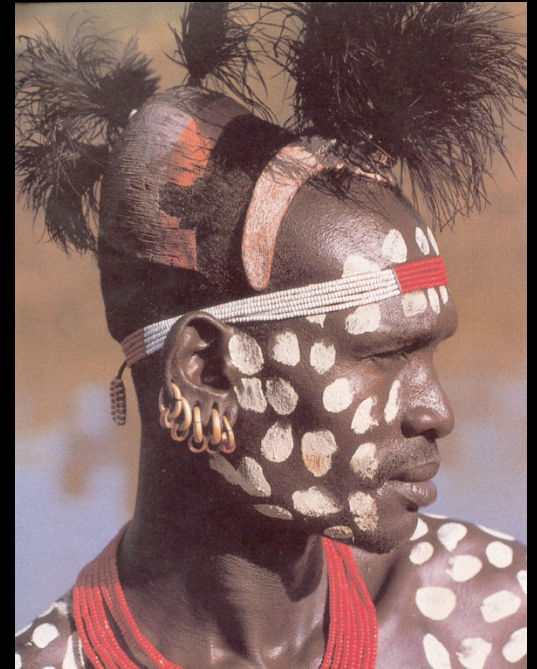
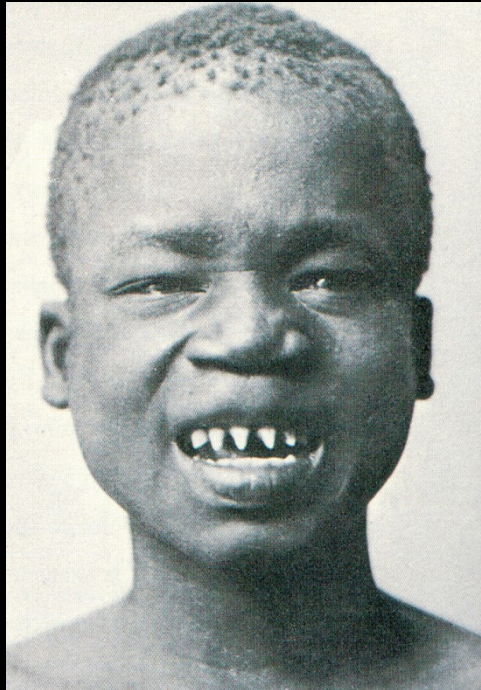




# Body Piercing

## A Return to Paganism



**IN SOME OF THE MOST  
UNEXPECTED PLACES WE ARE  
CONFRONTED BY A REVIVAL OF  
THE OLD TRIBAL PRACTICES OF  
BODY SCARIFICATION, BODY  
PIERCING AND BODY  
MUTILATION.**



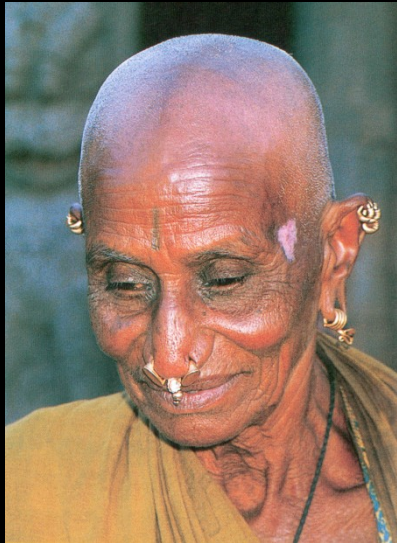
**NOSE RINGS, EYEBROW RINGS, BELLY  
RINGS, TONGUE STUDS, MULTIPLE  
EARRINGS, NIPPLE RINGS, TATTOOS  
AND OTHER DISFIGUREMENTS ARE  
MORE THAN AN IDENTIFIABLE**



NIPPLE PIERCING

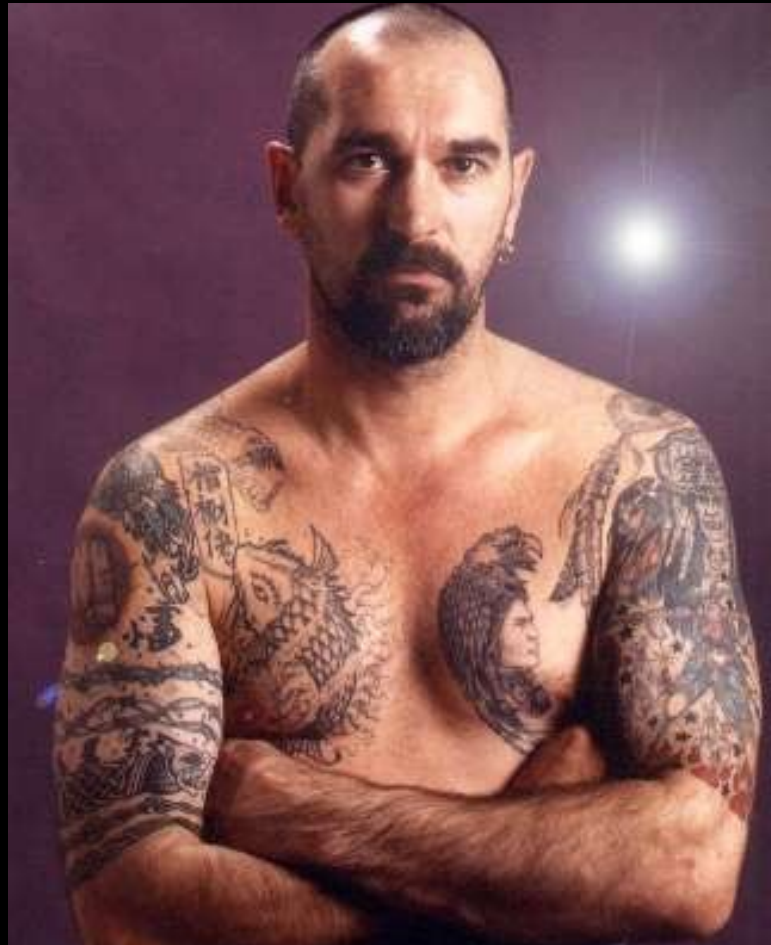


**SUB-CULTURE - IT IS ALL PART  
OF AN AGGRESSIVE FASHION  
STATEMENT WHICH IS  
CHALLENGING THE CHRISTIAN  
CHURCH.**



***"Do not cut your bodies ... or put tattoo marks on yourselves. I am the Lord. "***

**LEVITICUS 19:28**



**UNFORTUNATELY, MOST  
CHURCH LEADERS HAVE  
REMAINED SILENT ON THIS  
PRACTICE, EVEN WHILE  
SOME YOUTH LEADERS  
AND BIBLE COLLEGE  
STUDENTS ARE GIVING  
THEMSELVES OVER TO  
BODY MODIFICATION.**

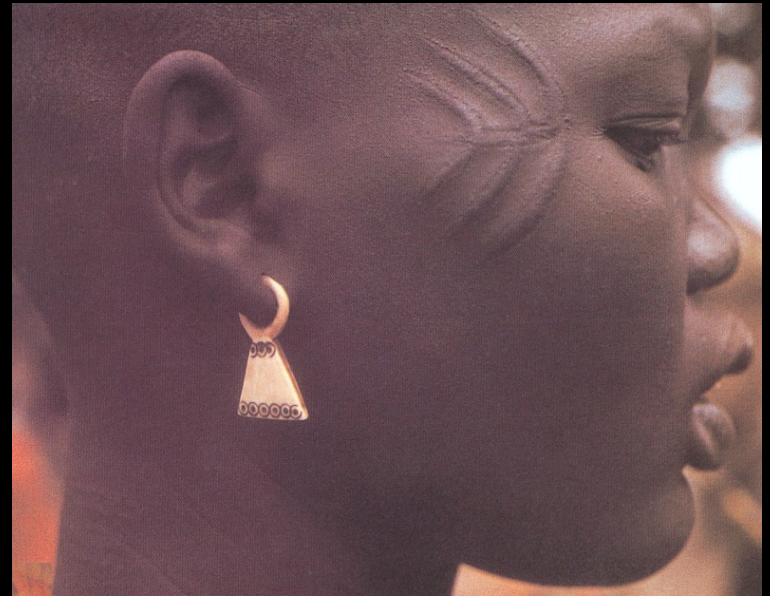


***"Priests must not shave  
their heads ... or cut their  
bodies. They must be holy to  
their God and must not  
profane the Name of their  
God ... they are to be holy."***

**LEVITICUS 21:5 - 6**



**AS CHRISTIANS, WE ARE  
CALLED TO BE HOLY, SET  
APART AND DIFFERENT FROM  
THE WORLD, CONSECRATED  
TO GOD.**



*"EVERYBODY'S DOING IT"*  
**IS HARDLY AN ARGUMENT  
TO JUSTIFY CHRISTIAN  
INVOLVEMENT.**



PHOTO/INKFARM

**THEY VERY FACT THAT PAGANS  
PRACTICE BODY PIERCING  
SHOULD BE A COMPELLING  
ENOUGH ARGUMENT AGAINST  
CHRISTIANS BEING  
CONFORMED TO THE WORLD.**

*Brent Moffatt broke the world record for most piercings by sticking hundreds of surgical needles through his legs and torso in Winnipeg, January 15, 2003. Moffatt broke the previous Guinness record of 200 piercings in about one and one-half hours and planned to stop at 1000 piercings.*







