1137

00:44:08,970 --> 00:44:06,100

invasive or more invasive to your male

1138

00:44:12,420 --> 00:44:08,980

child so there is also a theory that

1139

00:44:14,460 --> 00:44:12,430

there are Jewish interest groups who

1140

00:44:18,030 --> 00:44:14,470

really do not want to see this practice

1141

00:44:20,390 --> 00:44:18,040

compromised and might not even want to

1142

00:44:23,070 --> 00:44:20,400

be singled out in that way because

1143

00:44:25,740 --> 00:44:23,080

circumcision is designed as a mark in

1144

00:44:28,710 --> 00:44:25,750

Jewish culture to identify Jewish people

1145

00:44:32,160 --> 00:44:28,720

as different in some way and there is a

1146

00:44:34,290 --> 00:44:32,170

fear among some Jewish people of being

1147

00:44:37,790 --> 00:44:34,300

seen as different or singled out or

1148

00:44:40,380 --> 00:44:37,800

targeted or persecuted and so if

1149

00:44:42,300 --> 00:44:40,390

everyone is circumcised they don't stand

1150

00:44:44,340 --> 00:44:42,310

out in that way but they're not gonna

1151  
00:44:45,930 --> 00:44:44,350  
give up their practice which they've you

1152  
00:44:48,930 --> 00:44:45,940  
know identified with which they see as a

1153  
00:44:51,870 --> 00:44:48,940  
religious right so the two theories that

1154  
00:44:54,810 --> 00:44:51,880  
I've heard that our most plausible are

1155  
00:44:56,460 --> 00:44:54,820  
that groups that are doing circumcision

1156  
00:44:57,810 --> 00:44:56,470  
don't want to give up the money involved

1157  
00:45:00,900 --> 00:44:57,820  
and don't want to get sued out of

1158  
00:45:02,070 --> 00:45:00,910  
business and religious groups don't want

1159  
00:45:04,890 --> 00:45:02,080  
to give up what they see as their

1160  
00:45:06,840 --> 00:45:04,900  
religious right and also don't want

1161  
00:45:09,870 --> 00:45:06,850  
their practice to be seen as different

1162  
00:45:11,940 --> 00:45:09,880  
or wrong in some way I think you're

1163  
00:45:15,090 --> 00:45:11,950

definitely on to something with the

1164

00:45:16,650 --> 00:45:15,100

malpractice issue because you follow the

1165

00:45:19,230 --> 00:45:16,660

money on most things and that's where

1166

00:45:20,940 --> 00:45:19,240

you're gonna find the motivations and a

1167

00:45:23,550 --> 00:45:20,950

part of me does think of it as like

1168

00:45:26,330 --> 00:45:23,560

something we take for granted as just an

1169

00:45:29,670 --> 00:45:26,340

outpatient procedure for babies like

1170

00:45:31,770 --> 00:45:29,680

recommended tire rotation with your oil

1171

00:45:34,650 --> 00:45:31,780

change it's just another line item on

1172

00:45:36,960 --> 00:45:34,660

this massive bill given to new parents

1173

00:45:38,490 --> 00:45:36,970

and on both sides of it you don't want

1174

00:45:40,350 --> 00:45:38,500

to get sued to lose the money and you

1175

00:45:41,900 --> 00:45:40,360

don't want to forego the money you're

1176

00:45:43,860 --> 00:45:41,910

gaining from this extra unnecessary

1177

00:45:46,530 --> 00:45:43,870

practice I mean I definitely think

1178

00:45:50,040 --> 00:45:46,540

that's probably a good majority of why

1179

00:45:52,920 --> 00:45:50,050

this happens yet there's also a third

1180

00:45:54,930 --> 00:45:52,930

possibility I've heard which is there's

1181

00:45:58,950 --> 00:45:54,940

a lot of money made in the commercial

1182

00:46:02,430 --> 00:45:58,960

sale of foreskins so if you circumcised

1183

00:46:04,560 --> 00:46:02,440

a child and you save the foreskin that

1184

00:46:06,660 --> 00:46:04,570

has tissue that can be used commercially

1185

00:46:09,060 --> 00:46:06,670

including in stem cells because a child

1186

00:46:11,760 --> 00:46:09,070

that young still has some stem cell

1187

00:46:14,940 --> 00:46:11,770

tissue in them and there's a new story

1188

00:46:16,950 --> 00:46:14,950

that came out recently about beauty

1189

00:46:18,900 --> 00:46:16,960

products that use infant foreskin in

1190

00:46:20,670 --> 00:46:18,910

them yeah that rich celebrities are

1191

00:46:23,280 --> 00:46:20,680

using people like Sandra Bullock and

1192

00:46:25,170 --> 00:46:23,290

Kate Beckinsale Oprah has even sold

1193

00:46:27,150 --> 00:46:25,180

these products on her show and I've

1194

00:46:29,700 --> 00:46:27,160

heard that the money made in the

1195

00:46:32,099 --> 00:46:29,710

commercial sale of foreskins is

1196

00:46:33,900 --> 00:46:32,109

really hi I've wanted to find someone

1197

00:46:36,480 --> 00:46:33,910

who will speak about that on camera but

1198

00:46:38,670 --> 00:46:36,490

they're understandably shy about that

1199

00:46:40,320 --> 00:46:38,680

well there's one person I was talking to

1200

00:46:42,030 --> 00:46:40,330

I said you know I would make him

1201

00:46:43,410 --> 00:46:42,040

anonymous I changed his voice I'd

1202

00:46:45,540 --> 00:46:43,420

backlight him so that you couldn't see

1203

00:46:48,570 --> 00:46:45,550

who he was absolutely not he was not

1204

00:46:50,190 --> 00:46:48,580

about to talk about that on camera but I

1205

00:46:52,829 --> 00:46:50,200

have heard that the money involved in

1206

00:46:54,329 --> 00:46:52,839

that is very significant I don't doubt

1207

00:46:56,220 --> 00:46:54,339

it yeah you're right I've seen those

1208

00:46:58,740 --> 00:46:56,230

same clips of those celebrities

1209

00:47:01,109 --> 00:46:58,750

