

TITLE – Womens Health Strategy - Stopping violence against women (page 9)

DATE:



In today's lesson we will:

- To understand what crimes against women have been included as a priority to tackle in the Women's Health Strategy 2022
- To explore the social and economic excuses used by people to encourage violence and crimes against women and girls
- To evaluate the best way to campaign against violence and crimes against women and girls



TODAY'S
BIG
QUESTION

What do you know about:
FGM, VIRGINITY TESTING
AND HYMENOPLASTY



3 Minutes

Class discussion
Write down some
ideas at the
bottom of page
9 first then
contribute to the
wider
conversation

"People in western countries
should not interfere with
cultural practices from
other countries, even if it
is against someone's Human
Rights"

DEFINITIONS

- ❑ FEMALE GENITAL MUTILATION (FGM) = Female genital mutilation is the ritual cutting or removal of some or all of the vulva.
- ❑ VIRGINITY TESTING = A **virginity test** is the practice and process of determining whether a woman (or girl) is a virgin; i.e., to determine that she has never engaged in, or been subjected to, vaginal intercourse. The test typically involves a check for the presence of an intact hymen, typically on the flawed assumption that it can only be, and will always be torn as a result of vaginal intercourse.
- ❑ HYMENOPLASTY = a surgical operation to reconstruct the hymen in order to give the appearance of virginity, usually for religious or cultural reasons

ILLEGAL

FGM – FEMALE GENITAL MUTILATION



[CLICK HERE TO LEARN ABOUT LEYLA'S STORY](#)

FGM is classed as child abuse in the UK and is illegal – Anyone found undertaking this procedure or allowing it to happen can receive up to 14 years in prison a fine or both

The FGM Act 2003

It is illegal to support help or arrange for FGM to be performed.

What if a young girl gives consent to FGM?
What does consent involve?



Consent is given by someone who is free to choose and able to choose (**because of being old enough**, being able to think or communicate clearly)



YOU ARE GOING TO SEE A
PICTURE OF A VULVA – JUST SO
YOU ARE AWARE.

[CLICK HERE TO HEAR FROM
A HEALTH CARE WORKER
WHO SUPPORTS THOSE
WHO HAVE
EXPERIENCED FGM](#)

In Female Genital Mutilation – Can take a few different forms

- ☐ The clitoris or clitoris hood are removed
- ☐ Part of the clitoris hood and or inner lips may be removed
- ☐ Part of the vulva may also be altered
- ☐ The urethra and or the vagina opening may also be stitched up by sewing/stitching together the inner and outer lips. - Reducing the size of the opening
- ☐ Anything else that involves mutilating the female genitals (Scraping, Burning, cutting, piercing etc

ALL FORMS ARE ILLEGAL AND NOT RELIGIOUS PRACTICES!

Female Genital Mutilation comprises all procedures that involve partial or total removal of the external female genitalia, or other injuries to the female genital organs for non-medical reasons (World Health Organisation).

It is also sometimes referred to as female genital cutting or female circumcision or 'Tahor' or 'Sunna' (Arabic terms). It has been condemned by religious leaders and is an **act of violence** against women!

The dangers of female genital mutilation are

- Pain
- Bleeding
- Infection
- Infertility
- Death



What to do!

Tell a trusted adult

Discuss as a class the following:

How are young girls pressured into FGM?
Why is it hard to say no?
What 'lies' are they fed?
Where can a girl turn to if she needed help?

Female genital mutilation is

- Damaging
- Dangerous
- Preventable

Did you know?

Up to 140 million girls and women worldwide have had their genitals mutilated in a practice that has no benefit whatsoever.

