



Exploring Flaws Embedded in the Contemporary Traditional Circumcision Practice in South Africa: A Literature Review

Thanduxolo Nomngcoyiya¹ and S.M. Kang'ethe²

***University of Fort Hare, Department of Social Work and Social Development,
Private bag X1314, ALICE. 5700, South Africa
Email, ¹<201006645@ufh.ac.za>, ²<skangethe@ufh.ac.za>***

KEYWORDS Pecuniary Dimension. HIV/AIDS. Traditional Surgeons. Human Rights Violation. Traditional Nurses. Department of Traditional Affairs. Department of Health. Botched Circumcisors

ABSTRACT Incontrovertibly, various voices of different personalities and stakeholders whether nationally, regionally and internationally continue to wonder why South Africa is experiencing circumcision accidents year-in-year-out. However, other sources seem to indicate that the traditional male circumcision house is in disarray. This calls for critical analysis, debates and discourses with the aim of carrying a serious autopsy of the phenomenon with the hope of taking stock of its operations. This paper, through a desk top review of literature methodology aims to discuss the flaws embedded in the contemporary traditional circumcision practice in South Africa. Findings of the paper highlights the following flaws: death of the initiates, pecuniary dimension, changing goal posts of the culture, violation of human rights, as well as posing possible threats to culture itself. The article recommends: the collaboration of government, traditional custodians and civil society in augmenting the flaws, launching and strengthening circumcision awareness campaigns, reformation, restructuring and enhancement of the circumcision practice in general.