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Can Anti-FGM Laws End the Cultural Practices of Female Genital Cutting?

Lessons from Global Data,
Programs, and Ethnographic
Research in Sudan



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Despite decades of efforts to outlaw female genital cutting practices in countries of origin and among immigrants elsewhere, change has been very slow. Anthropologist Ellen Gruenbaum explores why laws are relatively ineffective and even harmful, provides ethnographic cases of effective change in the Sudanese context, and proposes a way forward for the health and human rights discourse and policies.

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