endorsing that kind of stuff in beauty

1210

00:47:03,599 --> 00:47:01,119

products but let's also give some time

1211

00:47:05,099 --> 00:47:03,609

to the resistance movement and what's

1212

00:47:07,410 --> 00:47:05,109

going on there talk to us a little bit

1213

00:47:09,810 --> 00:47:07,420

about inte activism which i think is a

1214

00:47:11,640 --> 00:47:09,820

clever wordplay and this movement that's

1215

00:47:14,520 --> 00:47:11,650

pushing back how large are they how

1216

00:47:16,349 --> 00:47:14,530

effective have they been so the int

1217

00:47:18,390 --> 00:47:16,359

activist movement is a movement that

1218

00:47:20,790 --> 00:47:18,400

believes all human beings have the right

1219

00:47:22,050 --> 00:47:20,800

to their own body and to cut off a part

1220

00:47:24,030 --> 00:47:22,060

of someone's body without their consent

1221

00:47:26,520 --> 00:47:24,040

is a violation of their basic human

1222

00:47:29,070 --> 00:47:26,530

rights and obviously the word is a play

1223

00:47:31,109 --> 00:47:29,080

on the word intact an activist activists

1224

00:47:32,670 --> 00:47:31,119

for the intact body I've also heard them

1225

00:47:35,280 --> 00:47:32,680

referred to as the genital autonomy

1226  
00:47:36,780 --> 00:47:35,290  
movement the idea that you have autonomy

1227  
00:47:39,599 --> 00:47:36,790  
over your own body including your

1228  
00:47:41,099 --> 00:47:39,609  
genitals and they oppose male

1229  
00:47:43,109 --> 00:47:41,109  
circumcision they oppose female

1230  
00:47:45,450 --> 00:47:43,119  
circumcision and they oppose intersex

1231  
00:47:47,700 --> 00:47:45,460  
genital cutting which is a whole nother

1232  
00:47:49,079 --> 00:47:47,710  
topic that we could get into at some

1233  
00:47:52,550 --> 00:47:49,089  
point but for the sake of this I'll

1234  
00:47:56,460 --> 00:47:52,560  
focus on male circumcision they have

1235  
00:47:58,230 --> 00:47:56,470  
done a lot with very little so if you

1236  
00:48:01,410 --> 00:47:58,240  
look at the movement when they began

1237  
00:48:04,650 --> 00:48:01,420  
there was a number of doctors and nurses

1238  
00:48:06,810 --> 00:48:04,660

who had objections to the practice who

1239

00:48:09,270 --> 00:48:06,820

had seen it done and if you think about

1240

00:48:10,740 --> 00:48:09,280

it it's only been recently that we've

1241

00:48:12,870 --> 00:48:10,750

been able to even get images of it

1242

00:48:14,430 --> 00:48:12,880

usually the child is sent away and most

1243

00:48:18,150 --> 00:48:14,440

people don't see what happens to their

1244

00:48:19,740 --> 00:48:18,160

child when this procedure is done

1245

00:48:21,539 --> 00:48:19,750

so a lot of the early people who are

1246

00:48:23,160 --> 00:48:21,549

involved were former nurses and doctors

1247

00:48:24,930 --> 00:48:23,170

who had seen the procedure and thought

1248

00:48:29,370 --> 00:48:24,940

this is wrong we should not be doing

1249

00:48:31,410 --> 00:48:29,380

this there were a lot of parents and men

1250

00:48:32,999 --> 00:48:31,420

especially a lot of Gaiman who'd had the

1251  
00:48:34,950 --> 00:48:33,009  
comparative experience and could seen

1252  
00:48:36,690 --> 00:48:34,960  
both bodies and thought wait like why

1253  
00:48:39,480 --> 00:48:36,700  
does my partner have this weird scar

1254  
00:48:41,099 --> 00:48:39,490  
here why does this person I know have a

1255  
00:48:44,670 --> 00:48:41,109  
botch of some kind that doesn't make

1256  
00:48:46,289 --> 00:48:44,680  
sense and they just basically took every

1257  
00:48:48,690 --> 00:48:46,299  
opportunity they could to talk about

1258  
00:48:51,029 --> 00:48:48,700  
this and speak in public about it they

1259  
00:48:53,039 --> 00:48:51,039  
also published academic literature they

1260  
00:48:54,690 --> 00:48:53,049  
made media you know everything that you

1261  
00:48:56,460 --> 00:48:54,700  
would expect an activist movement to do

1262  
00:48:57,960 --> 00:48:56,470  
and I think the thing that a lot of

1263  
00:49:00,450 --> 00:48:57,970

people don't understand about activism

1264

00:49:05,130 --> 00:49:00,460

is that it takes time to change culture

1265

00:49:08,549 --> 00:49:05,140

it has been a slow process over thirty

1266

00:49:11,880 --> 00:49:08,559

or four years but now we've gone from a

1267

00:49:15,299 --> 00:49:11,890

circumcision rate that was above 90

1268

00:49:18,390 --> 00:49:15,309

percent to one that is around 50% and

1269

00:49:20,220 --> 00:49:18,400

maybe even lower and again these

1270

00:49:23,009 --> 00:49:20,230

organizations don't have a lot of money

1271

00:49:24,210 --> 00:49:23,019

they have what you and I have

1272

00:49:26,759 --> 00:49:24,220

essentially they have the ability to

1273

00:49:28,559 --> 00:49:26,769

talk and to share their message I think

1274

00:49:31,140 --> 00:49:28,569

that things like this things like social

1275

00:49:32,880 --> 00:49:31,150

media things like the ability that we

1276  
00:49:34,829 --> 00:49:32,890  
have now to create our own media have

1277  
00:49:37,140 --> 00:49:34,839  
been incredibly useful for them because

1278  
00:49:38,970 --> 00:49:37,150  
before the only time that they were able

1279  
00:49:41,339 --> 00:49:38,980  
to get through on this issue was through

1280  
00:49:43,470 --> 00:49:41,349  
traditional media which often was

1281  
