

APPENDIX A

INTERVIEWER GUIDES

Unmarried girls

Introduction

Good day (evening), Maman [term of respect]. All is well here? And your family? Forgive me, but I am here on a mission for an institution that is concerned with certain aspects of social life.

My name is

Maman, forgive me again. I have come to talk to you about certain problems concerning us as women. I am interested in what you can tell us from the standpoint of your customs about the different steps a girl goes through from her birth to her marriage. We know there are things we as women never forget such as our education, when breasts start to grow, puberty, circumcision...

Questions

1. What kind of household tasks are you learning?
2. What kind of training are you getting?
3. Who is in charge of this training?
4. What have you learned during this training?
5. What events have most marked your life?
6. From a customary standpoint, what are the steps of initiation you have gone through?
7. What is your notion of an ideal man?

Married women (young and old)

Introduction

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My name is

Maman, forgive me again. I have come to talk to you about certain problems concerning us as women. I am interested in what you can tell us from the standpoint of your customs about the different steps a girl goes through from her birth to her marriage. We know there are things we as women never forget such as our education, when breasts start to grow, puberty, circumcision...

Questions

1. What kind of household tasks did you learn in your family while growing up?
2. What kind of training did you get?
3. Who was in charge of this training?
4. What did you learn during this training?
5. What events have most marked your life?
6. From a customary standpoint, what are the steps of initiation you have gone through?
7. From a customary standpoint, how did these initiations go?

Married men

Introduction

Good day (evening), Brother (Papa, Grandfather) . All is well here? And your family? Forgive me, but I am here on a mission for an institution that is concerned with certain aspects of social life.

My name is

Papa, I am addressing you as a brother. As we all know, each of us has a past. We must say, before I was like this, so I acted, this is what I have done.

It is in this spirit that I am asking you to tell me the story of your life from birth to marriage.

Questions

- 1 What sort of work did you learn to do?
2. What sort of training have you had?
3. What are the events that most marked your life before marriage?
4. When you were young, what was your notion of the ideal woman?
5. How did you view your wife? What were the steps you took to marry her?

FGC specialists: traditional midwives, exciseues, matrones, nurses/midwives)

We would like to talk to several of these women in each field site concerning their knowledge of women's health problems and delivery, and their experience or knowledge if events surrounding FGC in their village or neighborhood. We also want to know what they do for women who are suffering from illness, when they are giving birth, and when they are looking for help to have children.

This interview is divided in three parts:

- a) Presentation of the research topic; explanation of our interest in female rites of passage; and the steps through which they customarily go;
- b) General questions on the subject;
- c) Invitation to ask us questions or make comments as they please.

Topics to address in the questions:

1. Please tell us about the health problems specific to women that you often find in this community.
2. Please tell us about health problems relating to delivery that you often find in this community.
3. Please explain the services you offer to women who request your help?
4. On the level of customs, what are the initiation steps a girl goes through before marriage in this community?
5. Now, I would like to know how excision ceremonies took place during the year.
 - What type of excision did the parents request?
 - What are these types called in the local language?
 - How old were the girls usually?
 - Who performed the procedure?
 - What exactly did she do?
 - How was the wound treated?
 - Were there any accidents during the year related to excision?
6. Is the way excision was performed during the preceding year the same as it was in former times or different? If so, how is it different?