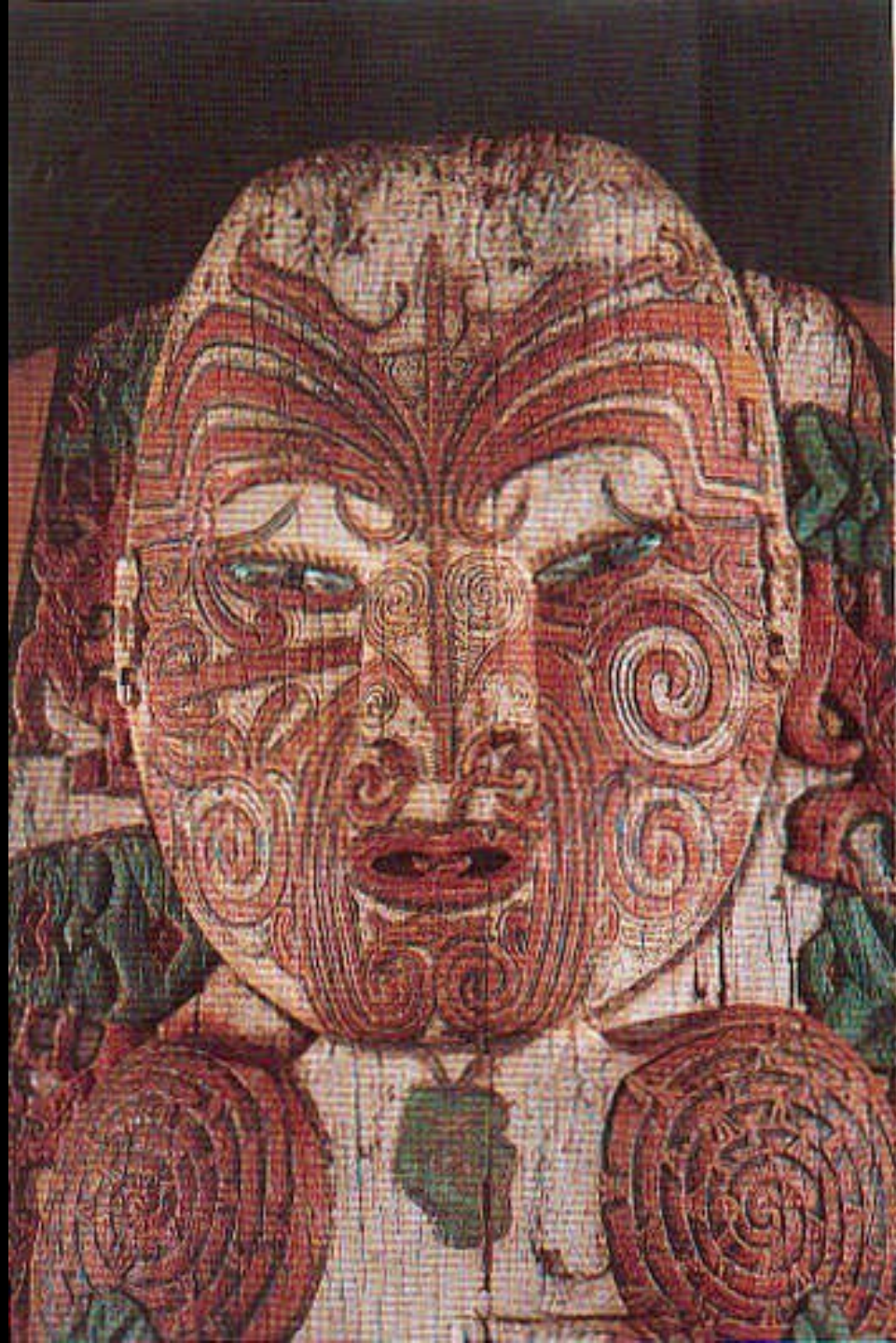


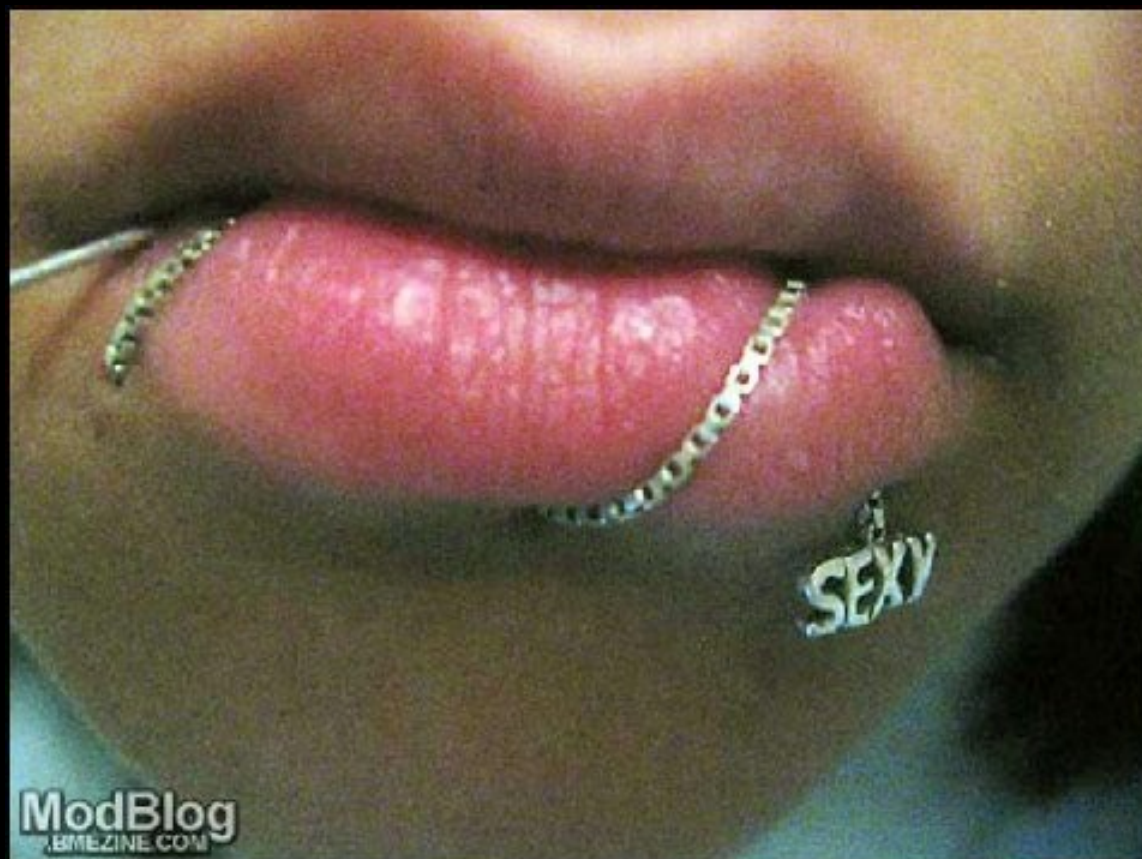


PIERCING

TATTOO



















"Dalrymple is a writer of great  
skill, commitment, and profound irony,  
the best of the great writers of our age."

—MICHAEL CROSBY, *THE NEW YORK TIMES*

# OUR CULTURE, WHAT'S LEFT OF IT

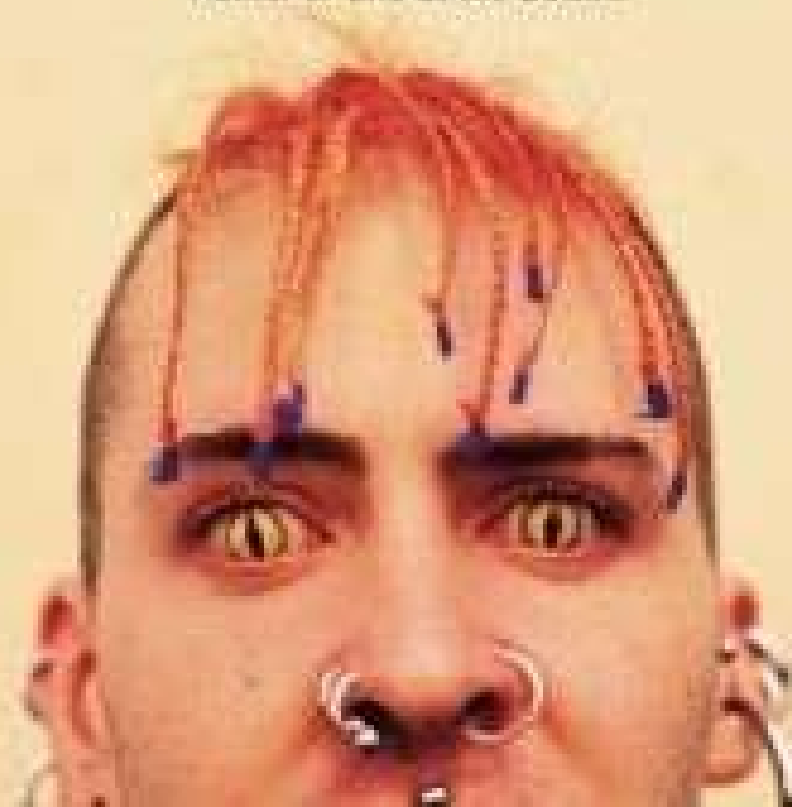
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THE MANDARINS AND THE MASSES

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THEODORE DALRYMPLE

Author of *Life at the Bottom*





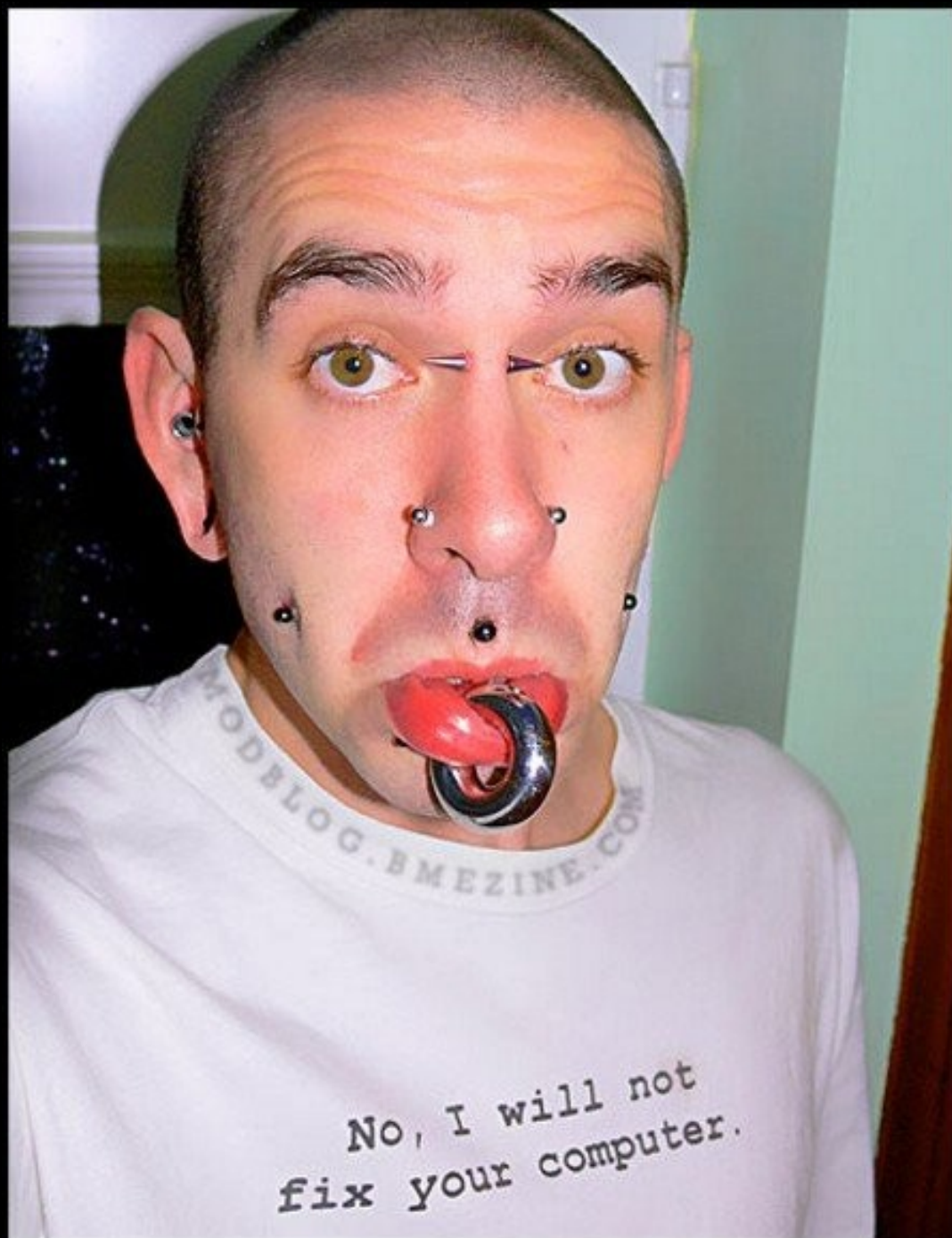






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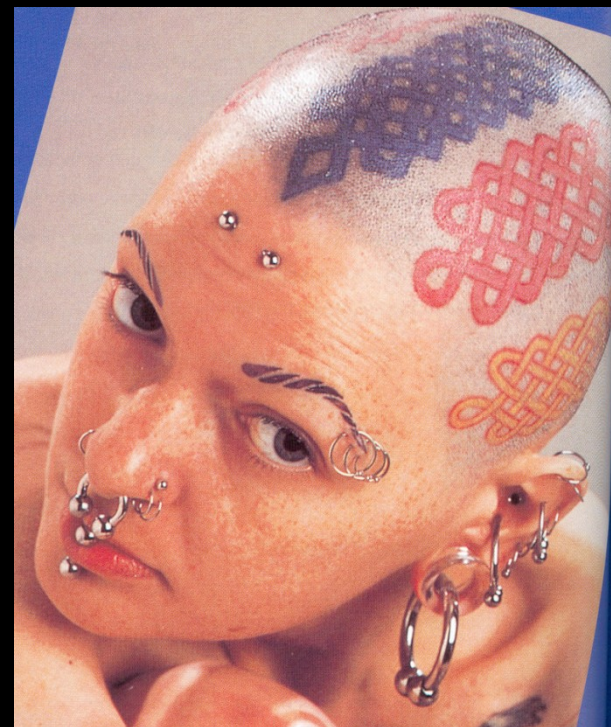




***"But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God, that you may declare the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His wonderful light."***