00:49:45,480 --> 00:49:43,480  
reluctant to talk about something this

1282  
00:49:48,059 --> 00:49:45,490  
controversial and I think they've also

1283  
00:49:51,420 --> 00:49:48,069  
benefited from other movements that have

1284  
00:49:55,049 --> 00:49:51,430  
made it more okay to talk publicly about

1285  
00:49:56,249 --> 00:49:55,059  
sexuality and to you know accept the

1286  
00:49:57,870 --> 00:49:56,259  
idea that you have the right to your own

1287  
00:50:00,240 --> 00:49:57,880  
body I mean there's a lot of other

1288  
00:50:02,099 --> 00:50:00,250

movements that have pushed something

1289

00:50:05,490 --> 00:50:02,109

similar to that idea that they've

1290

00:50:08,460 --> 00:50:05,500

benefited from now that we are a much

1291

00:50:10,890 --> 00:50:08,470

more sexually open society that we have

1292

00:50:13,589 --> 00:50:10,900

the means of communication to share this

1293

00:50:16,380 --> 00:50:13,599

message to a wider audience I think that

1294

00:50:18,720 --> 00:50:16,390

they are on the cusp of breaking through

1295

00:50:21,539 --> 00:50:18,730

into the mainstream and again if you

1296

00:50:23,789 --> 00:50:21,549

look at activist movements cultural

1297

00:50:27,359 --> 00:50:23,799

change happens very slowly and then all

1298

00:50:30,029 --> 00:50:27,369

at once it's not like there was a point

1299

00:50:31,589 --> 00:50:30,039

that you could point to where you know

1300

00:50:31,830 --> 00:50:31,599

things like the civil rights movement or

1301

00:50:39,270 --> 00:50:31,840

the

1302

00:50:42,000 --> 00:50:39,280

got to it was a slow burn and that

1303

00:50:43,350 --> 00:50:42,010

suddenly had a moment in culture where

1304

00:50:45,390 --> 00:50:43,360

it was the thing that everyone was

1305

00:50:47,130 --> 00:50:45,400

talking about and I think that that

1306

00:50:49,560 --> 00:50:47,140

moment is coming with this issue and

1307

00:50:51,990 --> 00:50:49,570

it's coming very soon right like we

1308

00:50:53,520 --> 00:50:52,000

might be near that tipping point now the

1309

00:50:56,760 --> 00:50:53,530

film has been out for a couple of months

1310

00:50:59,400 --> 00:50:56,770

how would you compare the reactions

1311

00:51:01,290 --> 00:50:59,410

you've gotten to maybe your expectations

1312

00:51:03,120 --> 00:51:01,300

that you had in your mind you know I

1313

00:51:04,920 --> 00:51:03,130

wasn't sure what sort of reaction this

1314

00:51:08,820 --> 00:51:04,930

would get and I think what we've had is

1315

00:51:10,710 --> 00:51:08,830

a slow build where the more people who

1316

00:51:13,170 --> 00:51:10,720

see the film the more people recommend

1317

00:51:15,480 --> 00:51:13,180

it and what's interesting is I sort of

1318

00:51:16,920 --> 00:51:15,490

thought most films they come out they

1319

00:51:19,530 --> 00:51:16,930

make a splash and then they kind of

1320

00:51:23,910 --> 00:51:19,540

disappear and this film has sort of

1321

00:51:26,790 --> 00:51:23,920

steadily reached people and we've been

1322

00:51:28,170 --> 00:51:26,800

expanding our audience bit by bit so in

1323

00:51:30,930 --> 00:51:28,180

some way I think that's better instead

1324

00:51:33,270 --> 00:51:30,940

instead of one hit and then it's gone

1325

00:51:35,880 --> 00:51:33,280

from the culture it's becoming a thing

1326

00:51:37,230 --> 00:51:35,890

that people recommend to friends who are

1327

00:51:39,300 --> 00:51:37,240

having kids or people who want to

1328

00:51:40,770 --> 00:51:39,310

understand this issue and that's kind of

1329

00:51:43,170 --> 00:51:40,780

what I wanted it to be I want it to be

1330

00:51:44,430 --> 00:51:43,180

something that 10 years later is still

1331

00:51:47,190 --> 00:51:44,440

relevant for people who want to

1332

00:51:48,590 --> 00:51:47,200

understand this issue so my hope is that

1333

00:51:51,360 --> 00:51:48,600

it's only going to continue to grow

1334

00:51:54,720 --> 00:51:51,370

mm-hmm I'm also curious has there been

1335

00:51:58,040 --> 00:51:54,730

any response from the critics or the

1336

00:52:01,640 --> 00:51:58,050

American Academy of Pediatrics

1337

00:52:03,960 --> 00:52:01,650

so we've had a couple people respond in

1338

00:52:05,940 --> 00:52:03,970

interesting ways

1339

00:52:07,530 --> 00:52:05,950

I kind of like different reactions to

1340

00:52:09,270 --> 00:52:07,540

the film I've gotten a couple hater

1341

00:52:12,089 --> 00:52:09,280

reviews and they're really entertaining

1342

00:52:14,490 --> 00:52:12,099

to me you know I feel like if someone is

1343

00:52:17,400 --> 00:52:14,500

triggered enough to write a really crazy

1344

00:52:19,020 --> 00:52:17,410

insane review that the film affected

1345

00:52:20,760 --> 00:52:19,030

them in some way and that's interesting

1346

00:52:25,010 --> 00:52:20,770

to me and there's a few of those out

1347

00:52:29,690 --> 00:52:25,020

there I actually had yet a screening at

1348

00:52:32,280 --> 00:52:29,700

Oxford town hall recently and I got a

1349

00:52:33,570 --> 00:52:32,290

request from a reporter for comment that

1350

00:52:37,859 --> 00:52:33,580

there were people who are gonna protest

1351

00:52:39,510 --> 00:52:37,869

the film and basically say that it was

1352

00:52:42,750 --> 00:52:39,520

anti-semitic because it was criticizing

1353

00:52:45,359 --> 00:52:42,760

circumcision and I replied that we

