



Members of the Committee on the Rights of the Child  
United Nations  
Geneva, Switzerland

May 11th, 2018

**RE: Genital mutilations in Argentina of Children with Variations in Sex Characteristics**

Distinguished members of the Committee on the Rights of the Child:

The Coordinadora of Profesionales por la Prevención de Abusos (CoPPA), an international network of professionals and experts in psychology, psychiatry, sociology, criminology, pedagogy and human rights who are devoted to protecting vulnerable groups in Latin America and Spain, would like to assert that:

Despite the concerns raised by professionals about these types of interventions, we have confirmed the unfortunate prevalence of the harmful practice of non-consensual genital mutilation, as well as other detrimental procedures that are imposed on Intersex children and adolescents in some hospitals and clinics in Argentina.

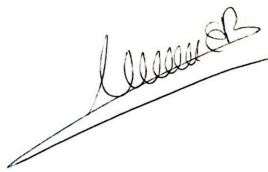
As an NGO dedicated to the prevention of violence and the defense of vulnerable groups, particularly children, we are extremely worried about the consequences of subjecting healthy children to these unnecessary, painful and non-consensual surgeries. These procedures can produce lifelong sequelae and damage that impair health and sexual function, and can have detrimental impacts on the child's social development, physical and mental health.

Therefore, in view of the upcoming 78th Session of the Committee that will examine this State Party's compliance with the Convention on the Rights of the Child, we would like to highlight the need for Argentina to adopt stringent measures to prevent intersex genital mutilation and other unnecessary medical treatments aimed at intersex children. In addition, we further stress the urgency of promoting educational programs at the state level to instruct medical professionals on the importance of respecting the physical integrity and self-determination of children with variations in sex characteristics.

In closing, we reiterate our endorsement of the suggestions put forth by the NGOs StopIGM.org, Justicia Intersex, Brújula Intersexual and Brújula Intersexual Argentina that aim to address this problem in Argentina, and trust that you will take them into consideration in the Committee's Final Observations.

With sincere appreciation for your important work, we remain at your disposal for any clarification you may require.

On behalf of Coordinadora de Profesionales por la Prevención de Abusos (CoPPA),



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