**1 P E T E R 2 : 9**

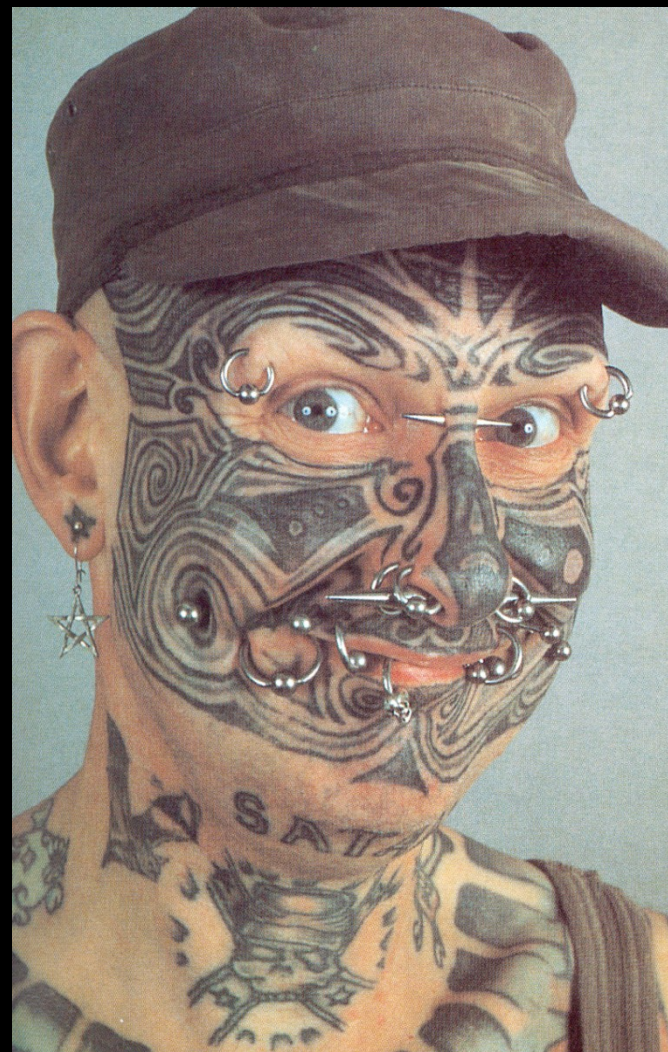
**THE SCRIPTURES ARE CLEAR THAT  
WE MUST TREAT OUR BODIES WITH  
RESPECT, THEY ARE NOT OUR OWN  
TO DO WITH AS WE WISH. THEY  
BELONG TO GOD, WHO MADE  
THEM AND WHO PURCHASED  
THEM WITH HIS OWN BLOOD.**



**O U R B O D I E S   A R E   T O   B E  
T E M P L E S   O F   T H E   H O L Y   S P I R I T .  
W E   A R E   T O   G L O R I F Y   G O D   W I T H  
O U R   B O D I E S .**



***"Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ Himself? ... Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit, Who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; you were bought with a price. Therefore honour God with your body."*** 1 CORINTHIANS 6:15, 19 - 20





**ON THE OTHER HAND, THE  
BIBLE RECORDS HOW  
PAGANS ABUSED THEIR  
BODIES.**



**THE FALSE PROPHETS OF  
BAAL "SLASHED  
THEMSELVES WITH SWORDS  
AND SPEARS, AS WAS THEIR  
CUSTOM UNTIL THEIR BLOOD  
FLOWED."** (1 KINGS 18:28).



**THE DEMON POSSESSED MAN OF GADARA CUT  
HIMSELF WITH STONES AND RAN AROUND NAKED  
(MARK 5:5). IT WAS THE CUSTOM OF THE  
ISHMAELITE MEN TO WEAR GOLD EARRINGS.  
(JUDGES 8:24).**



**BIBLICALLY, A PIERCED EAR IS A  
PUBLIC INDICATION OF  
PERMANENT SLAVERY. WHEN  
THE HEBREWS WERE LED OUT OF  
SLAVERY IN EGYPT BY MOSES,  
THEY WERE URGED "TAKE OFF THE  
GOLD EARRINGS ... SO ALL THE  
PEOPLE TOOK OFF THEIR EARRINGS  
... THESE ARE YOUR GODS, O  
ISRAEL"** **EXODUS 32:1-3**





**AFTER GOD SPOKE TO JACOB,  
HE INSTRUCTED HIS HOUSEHOLD  
TO GET RID OF THEIR IDOLS AND  
PURIFY THEMSELVES. ALONG  
WITH THEIR STONE IDOLS, THEY  
BURIED THEIR EARRINGS.**

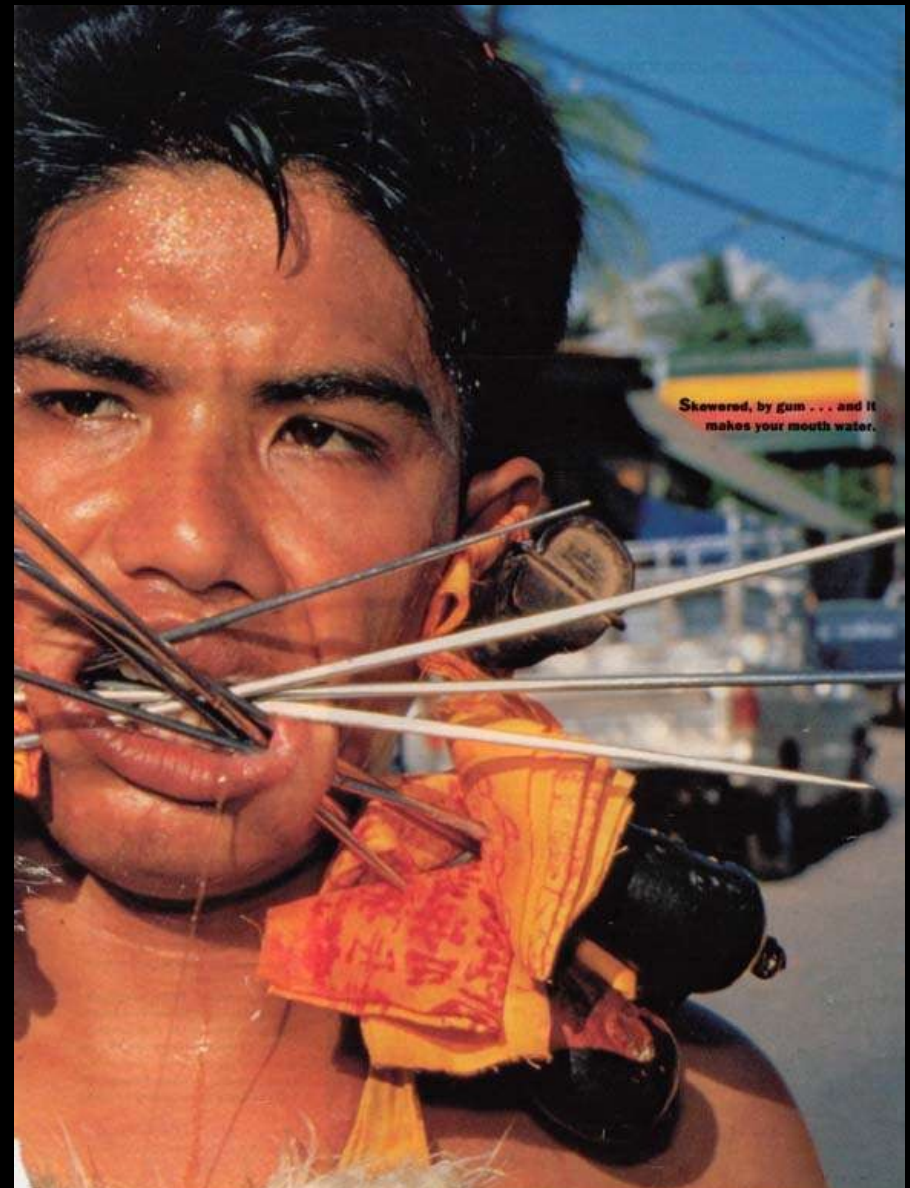


*"SO JACOB SAID TO HIS  
HOUSEHOLD AND TO ALL WHO  
WERE WITH HIM, 'Get rid of  
the foreign gods you have  
with you, and purify  
yourselves and change  
your clothes' ... so they  
gave Jacob all the foreign  
gods they had and the  
rings in their ears, and  
Jacob buried them."*

**GENESIS 35:2**



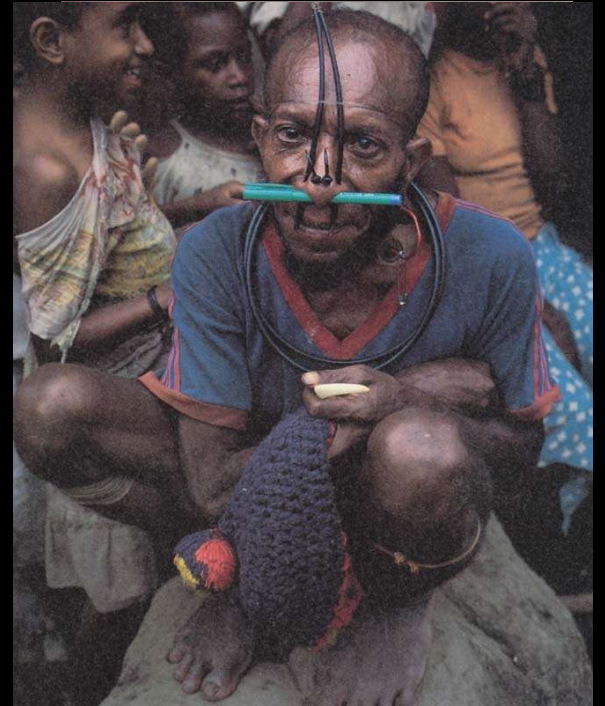
**THIS HAS ALWAYS  
BEEN THE RESPONSE OF  
PAGAN PEOPLE WHEN  
THEY'VE EMBRACED  
THE GOSPEL OF CHRIST.**



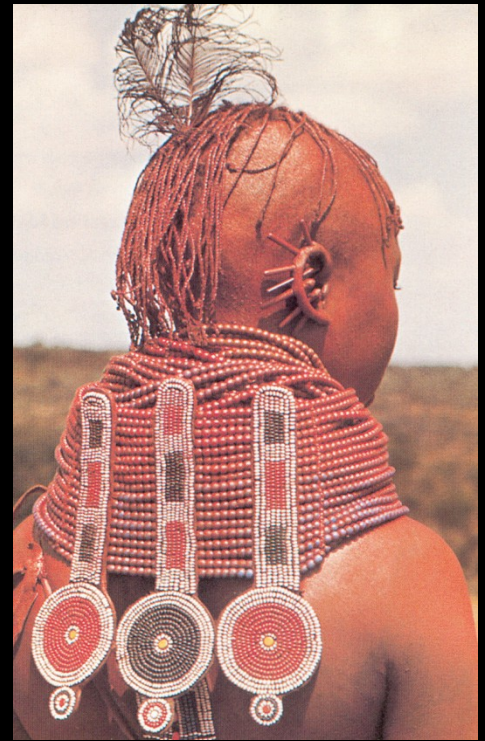




**FROM PAPUA NEW GUINEA TO  
THE AMAZON JUNGLE, PAGAN  
TRIBES ENGAGE IN BODY  
SCARIFICATION, EARRINGS, NOSE  
RINGS, TONGUE STUDS, MULTIPLE  
PIERCINGS AND TATTOOS. ONCE  
CONVERTED TO CHRIST, HOWEVER,  
THESE TRIBES ABANDON ALL THESE  
BODY MODIFICATION PRACTICES.**



