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Success Story on Trauma healing Workshop

FGM Practioneer turns midwife.



Female genital mutilation (FGM) comprises of all procedures involving partial or total removal of the external female genitalia or other injury to the female genital organs whether for cultural, religious or other non-therapeutic reasons. FGM is performed by traditional midwives. The procedure is usually performed without anesthetics and under catastrophic hygienic circumstances. Knives scissors and razor blades are used as instruments among others.

Mrs. Hawa Adan Artan Aged 58 was an active elderly woman who performed FGM in Belet-hawa for over 25 years. She performed FGM on more than one thousand young girls in Belet-hawa and its environs. FGM has resulted in many health-related and serious health complications. It has also caused other physical and psychological harm to the well-being of women, it has also put a heavy burden on the health services in the region. FGM is forbidden in Islam, it has no benefit in terms of medical health and it has no cultural benefit as well. The upbringing of the girl child is virginity what protects her moral behaviour and virginity.

As a result of our trauma healing workshop Mrs. Hawa Adan Artan Was able to open up during open sessions about her practices, she confessed to the participants and deeply regretted her actions. She finally vowed not to perform FGM in future but instead focus on providing midwifery service to her community.

She is now spearheading, the campaign against FGM sensitizing the community on the negative effects of FGM. She is currently assisted in this campaign by two other elderly women from the village. (Mrs. Sharifa Jehow And Mrs. Hasna Ahmed).

The campaign against FGM cannot be a sporadic or a one-time event; this is a serious human rights and health violation issue. Was it not for the intervention of our organization with support from religious leaders and the community at large Mrs. Hawa Adan Artan Could have continued practicing FGM there is also need to raise awareness among community members and involving the local administration in taking legal action against those involved.