VIRGINITY TESTING AND HYMENOPLASTY



Virginity testing and hymenoplasty

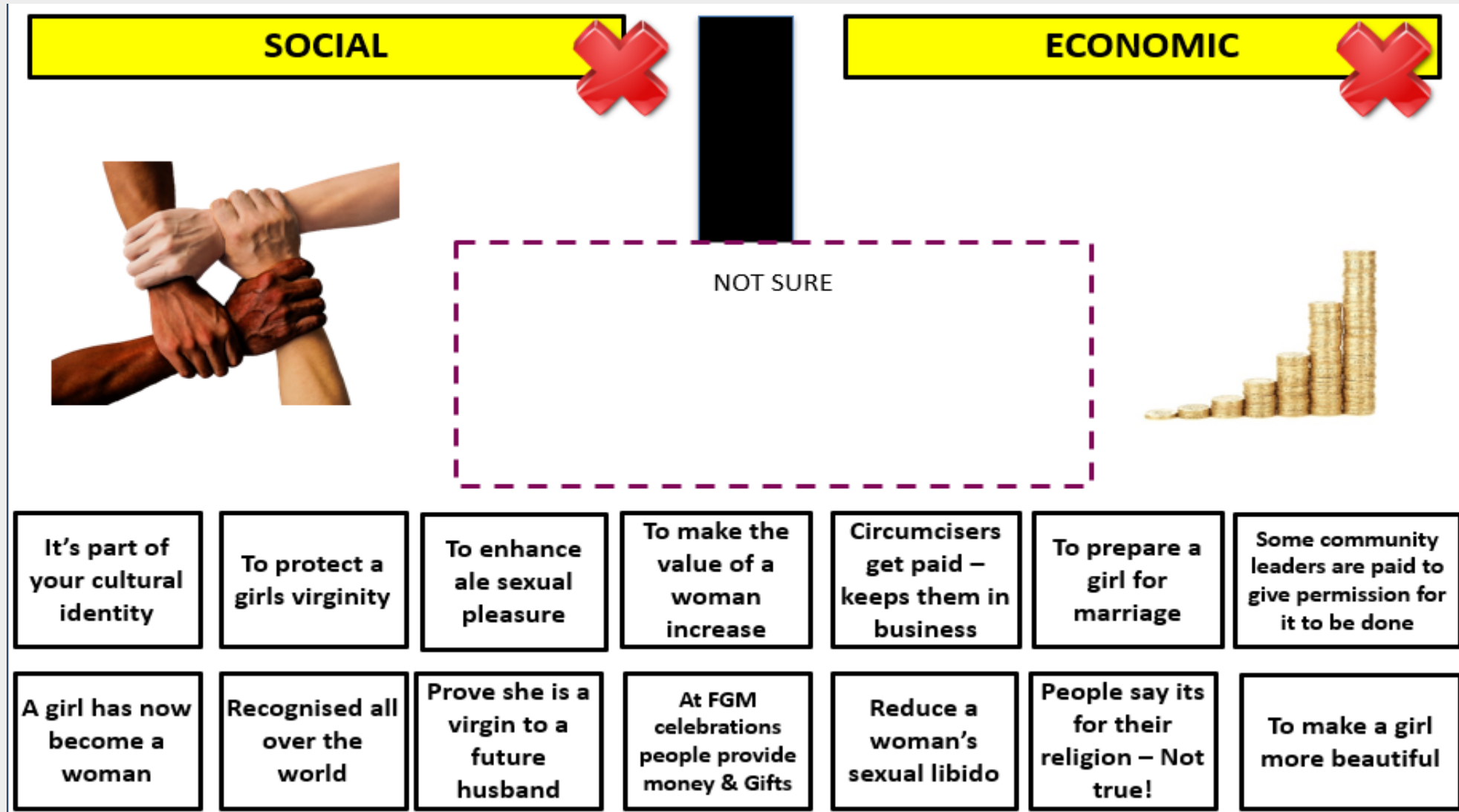
Virginity testing and hymenoplasty are both forms of violence against women and girls, and are harmful practices that stem from dangerous misconceptions about a woman's sexuality. Such practices will not be tolerated in the UK and we have banned them through the [Health and Care Act 2022](#).

We have developed safeguarding guidance for agencies and those working on the frontline that will sit alongside the legislation. Banning these practices will only go so far in beginning to tackle the harmful misbeliefs that surround a woman's virginity,

