

Act on (1982:316) Prohibiting the Genital Mutilation ("Circumcision") of Women

Swedish Code of Statutes
SFS 1982:316

Unofficial translation of: Lag (1982:316) med förbud mot
könsstympning av kvinnor

Promulgated 27 May 1982

Section 1. An operation may not be carried out on the outer female sexual organs with a view to mutilating them or of bringing about some other permanent change in them ("circumcision"), regardless of whether consent has been given for the operation or not.

Section 2. Anyone committing a breach of Section 1 is to be sentenced to a term of imprisonment of not more than four years.

If the offence has caused danger to life, serious illness, or has involved conduct of an unusually ruthless character in some other respect, it shall be regarded as grave. For a grave offence the sentence is a term of imprisonment of not less than two years and not more than ten years.

A sentence for liability pursuant to Chapter 23 of the Penal Code is to be passed on anyone found guilty of attempting, preparing or conspiring to commit the above offence, or of failing to report it. Act (1998:407).

Section 3. Anyone who has committed an offence under the terms of this Act is to be sentenced in a Swedish court of law, even if Chapter 2 Sections 2 or 3 of the Penal Code are inapplicable.

Regulations on requirements for authorisation to bring an action in certain cases are set out in Chapter 2 Section 5 of the Penal Code. Act (1999:267).

The Act came into force on 1 July 1982.