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31 July 2015

Dear Sirs,

Non-therapeutic circumcision of male minors

Thank you for your letter of 27 July. It was very much in line with what we expected, a re-statement of the Jewish position on MGM – with which, of course, we're very familiar – along with an absolute failure to engage with the facts we'd presented in our letter, including:

- MGM commonly leads to physical and mental suffering, sometimes death
- MGM is a crime under the laws of the United Kingdom and the European Union
- MGM is an assault on the human rights of male minors
- MGM is a requirement of Jewish law, but that law has not the slightest validity in the UK. Neither religious nor cultural defences for altering the bodies of minors have *ever* proven successful in British courts.
- Many other elements of 'religious law' in the holy books of the major world religions are illegal under UK and EU law. MGM is therefore an anachronism, even by the 'Jewish law' defence.

About half of your letter focuses on a comparison between FGM and MGM. You clearly didn't engage with the following paragraph in our letter to Jewish leaders, organizations, and newspapers:

In an age of gender equality, we must ask how can it be equitable that FGM has been illegal in the UK for the past 30 years, yet MGM – which is undoubtedly illegal – hasn't been specifically legislated against, nor any practitioners charged with their crimes? A common response is that FGM is more damaging than MGM, but this is open to question, as both procedures exist in a variety of degrees of severity. The outcome is what matters, and we refer you to a rational comparison between MGM and FGM in a video.¹

Your lack of humanity towards male minors only reinforces our determination to have non-therapeutic circumcision of male minors declared illegal in the UK, so that future generations of Jewish men and boys will not have to suffer as their predecessors have. Along with a number of other organizations, we shall

¹ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=98f3IavuEgQ>

work tirelessly towards that goal, for as long as it takes. When that happy day arrives – as it surely will – you'll need to find something to replace the mutilation of baby boys' genitals as 'the most important, recognizable and indeed celebrated element of Jewish culture'.

Yours sincerely,

Mike Buchanan
PARTY LEADER