



Dear Administrators and Health Educators,

As educators, we understand the importance of regularly examining our instruction, teaching materials, communication with students and the community, content knowledge, and cultural sensitivity. With this in mind, Your Whole Baby would like to encourage your district to reflect upon the practices and resources used when teaching human anatomy.

The American Academy of Pediatrics has stated that the health benefits of circumcision are not great enough to recommend universal newborn circumcision. This statement, along with corresponding statements from major medical organizations across the world, explains the growing number of boys in the United States and in the world who are intact (not circumcised). Globally, approximately seventy percent of males are intact, while in the United States approximately half of males born today are kept intact, with higher percentages in various regions of the country. As the number of intact males increases it is important for health educators to ensure that their instruction, materials, and content knowledge are up to date regarding the natural male anatomy.

The following key points will assist your district in ensuring that your practices are accurate and culturally sensitive when teaching a classroom that will most likely be composed of intact boys as well as circumcised boys:

- Make a conscious effort to focus on facts and not to let personal biases or experiences regarding circumcision affect instruction.
- Review materials to ensure the printed text and visuals reflect the whole male human anatomy including the foreskin.
- When communicating with students, use the term “intact penis” rather than “uncircumcised penis”, as body parts are typically not referred to by procedures they have not had (ex. unbroken arm).
- Provide accurate information about the hygiene needs of both intact and circumcised males and about documented risks and perceived benefits of circumcision.

We thank you for taking the time to reflect on the practices used to teach sex education and health classes in your district. Please visit YourWholeBaby.org for more information. Our Academic Research, Basic Intact Care, and Functions of the Foreskin sections on the website will provide you with valuable information. Please do not hesitate to contact us with any questions, comments, or concerns.

Sincerely,

Your Whole Baby Education Outreach



Your Whole Baby, 501(c)(3)