1354

00:52:47,430 --> 00:52:45,369

interviewed Jewish men on both sides in

1355

00:52:48,780 --> 00:52:47,440

the film and that these Jewish men say

1356

00:52:50,880 --> 00:52:48,790

they feel really harmed by the practice

1357

00:52:52,500 --> 00:52:50,890

and that anyone protesting our film

1358

00:52:54,330 --> 00:52:52,510

should be seen as an anti human rights

1359

00:52:57,390 --> 00:52:54,340

activist trying to silence Jewish men

1360

00:52:59,849 --> 00:52:57,400

and so that article ran and then no one

1361

00:53:03,450 --> 00:52:59,859

showed up to protest the film so I think

1362

00:53:06,690 --> 00:53:03,460

my quote was a little too effective but

1363

00:53:07,950 --> 00:53:06,700

the AAP is aware of the film and it's

1364

00:53:10,829 --> 00:53:07,960

funny because they haven't said anything

1365

00:53:14,760 --> 00:53:10,839

about it publicly their National

1366

00:53:17,040 --> 00:53:14,770

Convention was a couple months ago or I

1367

00:53:20,970 --> 00:53:17,050

think it was late October early November

1368

00:53:22,530 --> 00:53:20,980

and I tried to place an ad for the film

1369

00:53:24,120 --> 00:53:22,540

there for their conference you know you

1370

00:53:26,970 --> 00:53:24,130

go to a conference you get a bag and it

1371

00:53:28,620 --> 00:53:26,980

has all sorts of free giveaways in it

1372

00:53:30,540 --> 00:53:28,630

and then sometimes there's ads in the

1373

00:53:34,589 --> 00:53:30,550

back there's an info card for different

1374

00:53:36,510 --> 00:53:34,599

groups right so for \$5,500 you could get

1375

00:53:39,450 --> 00:53:36,520

an info card and everyone's bag for one

1376

00:53:42,540 --> 00:53:39,460

day and for \$10,000 you get a card in

1377

00:53:45,150 --> 00:53:42,550

everyone's bag for two days so I made an

1378

00:53:46,890 --> 00:53:45,160

info card that said a film featuring

1379

00:53:48,780 --> 00:53:46,900

multiple members of the American Academy

1380

00:53:52,099 --> 00:53:48,790

of Pediatrics and then had our poster

1381

00:53:56,730 --> 00:53:52,109

and I tried to place it as an ad and

1382

00:53:58,170 --> 00:53:56,740

they said no absolutely not and didn't

1383

00:54:00,300 --> 00:53:58,180

give me a reason beyond that so I

1384

00:54:01,950 --> 00:54:00,310

literally could not pay the organization

1385

00:54:06,320 --> 00:54:01,960

thousands of dollars to talk about my

1386

00:54:10,109 --> 00:54:06,330

film but they are aware of it and when I

1387

00:54:12,030 --> 00:54:10,119

visited the conference there were people

1388

00:54:14,970 --> 00:54:12,040

there who were very high up in the

1389

00:54:17,460 --> 00:54:14,980

organization who recognized me on site

1390

00:54:20,670 --> 00:54:17,470

so I made eye contact with one of

1391

00:54:22,770 --> 00:54:20,680

members of the American Academy of

1392

00:54:25,440 --> 00:54:22,780

Pediatrics Task Force on circumcision

1393

00:54:26,820 --> 00:54:25,450

and like his eyes went wide the moment

1394

00:54:29,490 --> 00:54:26,830

he saw me which means they're paying

1395

00:54:31,950 --> 00:54:29,500

enough attention to it that they're able

1396

00:54:34,380 --> 00:54:31,960

to recognize me just from my face let me

1397

00:54:36,180 --> 00:54:34,390

say anything or anything like that and I

1398

00:54:40,230 --> 00:54:36,190

think they feel really threatened by it

1399

00:54:43,890 --> 00:54:40,240

but they're also aware that engaging

1400

00:54:45,720 --> 00:54:43,900

publicly on this issue is a challenge

1401  
00:54:47,280 --> 00:54:45,730  
for them and so I'm a hundred percent

1402  
00:54:49,500 --> 00:54:47,290  
certain they've had meetings about the

1403  
00:54:52,080 --> 00:54:49,510  
film but they're right now keeping

1404  
00:54:53,430 --> 00:54:52,090  
publicly silent on it well that's got to

1405  
00:54:55,440 --> 00:54:53,440  
make you feel good a little bit they've

1406  
00:54:58,620 --> 00:54:55,450  
kind of identified the troublemaker and

1407  
00:55:00,839 --> 00:54:58,630  
I think you've got all the arguments on

1408  
00:55:03,780 --> 00:55:00,849  
your side you know there's a part of me

1409  
00:55:04,980 --> 00:55:03,790  
that likes being a dangerous artist and

1410  
00:55:07,200 --> 00:55:04,990  
there's another part of me that's like

1411  
00:55:09,750 --> 00:55:07,210  
I'm just a guy talking about the facts

1412  
00:55:11,040 --> 00:55:09,760  
and what's there and there's way in

1413  
00:55:13,710 --> 00:55:11,050

which I don't see myself as very

1414

00:55:16,080 --> 00:55:13,720

threatening and I also feel like I'm

1415

00:55:19,440 --> 00:55:16,090

willing to work with them I think that

1416

00:55:22,079 --> 00:55:19,450

their concerns around legal liability or

1417

00:55:24,089 --> 00:55:22,089

preserving the face of their

1418

00:55:25,349 --> 00:55:24,099

organization are legitimate and I'm

1419

00:55:27,570 --> 00:55:25,359

willing to have a conversation about

1420

00:55:30,020 --> 00:55:27,580

this and I'm going to find a solution

1421

00:55:32,820 --> 00:55:30,030

where these activists are heard and

1422

00:55:35,460 --> 00:55:32,830

their concerns are addressed and the

1423

00:55:37,109 --> 00:55:35,470

organization is able to get what it

1424

00:55:39,990 --> 00:55:37,119

needs but they're not interested in

1425

00:55:41,640 --> 00:55:40,000

having the conversation I think they see