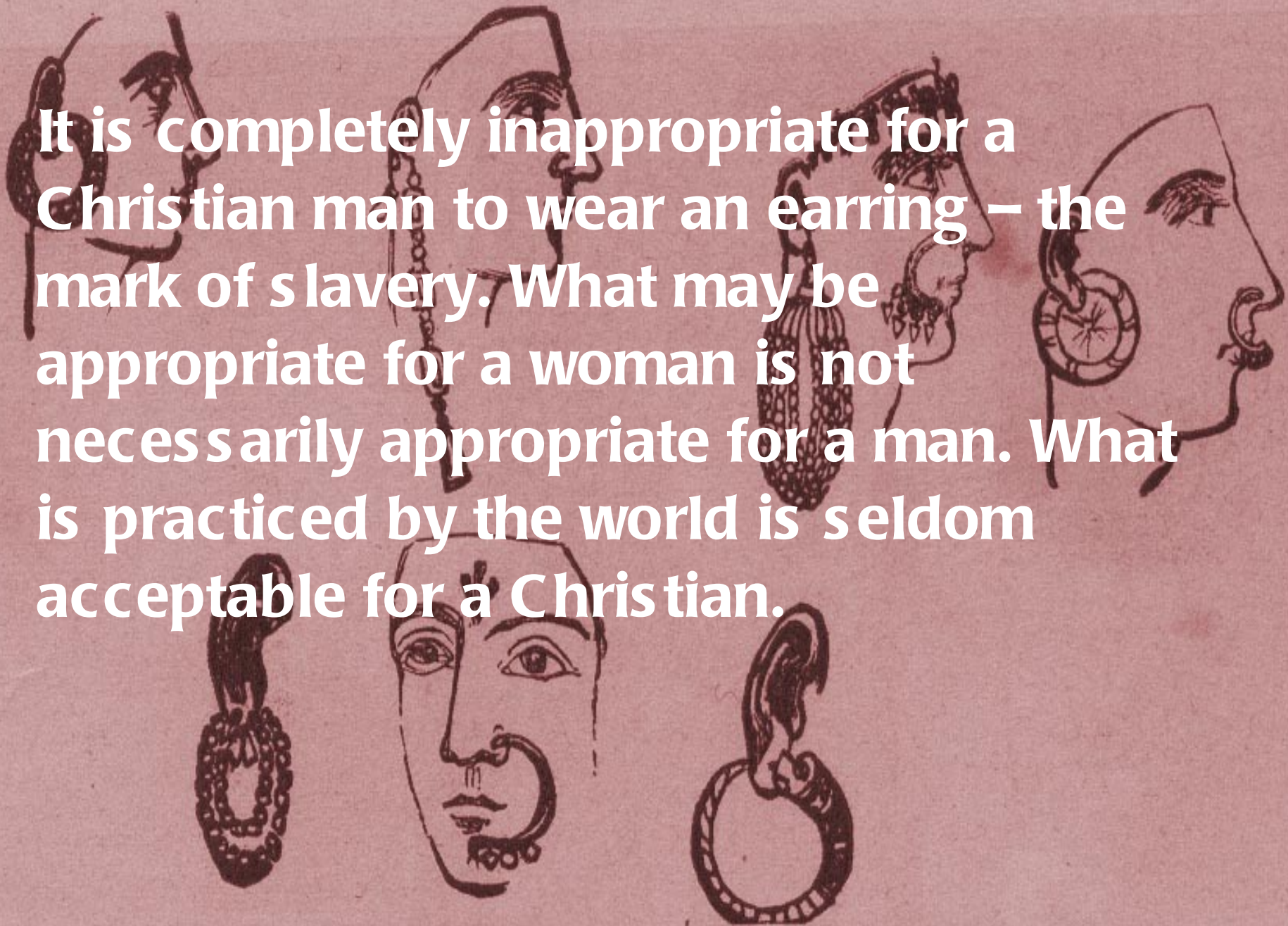
*“FEAR THE LORD YOUR GOD, SERVE HIM ONLY ... DO NOT FOLLOW OTHER GODS, THE GODS OF THE PEOPLES AROUND YOU; FOR THE LORD YOUR GOD ... IS A JEALOUS GOD AND HIS ANGER WILL BURN AGAINST YOU ... DO NOT TEST THE LORD ... BE SURE TO KEEP THE COMMANDS OF THE LORD YOUR GOD AND THE STIPULATIONS AND DECREES HE HAS GIVEN YOU. DO WHAT IS RIGHT AND GOOD IN THE LORD’S SIGHT, SO THAT IT MAY GO WELL WITH YOU ... IN THE FUTURE, WHEN YOUR SONS ASK YOU,*



*‘WHAT IS THE MEANING OF THE STIPULATIONS,  
DECREES AND LAWS THE LORD YOUR GOD HAS  
COMMANDED YOU?’ **‘We were slaves of  
Pharaoh in Egypt, but the Lord brought  
us out of Egypt with a mighty hand ...’***

**DEUTERONOMY 6:13 - 21**

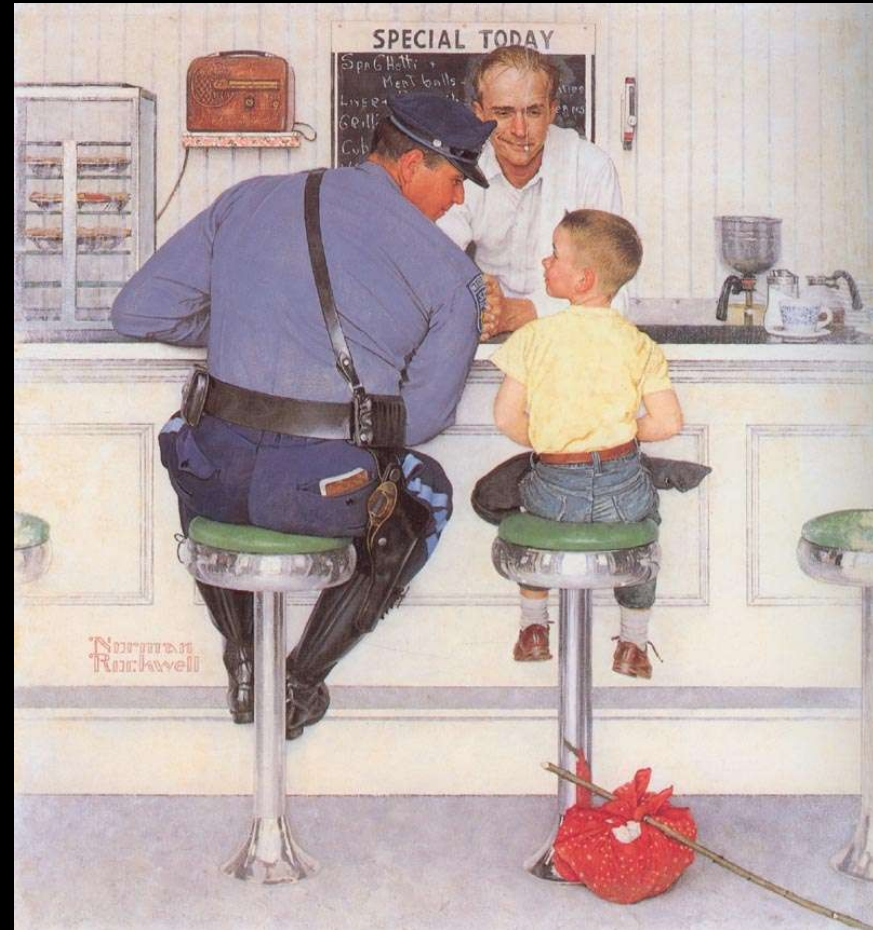
It is completely inappropriate for a Christian man to wear an earring – the mark of slavery. What may be appropriate for a woman is not necessarily appropriate for a man. What is practiced by the world is seldom acceptable for a Christian.





***"You, my brothers,  
were called to be free.  
But do not use your  
freedom to indulge the  
sinful nature, rather  
serve one another in  
love."***

**GALATIANS 5:13**



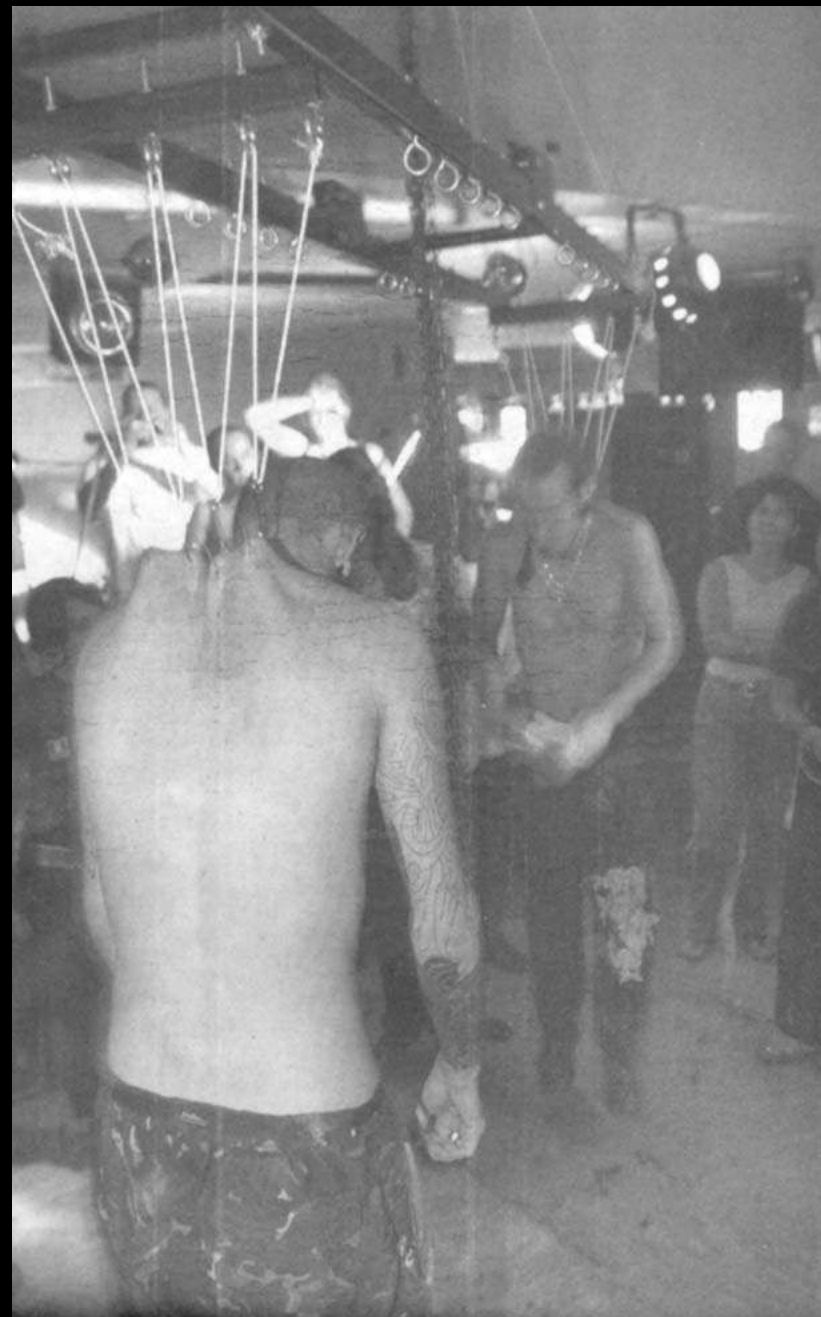
***use your freedom as a cover  
up for evil."***

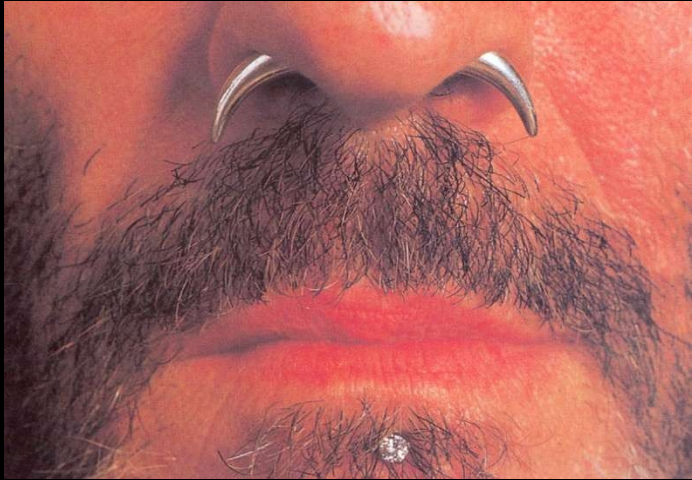
**1 P E T E R 2 : 1 6**

***"It is for freedom that Christ  
has set us free. Stand firm,  
then, and do not let yourselves  
be burdened again by a yoke of  
slavery."***

**G A L A T I A N S 5 : 1**

**IF SOMETHING IS  
PREVALENT AND  
ACCEPTED IN THE  
WORLD, THAT ALONE  
SHOULD BE A  
COMPELLING  
ARGUMENT AGAINST  
CHRISTIANS ADOPTING  
THEIR FASHIONS AND  
FADS.**





**WE ARE CALLED TO BE  
DIFFERENT. WE ARE TO  
HONOUR GOD WITH OUR  
BODIES.**





*"THEREFORE, I URGE YOU, BROTHERS,  
IN VIEW OF GOD'S MERCY, TO **offer**  
**your bodies as living**  
**sacrifices, holy and pleasing**  
**to God – WHICH IS YOUR SPIRITUAL**  
**WORSHIP. Do not conform any**  
**longer to the patterns of this**  
**world, BUT BE TRANSFORMED BY THE**  
**RENEWING OF YOUR MIND. THEN YOU**  
**WILL BE ABLE TO TEST AND APPROVE**  
**WHAT GOD'S WILL IS – HIS GOOD,**  
**PLEASING AND PERFECT WILL"***



**ROMANS 12:1 - 2**

**O U R B O D I E S M A T T E R . T H E Y A R E T O  
B E P R E S E N T E D T O G O D A S H O L Y  
O F F E R I N G S - I N A W A Y T H A T  
P L E A S E S G O D . W E A R E N O T T O  
F O L L O W T H E E X A M P L E O F T H E  
P A G A N S .**



**MAKING HOLES IN OUR  
BODIES IS HARDLY  
RESPECTING THEM AS  
TEMPLES OF THE HOLY  
SPIRIT.**



**PERMANENTLY  
DISFIGURING OUR  
BODIES IS BLATANT  
REBELLION TO OUR  
CREATOR AND  
REDEEMER**





***"Dear friends, I urge you,  
as aliens and strangers in  
the world, to abstain from  
sinful desires, which war  
against your soul."***

**1 P E T E R 2:11**

THE first clue to the crime was contained in a note Manuela Ruda wrote to her mother soon after the killing. "I am not of this world," it said. "I must liberate my soul from the mortal flesh."

