

**Senate Community Affairs Committee**  
**ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**  
**FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND**  
**INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO**  
**2010-11 Additional Estimates Hearings**

**Outcome Number:** 6

**Question No:** 151

**Topic:** Female Genital Mutilation

**Hansard Page:** 24/2/2011 – CA 46

**Senator Cash** asked:

Can you provide the Government's policy on female genital mutilation?

**Answer:**

As previously advised the Department of Health and Ageing has lead responsibility in the Commonwealth for these matters.

Legislation against female genital mutilation is the responsibility of state and territory governments. All states and territories have enacted legislation making female genital mutilation a criminal offence.