1426

00:55:46,109 --> 00:55:41,650

this whole thing as annoying and would

1427

00:55:48,750 --> 00:55:46,119

rather throw money at the problem or or

1428

00:55:50,760 --> 00:55:48,760

try to avoid it as much as possible or

1429

00:55:54,570 --> 00:55:50,770

personally attack the people involved

1430

00:55:57,150 --> 00:55:54,580

which is unfortunate man boy it seems

1431

00:56:00,150 --> 00:55:57,160

really tough to try to navigate those

1432

00:56:04,440 --> 00:56:00,160

waters and try to correct this tradition

1433

00:56:07,050 --> 00:56:04,450

and also not have them admit to causing

1434

00:56:09,280 --> 00:56:07,060

harm that seems very delicate and a hard

1435

00:56:12,190 --> 00:56:09,290

tightrope to walk

1436

00:56:14,170 --> 00:56:12,200

it is but I think it's possible and

1437

00:56:16,270 --> 00:56:14,180

again like part of the challenge is that

1438

00:56:18,640 --> 00:56:16,280

they don't talk publicly about these

1439

00:56:20,200 --> 00:56:18,650

concerns because then they would have to

1440

00:56:21,640 --> 00:56:20,210

admit that there's financial reasons

1441

00:56:23,710 --> 00:56:21,650

they'd want to continue the practice or

1442

00:56:26,740 --> 00:56:23,720

legal liability reasons they can't talk

1443

00:56:28,630 --> 00:56:26,750

about why it's bad so even having the

1444

00:56:30,670 --> 00:56:28,640

conversation or admitting the interest

1445

00:56:34,150 --> 00:56:30,680

they have is not something they want to

1446

00:56:35,470 --> 00:56:34,160

do all right on man and so as we're kind

1447

00:56:38,380 --> 00:56:35,480

of getting to the end of the road here

1448

00:56:40,060 --> 00:56:38,390

the film ends with a dedication and I

1449

00:56:43,660 --> 00:56:40,070

was kind of curious what is the story

1450

00:56:46,570 --> 00:56:43,670

behind that dedication so at the end we

1451  
00:56:48,130 --> 00:56:46,580  
we have a dedication to Jonathan Conte

1452  
00:56:51,730 --> 00:56:48,140  
is one of the people who appears in the

1453  
00:56:53,800 --> 00:56:51,740  
film Jonathan was a member of Bay Area

1454  
00:56:56,530 --> 00:56:53,810  
int activist and attacked this group in

1455  
00:56:59,320 --> 00:56:56,540  
San Francisco and for a lot of people he

1456  
00:57:03,700 --> 00:56:59,330  
was a public face of the movement he was

1457  
00:57:05,740 --> 00:57:03,710  
a very well-spoken young man who had a

1458  
00:57:09,220 --> 00:57:05,750  
lot of grief over his circumcision and

1459  
00:57:12,420 --> 00:57:09,230  
spoke very eloquently about it and about

1460  
00:57:14,370 --> 00:57:12,430  
two years ago ended his own life

1461  
00:57:15,750 --> 00:57:14,380  
and it was a very clear deliberate

1462  
00:57:19,559 --> 00:57:15,760  
choice the way that he did it it was

1463  
00:57:21,180 --> 00:57:19,569

something he had planned and he had a

1464

00:57:23,250 --> 00:57:21,190

lot of grief over this issue he felt

1465

00:57:26,099 --> 00:57:23,260

like that it was wrong that he was

1466

00:57:28,890 --> 00:57:26,109

harmd and that there was no way of

1467

00:57:32,190 --> 00:57:28,900

changing things and I think if there is

1468

00:57:34,799 --> 00:57:32,200

a recipe for suicide its feeling intense

1469

00:57:36,779 --> 00:57:34,809

sadness and grief and feeling like

1470

00:57:38,760 --> 00:57:36,789

you're alone in it and that no one in

1471

00:57:40,920 --> 00:57:38,770

the larger world is willing to listen to

1472

00:57:43,950 --> 00:57:40,930

you and feeling like it will never

1473

00:57:46,560 --> 00:57:43,960

change and so

1474

00:57:48,300 --> 00:57:46,570

he was someone who meant a lot to people

1475

00:57:51,990 --> 00:57:48,310

involved on this issue he was someone I

1476

00:57:55,170 --> 00:57:52,000

interviewed in the film and I felt like

1477

00:57:57,770 --> 00:57:55,180

it would be meaningful to honor him by

1478

00:58:01,170 --> 00:57:57,780

putting that dedication at the end I

1479

00:58:03,960 --> 00:58:01,180

agree it is very sad and it is nice that

1480

00:58:06,900 --> 00:58:03,970

she did that well man we pretty much

1481

00:58:09,060 --> 00:58:06,910

covered it I really thank you for making

1482

00:58:10,620 --> 00:58:09,070

the film I certainly learned a lot and I

1483

00:58:12,780 --> 00:58:10,630

think the people who listened today did

1484

00:58:15,390 --> 00:58:12,790

as well please give them the info they

1485

00:58:17,190 --> 00:58:15,400

need to find and watch American

1486

00:58:18,870 --> 00:58:17,200

circumcision for themselves as well as

1487

00:58:20,339 --> 00:58:18,880

anything else you might be working on or

1488

00:58:21,700 --> 00:58:20,349

might want to tell them before we close

1489

00:58:24,190 --> 00:58:21,710

it out

1490

00:58:27,220 --> 00:58:24,200

so you can find the film on circumcission

1491

00:58:30,760 --> 00:58:27,230

movie calm it's available on Amazon and

1492

00:58:33,580 --> 00:58:30,770

iTunes and Vimeo we are at circa movie

1493

00:58:38,470 --> 00:58:33,590

on all social media you can find me at

1494

00:58:41,980 --> 00:58:38,480

Brendan Marauder calm and @bd Mirada be

1495

00:58:45,100 --> 00:58:41,990

DM aro TTA on all social media

1496

00:58:48,610 --> 00:58:45,110

I feel like this issue is something

1497

00:58:50,140 --> 00:58:48,620

that's gonna continue to grow and I have

1498

00:58:52,690 --> 00:58:50,150

