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Decision about circumcision deserves thoughtful contemplation by parents

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The Bloodstained Men & Their Friends nonprofit organization has actively voiced their fight against circumcision. Their cause finally brings the necessary attention that the procedure needs for the general public to be responsible in making this decision. (Courtesy of Flickr)

If anytime during the weekend there's a crowd of men and women wearing white jumpsuits with blood-stained crotch areas and signs that say not to cut baby penises, don't panic: They're not harmful, just trying to save innocent penises everywhere.

Southern California has been blessed with the hosting of protests this weekend and the following days by a nonprofit organization called Bloodstained Men & Their Friends, which aims to educate the public about the importance of foreskin and infant circumcision.

The organization has impressively proliferated their caution across the nation, a cause that doesn't see the proper concern that it needs.

It's important to educate prospective parents on this controversial topic seeing as 58 percent of all boys born in American hospitals still undergo the procedure, according to the National Center for Health Statistics.

The fear or discomfort of talking about circumcision isn't hard to understand. It's an odd concept and one that is, evidently, still debated, but this organization has succeeded in shining a light on this problem.

The process of circumcision needs to be discussed more seriously and with a bit more knowledge than is available to parents already.

Thankfully, that's exactly what this organization aims to do, albeit with a heavy and loud hand.

One might consider this cause superfluous or unnecessary, but after looking at the reasoning for these consistent protests, it's no surprise that this effort has been in effect for five years.

A reason that this problem is discussed so infrequently or with no real seriousness is because no one really understands how much of a health impact the decision has on a child.

Those who are in favor of circumcision often state the fact that it poses a greater health benefit for the child during their baby stage, meaning the procedure offers protection for toddlers from UTIs, according to a study by the U.S. National Library of Medicine.

The same study states the procedure's health benefits outweigh the risks, a common phrase those that prefer the procedure tout.

Despite protecting against UTIs, it's also important to realize that these infections are incredibly uncommon in male infants regardless of the procedure and when it does happen, it can be easily treated with antibiotics.

Foreskin can also help protect glands from becoming numb as they age by releasing natural lubricants that otherwise would cause issues like chafing without it, according to the British Journal of Urology.

A common argument among those advocating for circumcisions is that it's more hygienic. False. It might seem that taking away the skin would protect from any bacteria, but it actually helps keep unwanted bacteria out, especially during infancy.

In addition to naturally cleaning itself through secreting certain fluids, foreskin protects from any harmful contact from clothing.

Along with sexual benefits like increasing arousal, according to a study by UCLA, having foreskin seems to be, by most accounts, the better option for parents who are deciding for their child.

It's not an easy decision, and obviously not one that the child can make for themselves. So the best way to go about this is by being as educated as possible, and thanks to the Bloodstained Men & Their Friends, this information is penetrating the minds of passersby.

It might not be the first topic one might want to think of while eating a sundae on Sunday, but it might be something to think about at a later point in time. And when that happens, hopefully this organization will leave some stain of education and awareness.