Thinking it was a suicide note, her mother got a key to her daughter and son-in-law's flat in Witten, Germany, and gave it to the cops.

She accompanied them to the apartment but stood outside the building while they went inside. Perhaps she had a premonition of the horror that lay behind the closed door.

It was dark inside the flat. The shutters were closed and the lights weren't working. But police could see blood spattered over the bedroom walls. In the bathroom was a black-and-white poster of hanged women. Skulls, scalpels stained with blood, vampire teeth, ram horns and red, yellow and black coloured contact lenses lay scattered around. Pentagrams (five-cornered Satanic symbols) had been carved into the walls.

In the midst of the chaos lay the body of a man in a great pool of blood. His pants had been pulled down and his shirt pushed up to his neck. His chest was a mass of stab wounds, his arms and face had been savaged with a machete. His face had been beaten in. A scalpel was lodged in his stomach and next to it a pentagram had been carved into his skin.

A note, which police believe was a death list of 15 intended victims, was found near his body.

There was no sign of Manuela or her husband Daniel. However, three days later they were trapped in a roadblock and charged with murder.

Daniel Ruda (26), a car parts salesman, and Manuela (23) were committed for 15 and 13 years respectively to maximum-security psychiatric units for the murder of 33-year-old Frank Hackert, a former colleague of Daniel and a friend of the couple.

But the judge said the possibility they could kill again meant they might never be released.

Daniel and Manuela openly admit



# Evil life of the Bride of Satan

# TATTOO PIERCING



**PART OF THE BIBLICAL  
DESCRIPTION OF A HARLOT IS  
THAT "SHE DECKED  
HERSELF WITH RINGS AND  
JEWELRY ... BUT ME SHE  
FORGOT, DECLARES THE  
LORD." (HOSEA 2:13)**





***"For in his own eyes he flatters himself too much to detect or hate his sin."***

**PSALM 36:2**

***"Let us examine our ways and test them, and let us return to the Lord."***

**LAMENTATIONS 3:40**

**TO DRAW ATTENTION TO  
OURSELVES WITH THESE  
EXCESSIVE FASHION  
STATEMENTS IS HARDLY IN  
KEEPING WITH THE BIBLICAL  
COM M A N D S TO BE HUM BLE  
AND M O D E S T (P R O V E R B S 21 :4;  
1 T I M O T H Y 2: 9 - 1 0).**



***"Your beauty should not come from outward adornment ... instead it should be that of your inner self, the unfading beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit."***

**1 PETER 3: 3 - 4**

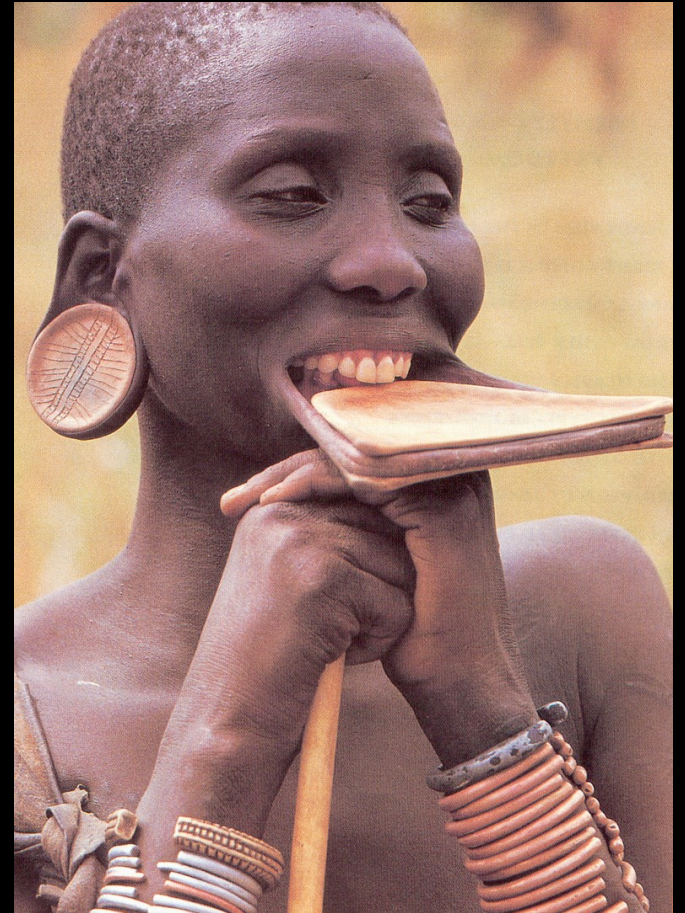


**THE PRESENT OBSESSION  
OF MANY WITH BODY  
MODIFICATION IS A REVIVAL  
OF TRIBALISM. IT INVOLVES  
A PAINFUL INITIATION RITE,  
WHICH PRODUCES AN  
IDENTIFICATION WITH A  
CERTAIN TRIBE, CLAN OR  
SUB-CULTURE.**

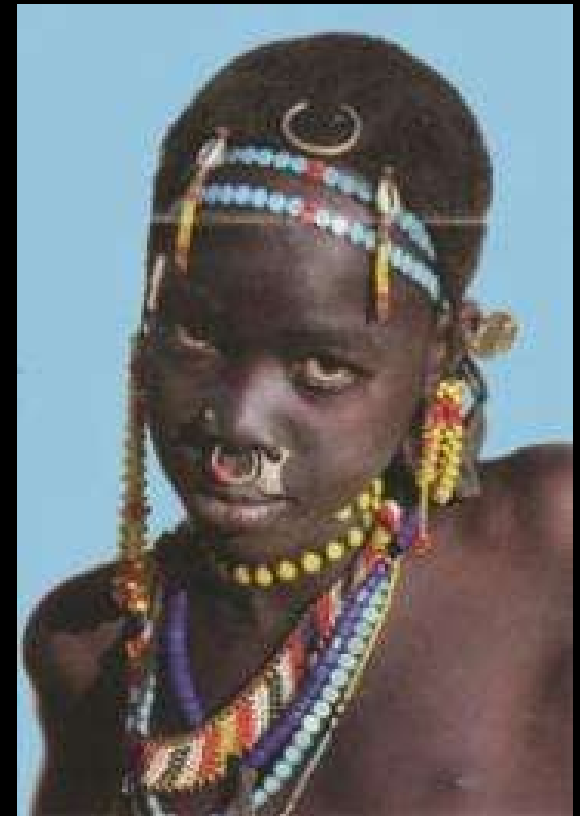
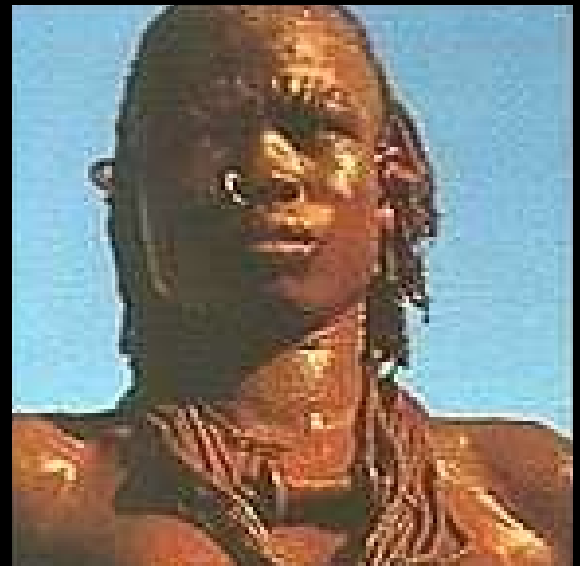




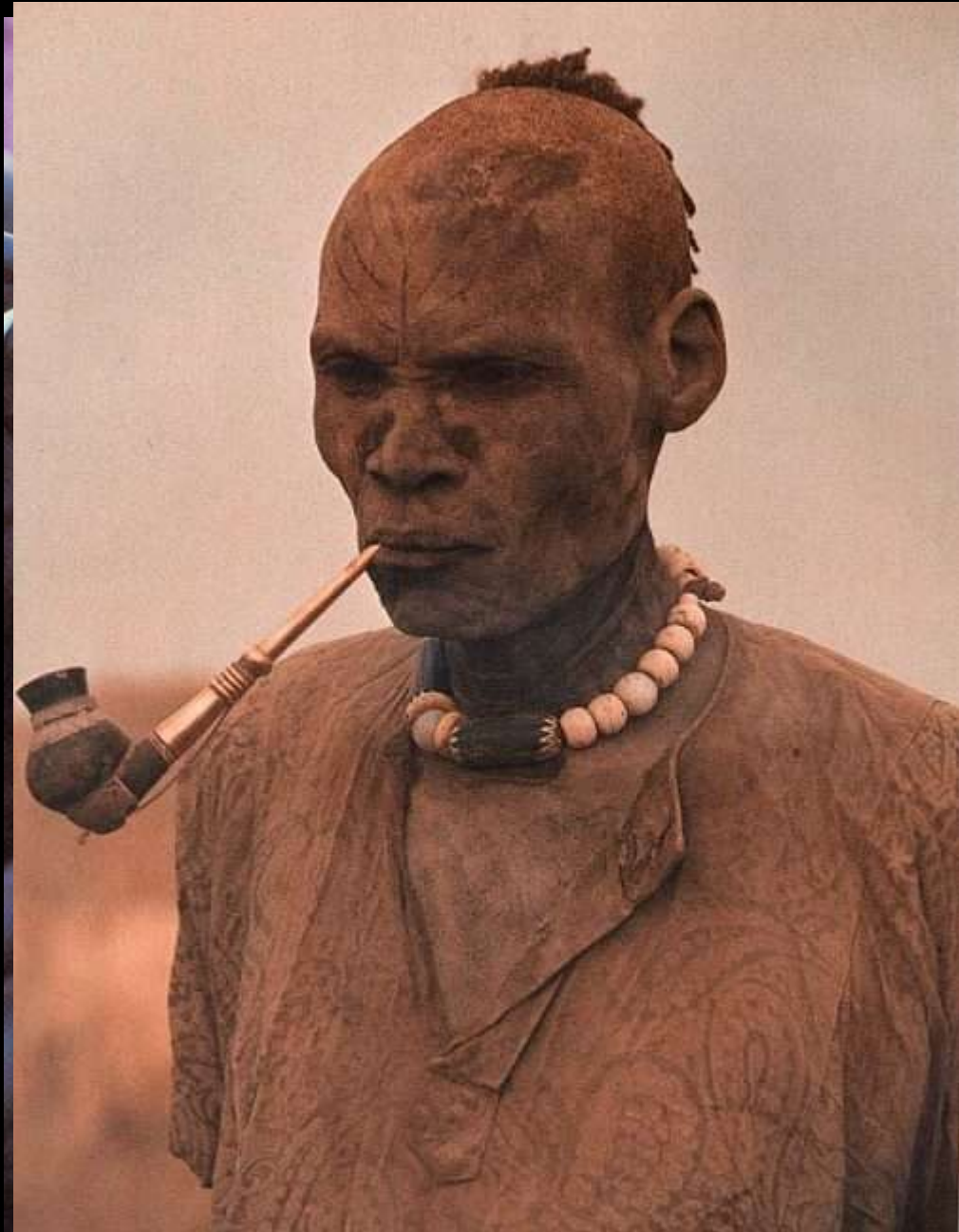
**THE KACIPO PEOPLE IN  
SUDAN STRETCH THEIR LOWER  
LIPS TO FIT A SAUCER-SIZED  
POTTERY AND  
THEY STRETCH THEIR EAR  
LOBES TO CREATE HUGE HOLES  
AND LONG EARLOBES.**