some other film projects in the works

1499

00:58:55,120 --> 00:58:52,700

but I can't really talk about them yet

1500

00:58:57,370 --> 00:58:55,130

so you'll just have to follow me and see

1501

00:58:59,830 --> 00:58:57,380

for yourself right on

1502

00:59:02,380 --> 00:58:59,840

well again very informative super

1503

00:59:04,870 --> 00:59:02,390

important issue as odd and uncomfortable

1504

00:59:06,430 --> 00:59:04,880

as it might be for some big thanks to

1505

00:59:09,040 --> 00:59:06,440

you again and keep up the great work

1506

00:59:12,790 --> 00:59:09,050

keep stirring pots thank you and thanks

1507

00:59:15,310 --> 00:59:12,800

for having me on you got it sweet Jesus

1508

00:59:19,060 --> 00:59:15,320

people give yourselves a hand you're

1509

00:59:22,840 --> 00:59:19,070

still with me we did it a full THC

1510

00:59:25,690 --> 00:59:22,850

dedicated to dicks seriously though I

1511

00:59:27,910 --> 00:59:25,700

did learn quite a bit and I absolutely

1512

00:59:30,910 --> 00:59:27,920

think we should stop doing this rather

1513

00:59:34,780 --> 00:59:30,920

than just trying to downplay it after

1514

00:59:37,450 --> 00:59:34,790

the fact so I was really happy to do it

1515

00:59:40,900 --> 00:59:37,460

and try to maintain a professional

1516

00:59:45,070 --> 00:59:40,910

manner but it's also a little comical

1517

00:59:48,250 --> 00:59:45,080

that THC now has a dick show that's just

1518

00:59:50,950 --> 00:59:48,260

the reality of it and to be honest for

1519

00:59:55,240 --> 00:59:50,960

several years I was one of those people

1520

00:59:56,680 --> 00:59:55,250

of the mindset that yeah we probably

1521

00:59:59,920 --> 00:59:56,690

don't need to do it anymore

1522

01:00:03,520 --> 00:59:59,930

but I'll get my kids circumcised for the

1523

01:00:06,120 --> 01:00:03,530

cosmetic reason like he's being prepared

1524

01:00:08,650 --> 01:00:06,130

for some kind of dog show or something

1525

01:00:12,700 --> 01:00:08,660

but I think that's probably the most

1526

01:00:16,050 --> 01:00:12,710

common mindset out there and I hope now

1527

01:00:18,970 --> 01:00:16,060

people who were of that mindset are

1528

01:00:21,270 --> 01:00:18,980

reconsidering because when you get into

1529

01:00:23,680 --> 01:00:21,280

the severity of it

1530

01:00:26,410 --> 01:00:23,690

Cosmetics just isn't a good enough

1531

01:00:28,360 --> 01:00:26,420

reason anymore there's actually

1532

01:00:31,120 --> 01:00:28,370

something that happened on this show way

1533

01:00:33,880 --> 01:00:31,130

back in the day probably in the first

1534

01:00:35,410 --> 01:00:33,890

year even but I had a guest by the name

1535

01:00:38,099 --> 01:00:35,420

of Lenin honor

1536

01:00:40,839 --> 01:00:38,109

and he was speaking in reference to

1537

01:00:43,509 --> 01:00:40,849

circumcision and vaccines but he felt

1538

01:00:46,089 --> 01:00:43,519

deeply about the idea that it is a

1539

01:00:46,920 --> 01:00:46,099

father's duty to protect their kids from

1540

01:00:50,769 --> 01:00:46,930

harm

1541

01:00:54,910 --> 01:00:50,779

pretty simple premise but he took it to

1542

01:00:57,940 --> 01:00:54,920

a deep philosophical and spiritual level

1543

01:01:01,480 --> 01:00:57,950

and his passion was pretty convincing

1544

01:01:04,420 --> 01:01:01,490

and he saw both of those things vaccines

1545

01:01:07,299 --> 01:01:04,430

and circumcision as a violation of that

1546

01:01:09,480 --> 01:01:07,309

protection and that's fair right because

1547

01:01:13,059 --> 01:01:09,490

you're giving your newborn over to

1548

01:01:15,339 --> 01:01:13,069

strangers who you don't know to perform

1549

01:01:19,329 --> 01:01:15,349

procedures you don't know much about on

1550

01:01:22,509 --> 01:01:19,339

blind faith and I'm sorry that's just

1551  
01:01:23,769 --> 01:01:22,519  
not good enough and I have agreed ever

1552  
01:01:26,559 --> 01:01:23,779  
since

1553  
01:01:30,490 --> 01:01:26,569  
especially on this issue a father should

1554  
01:01:32,650 --> 01:01:30,500  
step up and say no any parent really but

1555  
01:01:34,930 --> 01:01:32,660  
you know matters of the penis I think

1556  
01:01:37,839 --> 01:01:34,940  
it's okay to defer to dad at least on

1557  
01:01:42,099 --> 01:01:37,849  
this one and don't be afraid to buck the

1558  
01:01:44,319 --> 01:01:42,109  
trend as Brendon said the trends are

1559  
01:01:46,539 --> 01:01:44,329  
going the other way anyway so you might

1560  
01:01:48,390 --> 01:01:46,549  
do something so your kids not the odd

1561  
01:01:50,710 --> 01:01:48,400  
man out and make them the odd man out

1562  
01:01:51,579 --> 01:01:50,720  
you want to have that conversation with

1563  
01:01:54,519 --> 01:01:51,589

a 12 year old

1564

01:01:57,039 --> 01:01:54,529

I just thought your penis would look

1565

01:01:59,339 --> 01:01:57,049

better I don't want to have that

1566

01:02:02,109 --> 01:01:59,349

conversation I'll tell you that

1567

01:02:05,349 --> 01:02:02,119

Brendon definitely gave us plenty of

1568

01:02:07,839 --> 01:02:05,359

reasons to avoid it but it is really a

1569

01:02:11,559 --> 01:02:07,849

multi-layered issue the psychological

1570

01:02:15,099 --> 01:02:11,569

piece is no small thing this attitude

1571

01:02:16,480 --> 01:02:15,109

that well I had one and I'm fine so

1572

01:02:20,950 --> 01:02:16,490

