

## The Taboo Topic of Female Genital Cutting: The Search for Alternative Approaches

### A Special Collection from dgCommunities

Between 100 and 140 million girls and women have undergone Female Genital Cutting (FGC). While there are many reasons that explain why this practice is common in parts of Africa, Asia, and in some Arab countries—whether as a passage to womanhood or as something to be endured in order to please a future husband—more and more voices are speaking up against FGC as a serious development, health, and human rights issue.

As FGC continues to affect an estimated three million girls and women every year in the African continent alone, local and international development organizations are working together with the practicing communities to find alternatives to bring about an end to this practice.

The Development Gateway Foundation presents a special collection on FGC, providing a package of useful resources to help disseminate information and create greater awareness about this phenomenon.

### The special feature includes:

- An exclusive interview with Thoraya Obaid, Executive Director of the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)
- dgCommunities' coverage from the Gender, Youth, HIV/AIDS, Population and Reproductive Health, Culture, and Civil Society perspectives
- Collection of links to prominent publications and organizations addressing the topic

Access the special collection at:

<http://topics.developmentgateway.org/population/highlights/viewHighlight.do~activeHighlightId=111768>



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