Investigating the association between female genital cutting/mutilation and intimate partner violence in sub-Saharan Africa

A talk by Dr Janet Howard
hosted by
The Centre for Academic Primary Care’s Domestic Violence and Abuse and Health Research Group

17 December 2019, 13.00-14.00, Bristol Medical School, University of Bristol Canynge Hall, Room LG.08A

This talk will focus on the association between female genital cutting and intimate partner violence, two behaviours which are often included under the umbrella terms of violence against women and girls (VAWG) or gender based violence (GBV). Despite little evidence, it is frequently asserted by organisations such as the UN that all forms of VAWG have the same root causes, namely patriarchal norms and gender inequality, and as such can be tackled collaboratively. This talk evaluates the evidence for this association in sub-Saharan Africa, looking both at whether women with female genital cutting are more susceptible to intimate partner violence, and whether women’s experience of intimate partner violence is associated with their support for the continuation of female genital cutting. Policy implications and future direction of research will also be discussed. All welcome.