let's just keep doing it to everyone

1573

01:02:22,630 --> 01:02:20,960

else it's no good yeah to actually stop

1574

01:02:24,880 --> 01:02:22,640

means maybe there is something wrong

1575

01:02:28,420 --> 01:02:24,890

with it and that might mean something

1576

01:02:32,470 --> 01:02:28,430

wrong was done to you or to your brother

1577

01:02:36,849 --> 01:02:32,480

or to your son or to me I guess I'm okay

1578

01:02:38,970 --> 01:02:36,859

saying that I was wronged but I don't

1579

01:02:42,670 --> 01:02:38,980

want guys out there to start thinking

1580

01:02:46,150 --> 01:02:42,680

yeah I am a victim and start tracing all

1581

01:02:48,800 --> 01:02:46,160

their issues back to the big slice for

1582

01:02:51,800 --> 01:02:48,810

me I think my response is that

1583

01:02:55,250 --> 01:02:51,810

I'm probably not going to restore my

1584

01:02:57,320 --> 01:02:55,260

foreskin but after I saw all the things

1585

01:03:00,920 --> 01:02:57,330

that can go wrong and we know the

1586

01:03:03,590 --> 01:03:00,930

medical system [h\_\_h] up I see it as an

1587

01:03:07,880 --> 01:03:03,600

unnecessary risk and a pointless

1588

01:03:11,330 --> 01:03:07,890

procedure and what I learned was that us

1589

01:03:13,940 --> 01:03:11,340

guys who were cut as kids we really are

1590

01:03:16,370 --> 01:03:13,950

ignorant of what we're missing we really

1591

01:03:20,750 --> 01:03:16,380

cannot speak from any kind of informed

1592

01:03:23,270 --> 01:03:20,760

position imagine instead of foreskins we

1593

01:03:26,960 --> 01:03:23,280

had some arbitrary tradition of cutting

1594

01:03:28,820 --> 01:03:26,970

off pinky fingers now pinky fingers feel

1595

01:03:31,970 --> 01:03:28,830

like a big deal no doubt but you can

1596

01:03:35,690 --> 01:03:31,980

still hold a fork or a pen you can still

1597

01:03:39,230 --> 01:03:35,700

drive you can go through life feeling as

1598

01:03:40,820 --> 01:03:39,240

if you didn't really lose anything until

1599

01:03:42,710 --> 01:03:40,830

someone who still has their pinky

1600

01:03:45,650 --> 01:03:42,720

fingers comes around and says hey wait a

1601  
01:03:48,050 --> 01:03:45,660  
second having this extra finger it's

1602  
01:03:50,630 --> 01:03:48,060  
actually really useful for my life and

1603  
01:03:53,930 --> 01:03:50,640  
when I look back if I didn't have it

1604  
01:03:57,290 --> 01:03:53,940  
that would have been a real shame maybe

1605  
01:03:59,450 --> 01:03:57,300  
listen to that person or imagine we put

1606  
01:04:01,700 --> 01:03:59,460  
drops in baby's eyes that make them go

1607  
01:04:03,260 --> 01:04:01,710  
colorblind yeah you could still get

1608  
01:04:04,820 --> 01:04:03,270  
through life but you'd never really know

1609  
01:04:09,110 --> 01:04:04,830  
the full extent of what you're missing

1610  
01:04:11,690 --> 01:04:09,120  
if most people had it done you never

1611  
01:04:13,430 --> 01:04:11,700  
knew color yourself and a doctor

1612  
01:04:16,190 --> 01:04:13,440  
recommended it a lot of people would

1613  
01:04:19,010 --> 01:04:16,200

just do it and the full spectrum of what

1614

01:04:20,200 --> 01:04:19,020

a person would be losing would just be

1615

01:04:22,940 --> 01:04:20,210

an idea

1616

01:04:25,880 --> 01:04:22,950

I'm only saying you don't know about

1617

01:04:27,980 --> 01:04:25,890

what you don't have you don't know what

1618

01:04:29,540 --> 01:04:27,990

you're missing if everyone else around

1619

01:04:32,690 --> 01:04:29,550

you is also missing that that doesn't

1620

01:04:35,990 --> 01:04:32,700

help and I didn't realize the foreskin

1621

01:04:39,110 --> 01:04:36,000

was more than just a skin sheath and I'm

1622

01:04:41,360 --> 01:04:39,120

pissed pissed might be a little strong

1623

01:04:43,640 --> 01:04:41,370

but I definitely am not happy about it

1624

01:04:45,260 --> 01:04:43,650

and anyone who's circumcised should

1625

01:04:47,090 --> 01:04:45,270

probably watch the documentary and

1626

01:04:49,190 --> 01:04:47,100

really look at those parts where they

1627

01:04:53,330 --> 01:04:49,200

described the differences and what it's

1628

01:04:55,370 --> 01:04:53,340

like to be natural I'm probably not

1629

01:04:58,160 --> 01:04:55,380

gonna lose sleep about it but it's

1630

01:05:00,350 --> 01:04:58,170

definitely interesting and for that

1631

01:05:03,140 --> 01:05:00,360

reason I consider this a pretty good

1632

01:05:04,730 --> 01:05:03,150

episode very off the radar topic who's

1633

01:05:08,900 --> 01:05:04,740

be talking about this kind of thing if

1634

01:05:11,630 --> 01:05:08,910

not THC right but all real glory goes to

1635

01:05:14,450 --> 01:05:11,640

the guest it is his film and it's a

1636

01:05:16,730 --> 01:05:14,460

documentary that's worth a watch even if

1637

01:05:18,770 --> 01:05:16,740

it doesn't change your mind exactly you

1638

01:05:20,930 --> 01:05:18,780

should not take the decision so lightly

1639

01:05:23,020 --> 01:05:20,940

that you can't dedicate 90 minutes in a

1640

01:05:26,150 --> 01:05:23,030

follow-up conversation with your partner

1641

01:05:29,030 --> 01:05:26,160

before pulling such a fragile trigger

1642

01:05:31,190 --> 01:05:29,040

and if you only heard the first free

1643

01:05:33,580 --> 01:05:31,200

hour today you probably think you heard

1644

01:05:36,530 --> 01:05:33,590

enough but that is not true folks

