

## Boys and the Hood - Page 5

August 2006

Alex, the Oakville financial consultant, learned of restoration when researching a university paper on human sexuality and was intrigued by the discovery that something lost could be found again. "My parents are immigrants and knew nothing about circumcision, so when the Toronto doctor talked about it at my birth, they both presumed my dad had been circumcised—which speaks a lot to the notion of informed consent." In 1999, Alex's first attempts at the process proved futile. He used only tape, no strapping, and his cursory search of the Internet had given him little idea of what he was actually doing. He gave up. Then his wife, Holly, became pregnant with their son, and circumcision was once again a topic of conversation. Five years after his first experiment, Alex embarked on a more comprehensive search of exactly what could be done.

Holly was surprised at his wishes. "My reaction was, Gosh!" says the auburn-haired math teacher who'd never actually experienced a foreskin. "I told him that I loved his penis just the way it was. But he would talk about this piece of his own body that he hadn't been allowed to experience, that was taken away without his consent. He felt that nature must have intended it for something. I think the best word for him was wistful."

The Canadian Children's Rights Council, a non-profit advocacy organization, takes the position that "all Canadian children, both male and female, should be protected by the criminal laws of Canada with regards to this aggravated assault." No other amputation of a child's healthy tissue is permitted on a parent's preference. Activists hope that routine circumcision may one day follow the death throes of bloodletting and incantations, and that men will never have to resort to T-tape, skin grafts and gallon jugs of milk again.



BACK

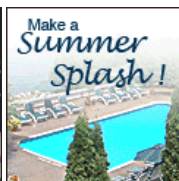
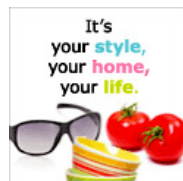
Page: 1 2 3 4 5

Email

Del.icio.us

Digg

Facebook



## CUSTOMER SERVICE

Subscribe to Toronto Life magazine  
Give a gift  
Enquire about subscriptions  
Renew subscription  
Check account status  
Change of address  
Frequently asked questions

## QUICK LINKS

Cheap eats  
Urban Decoder  
Chatto's Digest  
Find a restaurant  
Find events  
Where to get good stuff cheap  
Movies and nightlife

## SEARCH FOR

Restaurant reviews  
Recommended wines  
Something to do tonite  
Something to do this weekend  
A cultural event  
Marketplace classifieds  
Feature articles

## NEWSLETTERS

Stay on top of the best the city has to offer with Preview, our free weekly email newsletter.

 Preview

 Toronto Life Cottager

Your e-mail address

SUBSCRIBE &gt;&gt;

## Current Issue



Subscribe to Toronto Life Magazine

Give a Gift  
Renew Subscription  
Check Account Status  
Change of Address  
Subscription FAQ

## Contests

Taste of Toronto—Spring Edition

## TORONTO LIFE CityGuides

Arts & Entertainment Guide  
Bars & Clubs Guide  
Entertaining Guide  
Fashion & Beauty Guide  
Fitness & Wellness Guide  
Food Guide  
Getaways & Day Trips Guide  
Golf Guide  
Good Stuff Cheap Guide  
Home & Garden Guide  
Kids & Parents Guide  
Real Estate Guide  
Restaurants Guide  
Wine Guide

News servers