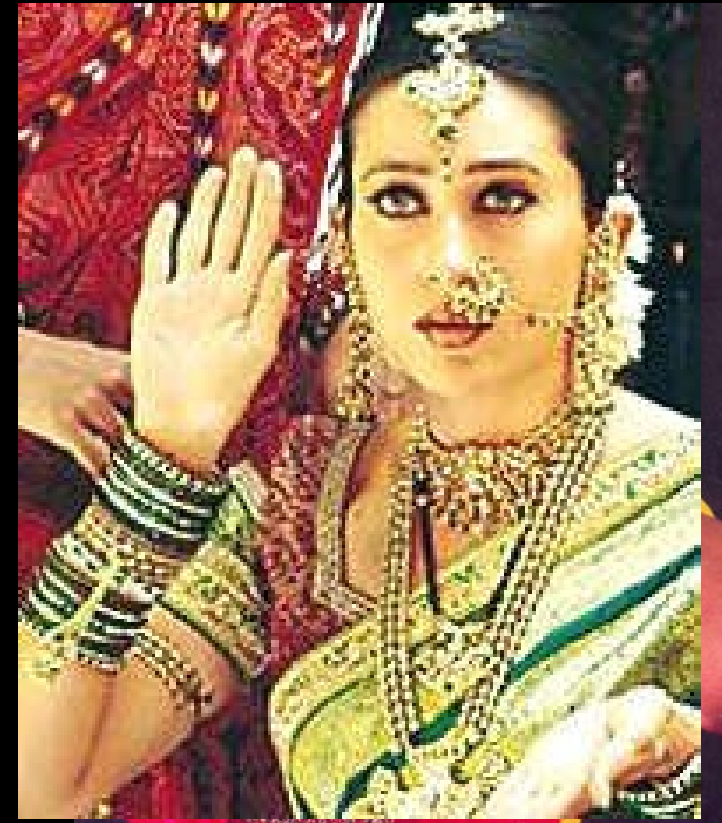
**AMONGST THE NUBA TRIBES  
IN SUDAN, MULTIPLE  
EARRINGS, NOSE RINGS,  
BODY SCARIFICATION AND  
BODY PAINTING ARE  
PREVALENT.**



**THE DINKA AND NUER  
TRIBES IN SUDAN ARE  
EASILY IDENTIFIABLE BY  
THE PATTERN OF SCARS  
ACROSS THEIR  
FOREHEADS.**



**AMONGST THE HINDUS - NOSE  
STUDS, BELLY RINGS, TOE RINGS,  
TONGUE STUDS AND EYEBROW  
RINGS ARE COMMON.**

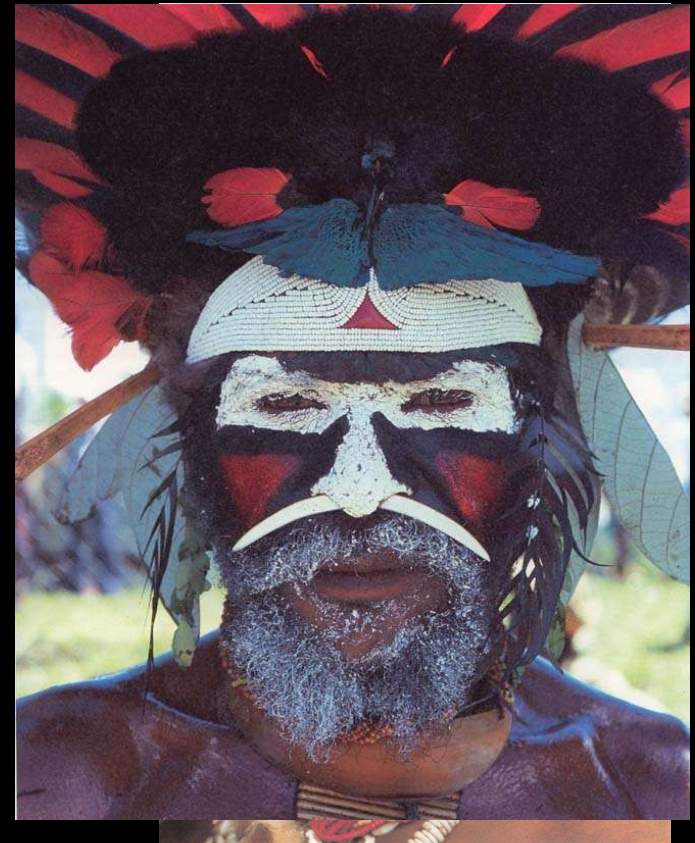




**TATTOOS AMONGST THE AMAZON  
TRIBES IDENTIFY THE VARIOUS  
MEMBERS OF A GIVEN TRIBE.**



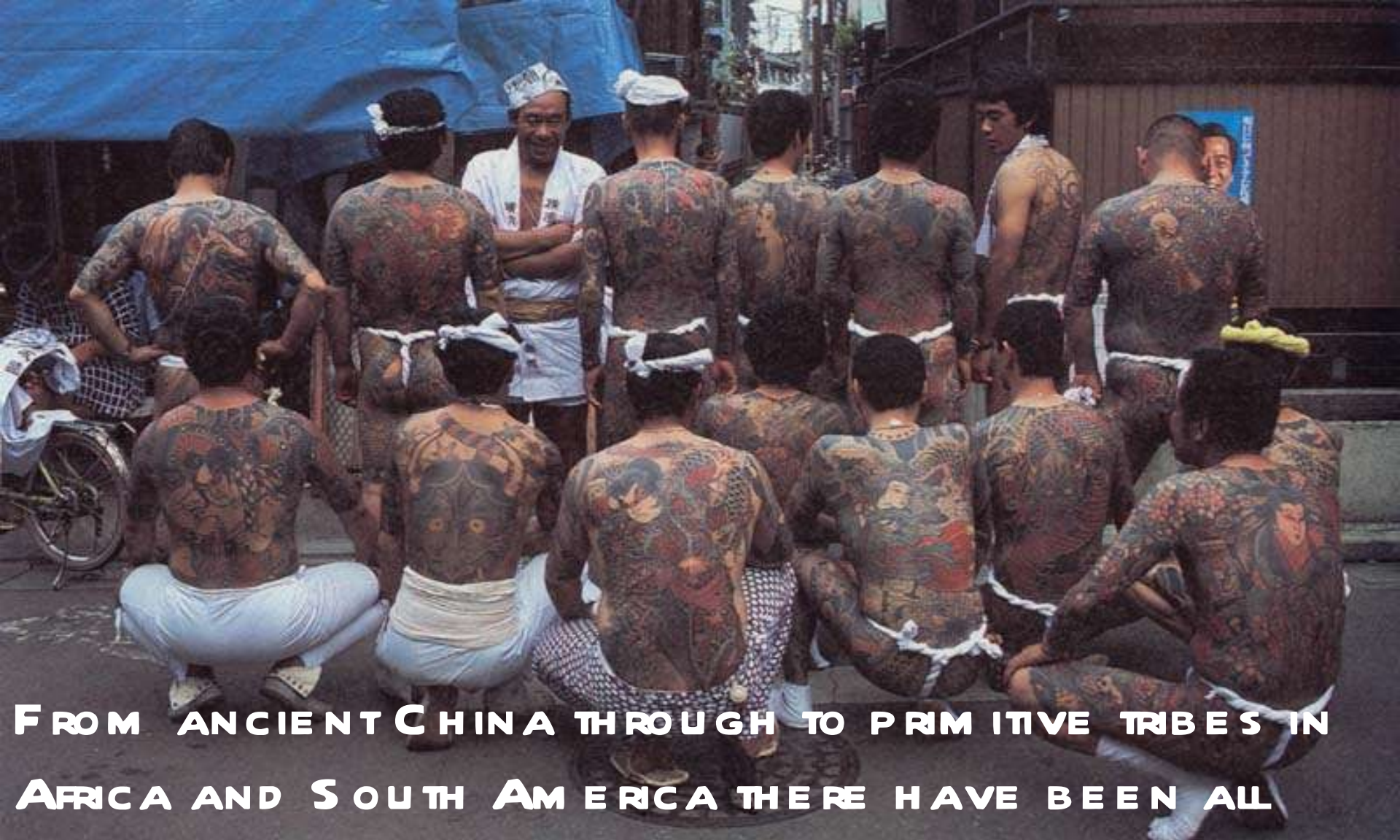
**IN PAPUA NEW GUINEA, ALL  
KINDS OF BODY SCARIFICATION,  
TATTOOS AND BODY MUTILATION  
DISTINGUISH THE VARIOUS  
TRIBES.**



**THE HISTORY OF VARIOUS  
TYPES OF BODY  
MODIFICATION HAS  
EVIDENCE FOUND ALL OVER  
THE WORLD WHEREVER  
ANIMISM AND SPIRITISM  
HAS BEEN THE RELIGION.**



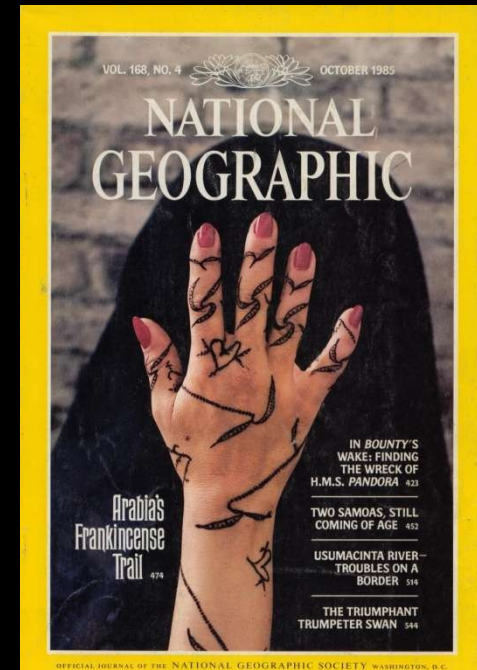




**FROM ANCIENT CHINA THROUGH TO PRIMITIVE TRIBES IN  
AFRICA AND SOUTH AMERICA THERE HAVE BEEN ALL  
MANNER OF ADJUSTMENTS TO THE BODY TO SIGNIFY  
IDENTITY WITH A CERTAIN GROUP AND CERTAIN  
GODS & SPIRITS.**



AMONG THE TRIBES IN BORNEO,  
TATTOOING IS MAINLY ASSOCIATED WITH  
HEAD HUNTING (A VISIBLE SIGN OF  
SUCCESS) FOR MEN AND THE COMING  
OF AGE OF WOMEN - IN SOME CASES  
IT SYMBOLIZES THEIR SOCIAL STATUS.  
TATTOOS ARE PART OF THE "RITES OF  
PASSAGE" AND NEXT TO BLACKENED  
TEETH AND LONG EAR-LOBES, INTRICATE  
TATTOOS ON FINGERS, HANDS, LOWER  
ARMS, THIGHS, CALVES, AND FEET  
SERVED AS IMPORTANT ELEMENTS OF  
BEAUTY FOR WOMEN.