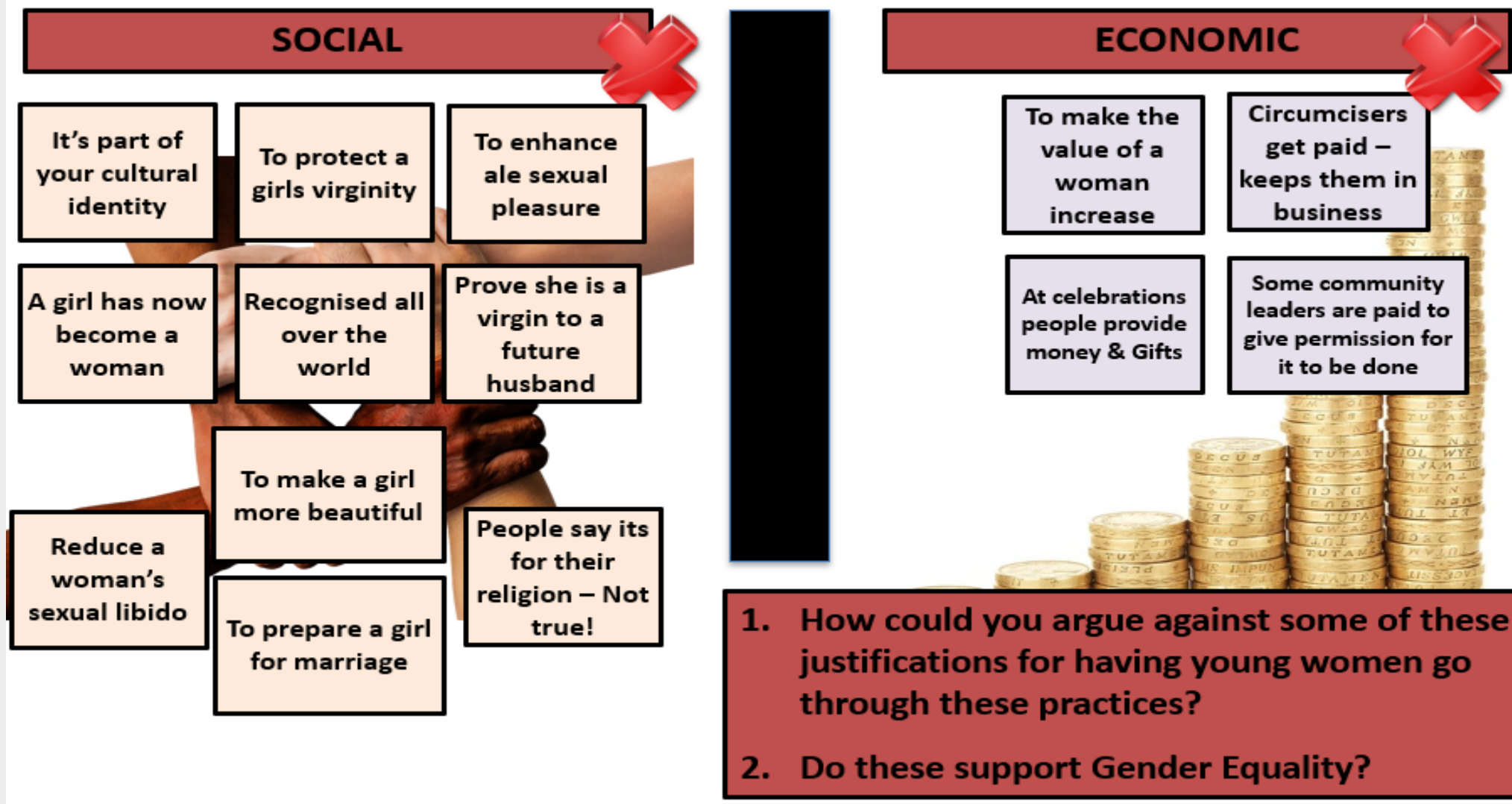
[CLICK HERE TO FIND OUT ABOUT THESE](#)

BOTH OF THESE ARE NOW ILLEGAL WITHIN THE UK

WHAT EXCUSES DO PEOPLE USE FOR THESE ILLEGAL PRACTICES? - PAGE 10



WHAT EXCUSES DO PEOPLE USE FOR THESE ILLEGAL PRACTICES?



REFLECTION POINT (PAGE 11)

Which human rights are being broken when the acts of FGM, virginity testing and hymenoplasty are performed?

Do you think it is important to stand up for everyone's Human Rights, even if it doesn't impact you directly?

Human Right .1 Born free and equal	Human Right .2 No Discrimination	Human Right .3 The right to life	Human Right .4 The right not to be a slave	Human Right .5 No torture
Human Right .6 Rights no matter where you go	Human Right .7 We are all equal before the law	Human Right .8 Human rights are protected by law	Human Right .9 No unfair imprisonment	Human Right .10 Right to a trial
Human Right .11 We are always innocent till proven guilty	Human Right .12 Right to Privacy	Human Right .13 Right to move	Human Right .14 The right to seek a safe place to live	Human Right .15 Right to a nationality
Human Right .16 Right to marriage and family	Human Right .17 Right to own your own things	Human Right .18 Freedom of thought	Human Right .19 Freedom of expression	Human Right .20 Right to public assembly
Human Right .21 Right to Democracy	Human Right .22 Right to social security	Human Right .23 Workers Rights	Human Right .24 Right to play	Human Right .25 Food and shelter to all
Human Right .26 Right to an education	Human Right .27 Copyright	Human Right .28 The right to a fair and free world	Human Right .29 Right to responsibility	Human Right .30 No one can take away your human rights