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| **Category** | **Facts/Ideas** |
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**MODEL**

Topic: Female Genital Mutilation

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| **Category** | **Facts/Ideas** |
| Define FGM | * cutting off outer female genitals (clitoris, labia) * Goal: no female sexual pleasure |
| Facts | * between 100 and 140 million girls and women have experienced some form of FGM * Most younger than 12 years old * occurs in many countries in Africa, Indonesia, Malaysia, Yemen, Oman, United Arab Emirates, India, and Pakistan. * Somalia = 98% |
| Why? | * **Sociological** - right of passage into womanhood, to “fit in” * **Hygienic** - belief female genitalia are dirty * **Sexual** - stops female sexuality * **Health** - belief it helps child survival and fertility * **Religious** - Some think that FGM is a religious requirement * **Socio-economic** – needed for marriage (bride is worth more $) |
| Effects on Girls | * problems with urination and menstruation leading to infections * chronic pain * scarred tissues * infertility * painful complications with childbirth. |
| Solutions | * change laws * education on danger |