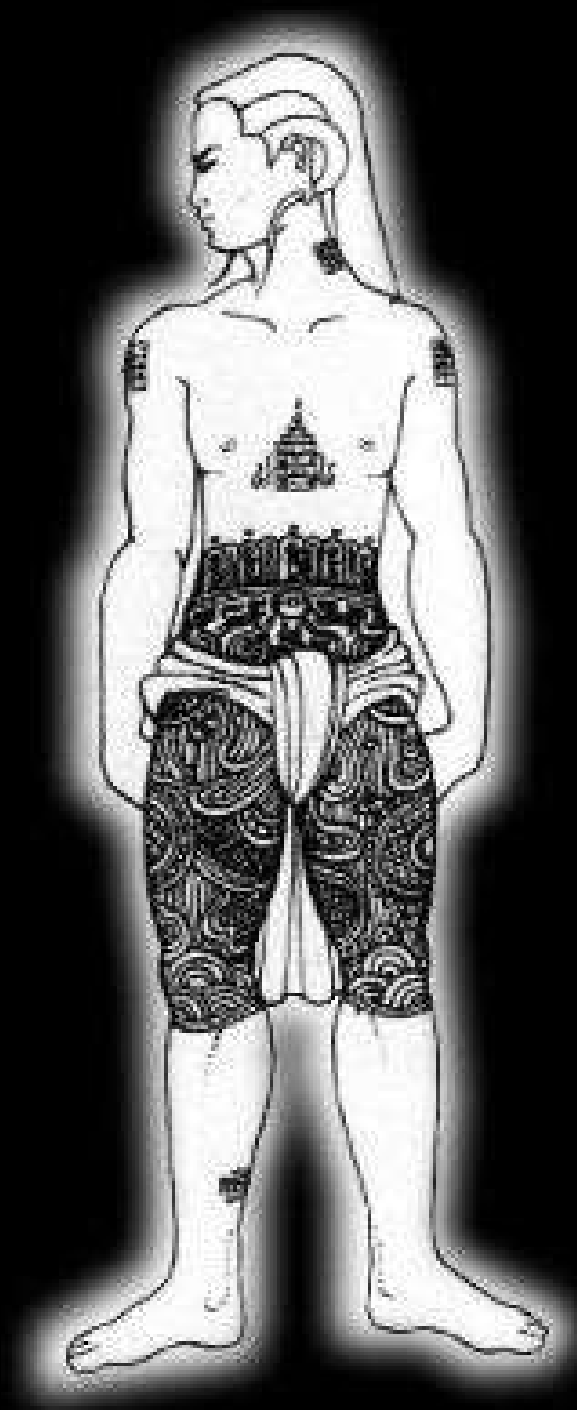
**A P A G A N V I E W O N T H E  
S U B J E C T : " A T A T T O O I S A  
C O M P L E X S I G N I F I E R : I T  
S I G N A L S C L A S S ; I T S I G N A L S  
S E X U A L I T Y ; A N D I T H A S  
S P E C I F I C C O N T E N T A S A  
S I G N I F I E R : A D E P I C T I O N O F  
A N A N I M A L , A P E R S O N , A N  
A B S T R A C T T R I B A L D E S I G N .  
T H E M O S T U S U A L M O T I F S  
A R E S I G N I F I E R S O F P O W E R  
A N D M A S C U L I N I T Y . . .**



**BUT WHAT THE TATTOO  
SIGNALS ABOVE ALL IS THE  
POWER ONE SEIZES OVER  
ONE'S OWN BODY... TO BE  
BRANDED OR TATTOOED  
SHOWS ALSO THAT YOU  
HAVE THE REQUISITE GUTS  
TO JOIN THE GROUP.**



IT IS NOT THE MOST  
EXTREME OR PAINFUL  
FORM OF INITIATION, BUT  
IT SERVES AS A SIGN OF  
PAIN AND HENCE OF  
RESOLUTION." (CRISPEN  
SARTWELL)

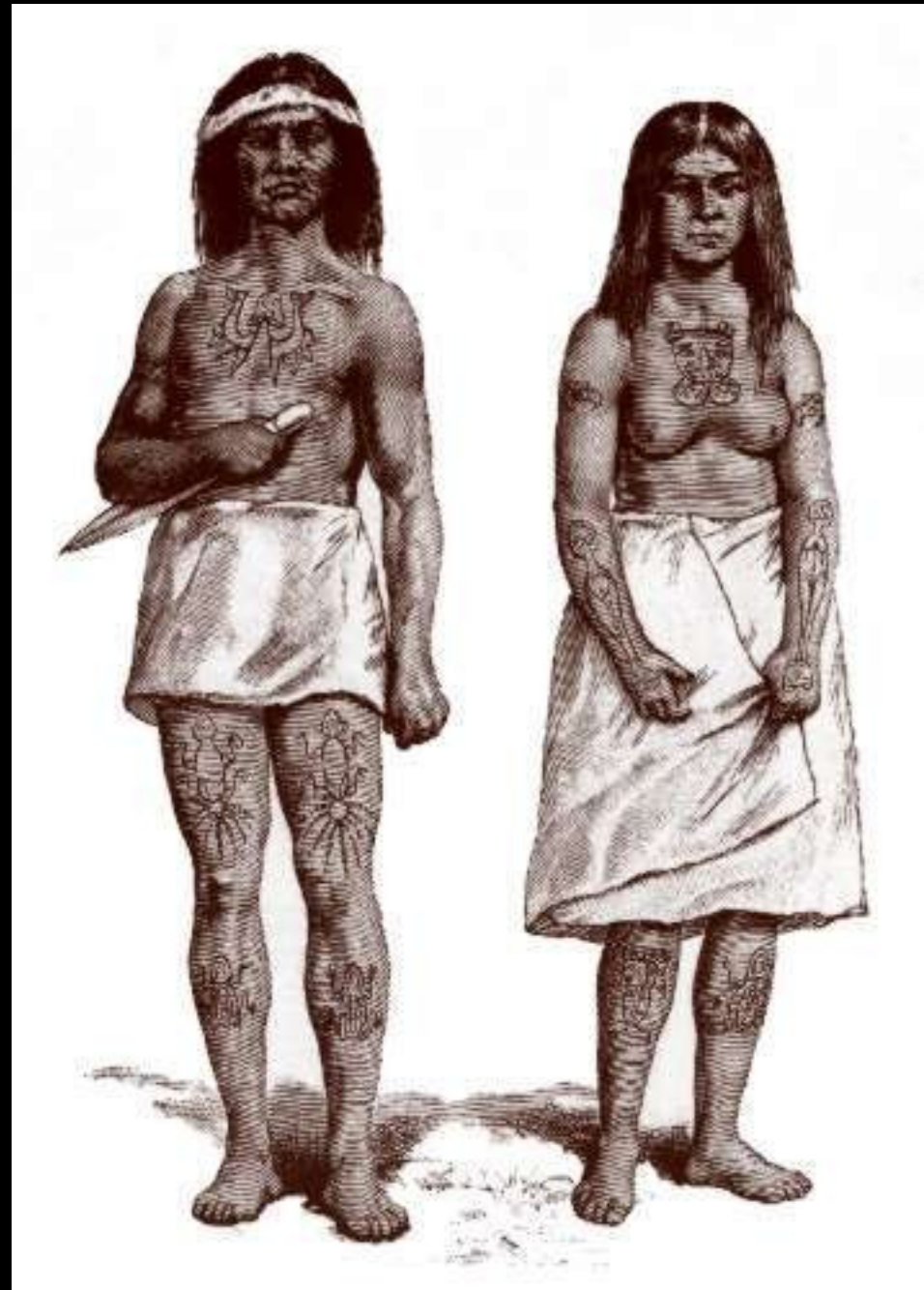




**"TATTOOING IS OFTEN A  
MAGICAL RITE IN THE  
MORE TRADITIONAL  
CULTURES, AND THE  
TATTOOIST IS RESPECTED  
AS A PRIEST OR  
SHAMAN." (MICHELLE DE LUO,  
TATTOO: THE EXOTIC ART OF  
SKIN DECORATION, P. 73)**



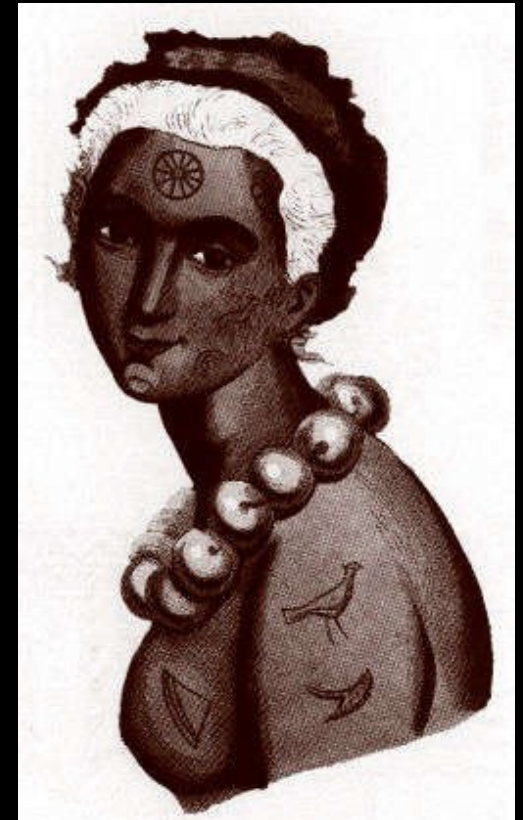
**"IN FIJ, FROM OSA, NEW ZEALAND AND IN CERTAIN OF THE NORTH AMERICAN INDIAN TRIBES, TATTOOING WAS REGARDED AS A RELIGIOUS CEREMONY, AND PERFORMED BY PRIESTS OR PRIESTESSES." (RONALD SCUTT, ART, SEX AND SYMBOL, 1974, P. 64)**



**"THE ACTUAL TATTOOING  
PROCESS, WHICH  
INVOLVED COMPLEX  
RITUAL AND TABOOS,  
COULD ONLY BE DONE BY  
PRIESTS AND WAS  
ASSOCIATED WITH  
BELIEFS WHICH WERE  
SECRETS KNOWN ONLY TO  
MEMBERS OF THE  
PRIESTLY CASTE . . .**



**HISTORICALLY TATTOOING HAD  
ORIGINATED IN CONNECTION WITH  
ANCIENT RITES OF SCARIFICATION AND  
BLOOD LETTING WHICH WERE  
ASSOCIATED WITH RELIGIOUS  
PRACTICES INTENDED TO PUT THE  
HUMAN SOUL IN HARMONY WITH  
SUPERNATURAL FORCES AND ENSURE  
CONTINUITY BETWEEN THIS LIFE AND  
THE NEXT." (GILBERT, STEVE, TATTOO  
HISTORY: A SOURCE BOOK, P. 158)**





**AND IN THE SAME WAY, EYEBROW  
RINGS, NOSE RINGS, MULTIPLE  
EARRINGS, NIPPLE RINGS, BELLY  
RINGS AND TONGUE STUDS  
DISTINGUISH IDENTIFIABLE SUB-  
CULTURES IN NEW YORK, LONDON,  
PARIS AND OTHER CAPITALS OF  
WHAT IS MEANT TO BE  
CIVILIZATION.**

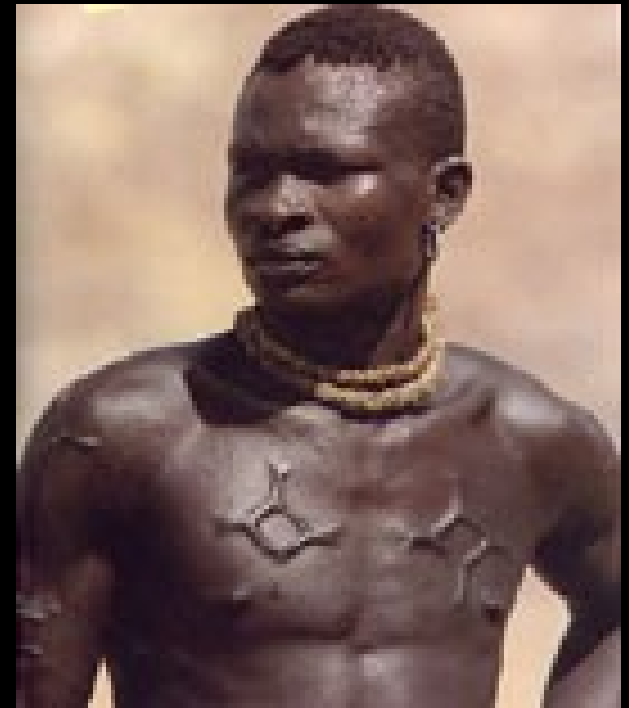




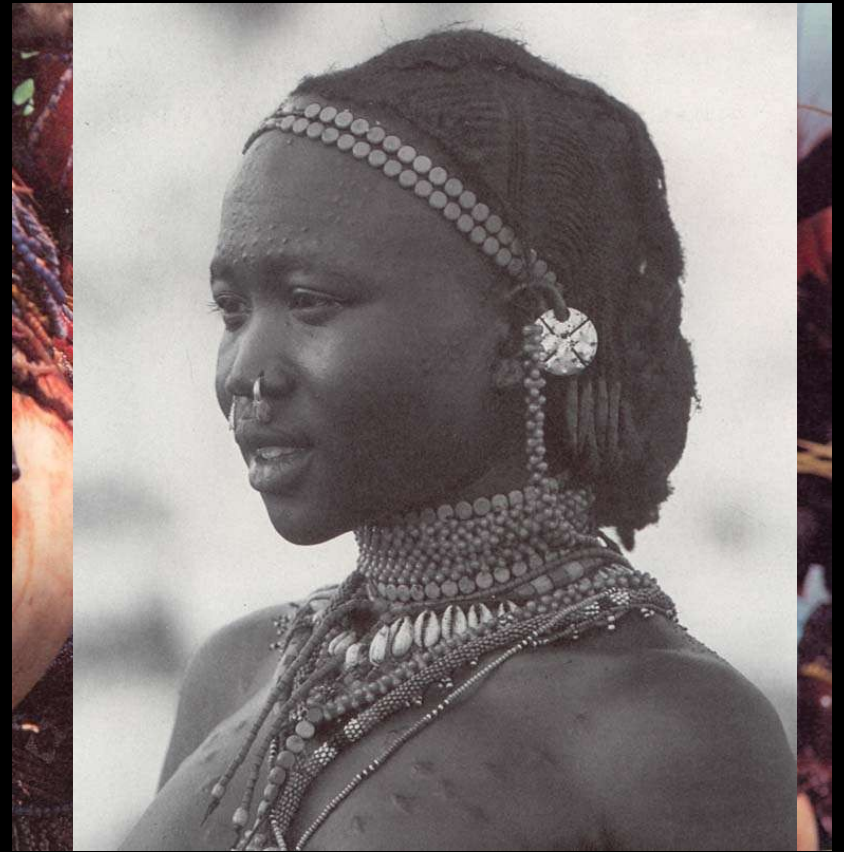
***"The look on their faces  
testifies against them;  
they parade their sin like  
Sodom; they do not hide  
it. Woe to them! They  
have brought disaster  
upon themselves."***

