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Rt Hon Theresa May MP  
Home Secretary  
Home Office  
2 Marsham Street  
London SW1P 4DF

14 July 2015

Dear Mrs May,

**FoI request. Non-therapeutic genital mutilation of male minors is a criminal act, so why aren't the police prosecuting the practitioners?**

Copies of this letter and the attachment have been published on our website.

I lead the only multi-issue political party in the English-speaking world campaigning for the human rights of men and boys. Our 80-page-long 2015 general election manifesto<sup>1</sup> detailed 20 areas where the human rights of men and/or boys (including the unborn) are assaulted by the actions and inactions of the state, along with three areas where the human rights of girls (including the unborn) are assaulted. There isn't a single area in which the human rights of women and/or girls *specifically* are assaulted by the state. Not one.

Last October we publicly challenged you in a letter relating to a sham of a Home Office consultation exercise on extending the law on domestic violence.<sup>2</sup> You didn't have the courtesy to respond. We sent a 154-page-long report to the Home Office in connection with that exercise.<sup>3</sup> It outlined how the anti-male bias of the government and numerous public bodies resulted in assaults on the human rights of men, one manifestation being the scandalous denial of state support for male victims of domestic violence. Five pages (pp. 73 - 77) related to the anti-male bias of the Home Office and yourself.

We turn to the issue of genital mutilation, one of the 20 areas covered in our manifesto. Of course it is a good thing that FGM is illegal, yet the criminal justice system appears interested only in prosecuting men for carrying out the operation – so far, unsuccessfully – whilst being aware that FGM is overwhelmingly carried out by women at the behest of women, in the UK as elsewhere.

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<sup>1</sup> <http://tinyurl.com/pusyfmt>

<sup>2</sup> <http://tinyurl.com/q67g49t>

<sup>3</sup> <http://tinyurl.com/py2mtsj>

Please find enclosed an article on MGM by an important British blogger on gender issues, William Collins.<sup>4</sup> Such is the contempt for males in our society, that people who carry out the mutilations don't even have to be registered. Collins convincingly shows that there are no health or other societal benefits to be gained from MGM, which is the cause of a great deal of physical and mental suffering for boys and men, and sometimes death.

No law exists to permit the non-therapeutic genital mutilation of male minors, and MGM is obviously an assault occasioning bodily harm, which is illegal under the Offences Against the Person Act (1861):

- Grievous bodily harm is illegal under section 20 of the Act
- Actual bodily harm is illegal under section 47

The latter crime carries a maximum sentence of five years' imprisonment. In the CPS sentencing guidelines with respect to actual bodily harm,<sup>5</sup> aggravating factors indicating higher culpability include the following ones relevant to MGM:

- A significant degree of premeditation
- Use of weapon or weapon equivalent
- Deliberately causes more harm than is necessary for commission of offence
- Deliberate targeting of vulnerable victim
- Offence motivated by, or demonstrating, hostility based on the victim's age, sex, gender identity (or presumed gender identity)

In the same document, factors indicating greater harm include:

- Injury (which includes disease transmission and/or psychological harm) which is serious in the context of the offence

Aggravating factors indicating increasing seriousness include:

- Ongoing effect upon the victim
- Presence of others including relatives, especially children or partner of the victim
- Gratuitous degradation of victim
- Abuse of power and/or position of trust

I have two questions for you, please consider them as FOI requests:

- Given that MGM *demonstrably* results in bodily harm, and often mental harm, on what grounds are the police declining to press charges against those carrying out the operations?
- Regardless of those grounds, will the government commit publicly to introducing legislation in this parliamentary term (i.e. before May 2020) to make non-therapeutic MGM of male minors illegal?

The fact that MGM is a cultural or religious requirement or expectation in certain faith traditions in the UK is irrelevant. Such grounds wouldn't be deemed adequate for adherents of faith traditions in the UK to carry out FGM, and quite rightly.

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<sup>4</sup> <http://mra-uk.co.uk>

<sup>5</sup> <http://tinyurl.com/pepvgne>

We demand that male minors be given the same legal protection against genital mutilation as female minors  
– the sooner, the better.

Yours sincerely,

Mike Buchanan  
PARTY LEADER