1645

01:05:39,170 --> 01:05:36,540

there's always more and I had a very

1646

01:05:41,690 --> 01:05:39,180

specific place in mind when splitting

1647

01:05:44,420 --> 01:05:41,700

this episode and crafting the pathway

1648

01:05:47,920 --> 01:05:44,430

through the line of questioning and that

1649

01:05:52,160 --> 01:05:47,930

was just before the botched circumcision

1650

01:05:55,130 --> 01:05:52,170

conversation I reserve that for only the

1651  
01:05:59,150 --> 01:05:55,140  
hardcore Plus people because what I saw

1652  
01:06:04,100 --> 01:05:59,160  
in that documentary in the segment on

1653  
01:06:07,030 --> 01:06:04,110  
Boches [h\_\_\h] me up and even a 1% risk

1654  
01:06:09,710 --> 01:06:07,040  
of that is not worth doing it and just

1655  
01:06:12,950 --> 01:06:09,720  
to run through the other plus portion

1656  
01:06:16,490 --> 01:06:12,960  
topics we covered you will find a

1657  
01:06:19,160 --> 01:06:16,500  
section on forced extraction we also

1658  
01:06:23,060 --> 01:06:19,170  
talked about the dr. Winslow approach to

1659  
01:06:25,220 --> 01:06:23,070  
circumcision how it affects and changes

1660  
01:06:28,220 --> 01:06:25,230  
sexual interactions that was quite

1661  
01:06:30,770 --> 01:06:28,230  
interesting and of course foreskin

1662  
01:06:33,380 --> 01:06:30,780  
restoration techniques and the results

1663  
01:06:35,150 --> 01:06:33,390

as well as the political situation

1664

01:06:37,910 --> 01:06:35,160

there's a lot more there than you might

1665

01:06:40,250 --> 01:06:37,920

expect so like I said there are many

1666

01:06:41,650 --> 01:06:40,260

more layers to this than might appear

1667

01:06:44,900 --> 01:06:41,660

obvious at first

1668

01:06:47,960 --> 01:06:44,910

kudos to Brendan for being so bold as to

1669

01:06:50,120 --> 01:06:47,970

go there and so that's the show tell

1670

01:06:53,600 --> 01:06:50,130

your friends we also have a joint

1671

01:06:56,030 --> 01:06:53,610

session on the 20th at 7 p.m. Pacific do

1672

01:06:58,430 --> 01:06:56,040

try to be there so you can tell me about

1673

01:07:02,330 --> 01:06:58,440

all your weird experiences and local

1674

01:07:04,610 --> 01:07:02,340

conspiracies and out-there theories free

1675

01:07:07,400 --> 01:07:04,620

for anyone to be a part of live and

1676  
01:07:10,130 --> 01:07:07,410  
always archived for plus people sign up

1677  
01:07:12,620 --> 01:07:10,140  
for Plus please if you appreciate what I

1678  
01:07:14,630 --> 01:07:12,630  
do it's really all I ask in the grand

1679  
01:07:16,270 --> 01:07:14,640  
scheme of things and if you're already

1680  
01:07:19,390 --> 01:07:16,280  
here I can pretty much get

1681  
01:07:21,940 --> 01:07:19,400  
that you'll like it as an added

1682  
01:07:24,220 --> 01:07:21,950  
occasional bonus I always do make guests

1683  
01:07:26,560 --> 01:07:24,230  
a free lifetime plus account and

1684  
01:07:29,710 --> 01:07:26,570  
sometimes they do show up to engage with

1685  
01:07:32,470 --> 01:07:29,720  
people in the Plus comments big thanks

1686  
01:07:35,560 --> 01:07:32,480  
to Robert Bonomo for doing that recently

1687  
01:07:38,860 --> 01:07:35,570  
if you liked his appearance and talk on

1688  
01:07:41,770 --> 01:07:38,870

the Tarot do check out that plus comment

1689

01:07:43,960 --> 01:07:41,780

section to find him and that pretty much

1690

01:07:45,460 --> 01:07:43,970

does it for me next week we're talking

1691

01:07:48,700 --> 01:07:45,470

to one of the greats

1692

01:07:50,640 --> 01:07:48,710

a major horse and the THC stable given

1693

01:07:54,040 --> 01:07:50,650

us his end of the year assessment and

1694

01:07:56,380 --> 01:07:54,050

then we have a medical conspiracy themed

1695

01:07:58,900 --> 01:07:56,390

show aimed at the ladies to

1696

01:08:01,630 --> 01:07:58,910

counterbalance today's for the guys so

1697

01:08:02,950 --> 01:08:01,640

stay tuned or at least come back

1698

01:08:04,720 --> 01:08:02,960

I guess you're free to go do other

1699

01:08:06,280 --> 01:08:04,730

things in the meantime but until then

1700

01:08:14,380 --> 01:08:06,290

I've done my part

1701

01:08:16,450 --> 01:08:14,390

your move dick cutters your [\h\_\_\h] you

1702

01:08:21,460 --> 01:08:16,460

see

1703

01:08:29,070 --> 01:08:21,470

no world isn't random it's attached to

1704

01:08:33,160 --> 01:08:29,080

pub or street control over everything a

1705

01:08:38,289 --> 01:08:33,170

95 is trying to steal yeah now don't

1706

01:08:44,140 --> 01:08:38,299

that job seem silly hello

1707

01:08:48,309 --> 01:08:44,150

here why should I play back recordings

1708

01:08:52,729 --> 01:08:48,319

from some spy agency wish we were

1709

01:09:02,630 --> 01:08:57,410

I'll be thankful when it's exposed the

1710

01:09:14,490 --> 01:09:02,640

vespa received is such a difference

1711

01:09:14,500 --> 01:10:05,280

[Music]

1712

01:10:17,940 --> 01:10:12,750

oh no they're cartoons it's so typical

1713

01:10:26,030 --> 01:10:17,950

of me to talk about that stuff I'm sorry

1714

01:10:30,240 --> 01:10:26,040

there's good and well did you ever hear

1715

01:10:35,910 --> 01:10:30,250

argument the nothing really happens it's

1716

01:10:42,210 --> 01:10:35,920

no secret stay

1717

01:11:39,360 --> 01:10:50,210

[Music]

1718

01:12:28,330 --> 01:11:39,370

[Applause]

1719

01:12:29,820 --> 01:12:28,340

[Music]