**ISAIAH 3:9**

**THE INTERESTING THING IS THAT  
WHILE SO MANY WESTERNERS  
RUSH INTO NEW AGE RELIGIONS,  
BODY PIERCING AND OCCULTISM,  
MANY MILLIONS IN THE TRIBES  
MENTIONED IN AFRICA, SOUTH  
AMERICA, ASIA AND THE PACIFIC  
ISLANDS, ARE BEING CONVERTED TO CHRIST AND  
ARE ABANDONING THE BODY PIERCING  
PRACTICES OF THEIR PAGAN PAST.**

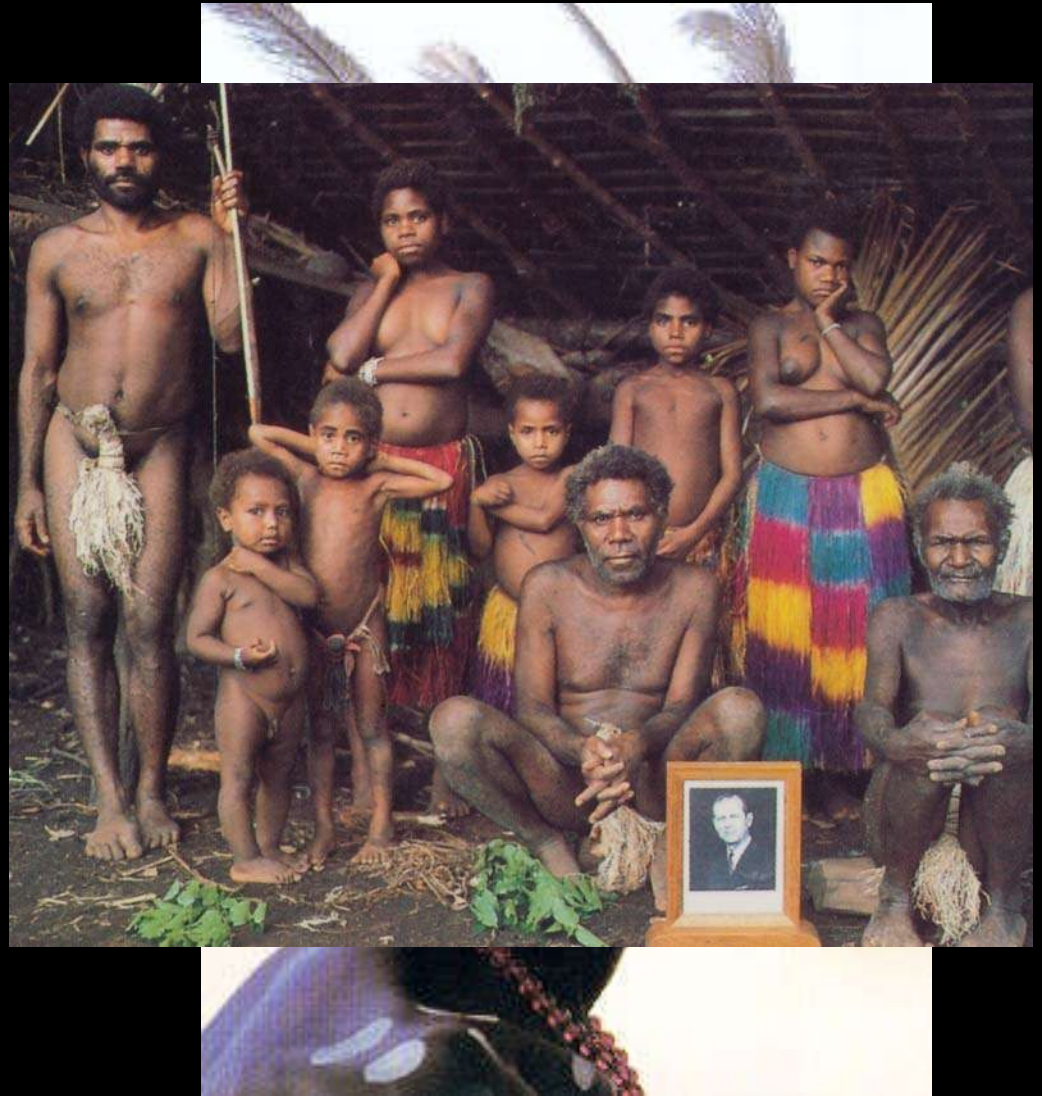


**IT IS VERY CLEAR WHO ARE  
THE CHRISTIANS AND WHO  
ARE THE PAGANS IN THESE  
MISSION FIELDS.**





**THE PAGANS  
WEAR LITTLE OR  
NO CLOTHING  
AND THEY  
ENGAGE IN A  
VARIETY OF BODY  
SCARIFICATION,  
BODY PIERCING  
AND OR TATTOOS.**





**ON THE OTHER HAND, THE CHRISTIANS ARE  
EASILY IDENTIFIABLE - THEY WEAR CLOTHES AND  
THEY DON'T ENGAGE IN ANY BODY  
MODIFICATION.**

*"I HAVE BEEN CRUCIFIED WITH CHRIST AND I NO  
LONGER LIVE BUT CHRIST LIVES IN ME. THE LIFE I  
NOW LIVE IN THE BODY I LIVE BY FAITH IN THE  
SON OF GOD WHO LOVED ME AND GAVE  
HIMSELF FOR ME."*

**GALATIANS 2:20**

**O F C O U R S E , S O M E O L D E R  
P E O P L E W I L L S T I L L H A V E T H E  
S C A R S A N D T H E H O L E S -  
T E S T I M O N Y O F T H E P A G A N  
P A S T B E F O R E T H E Y W E R E  
C O N V E R T E D - B U T A L L  
E A R R I N G S , E Y E B R O W R I N G S ,  
N O S E R I N G S A N D S U C H L I K E  
H A V E B E E N R E M O V E D .**





**AND THEIR CHILDREN ARE  
FREE FROM THESE PAGAN  
DISFIGUREMENTS. IT IS  
UNHEARD OF IN THESE  
AREAS FOR CHRISTIANS TO  
VOLUNTARILY PIERCE OR  
TATTOO THEIR BODIES. IN  
FACT, THEY ARE SHOCKED  
WHEN WESTERN MEN VISIT  
THEM WITH PONYTAILS AND  
EARRINGS.**

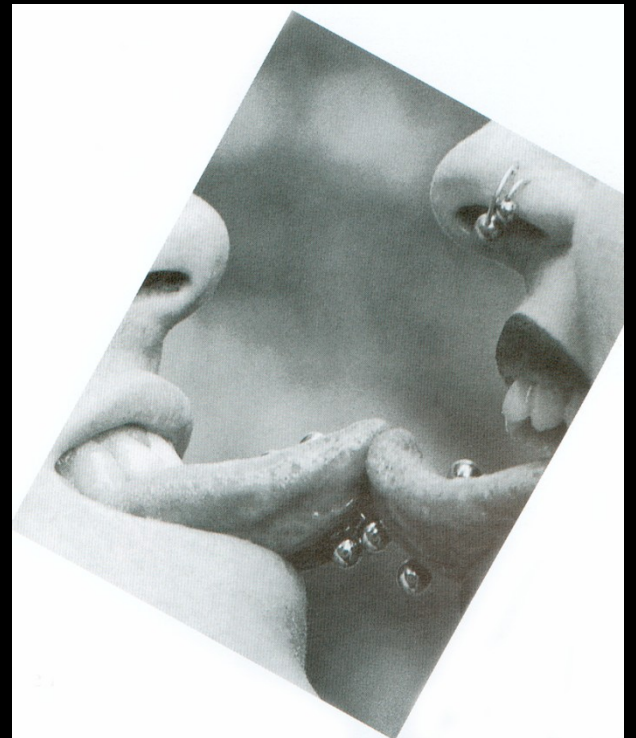


*"YOU ARE THE CHILDREN OF THE LORD YOUR  
GOD. **Do not cut yourselves** OR SHAVE THE  
FRONT OF YOUR HEADS FOR THE DEAD, FOR YOU  
ARE A PEOPLE HOLY TO THE LORD YOUR GOD."*

**DEUTERONOMY 14: 1 - 2**

**HOW THEN CAN WE EXPLAIN THE WIDESPREAD  
TOLERATION AND EVEN PRACTICE OF BODY PIERCING  
IN FAR TOO MANY CHRISTIAN CHURCHES AND EVEN  
BIBLE COLLEGES AND MINISTRIES IN THE WEST?**

*"DON'T YOU KNOW THAT YOU  
YOURSELVES ARE GOD'S TEMPLE  
AND THAT GOD'S SPIRIT LIVES IN  
YOU? IF ANYONE DESTROYS  
GOD'S TEMPLE, GOD WILL  
DESTROY HIM; FOR GOD'S TEMPLE  
IS SACRED, AND YOU ARE THAT  
TEMPLE. DO NOT DECEIVE  
YOURSELVES ... "*  
**1 CORINTHIANS 3:16 - 18**

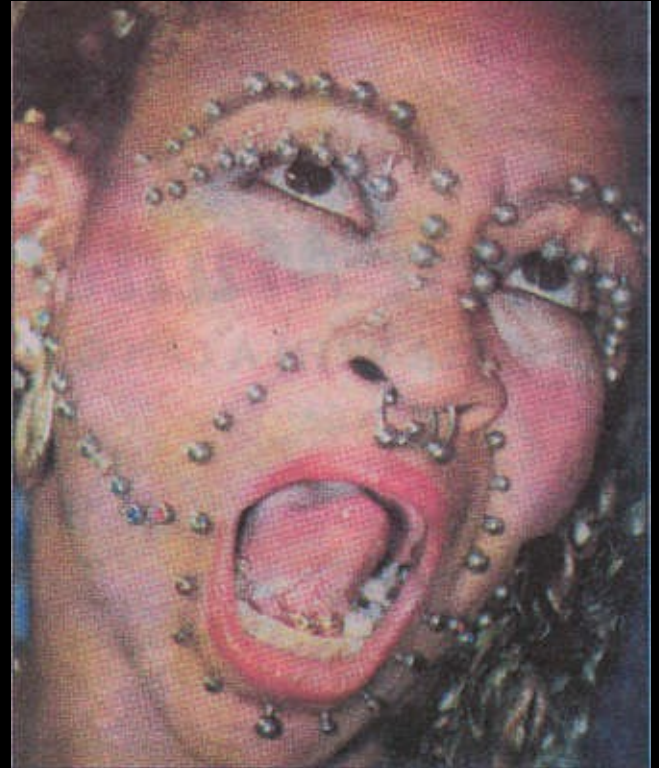


**GENERALLY IT STARTS OFF  
BY ASSUMING THAT IF AN  
EARRING IS APPROPRIATE  
FOR A WOMAN, THEN IT IS  
APPROPRIATE FOR MEN  
AS WELL. SOME WOMEN  
THEN REASONED THAT IF  
MEN WERE GOING TO  
WEAR AN EARRING, THEN  
THEY WOULD WEAR  
MULTIPLE EARRINGS.**



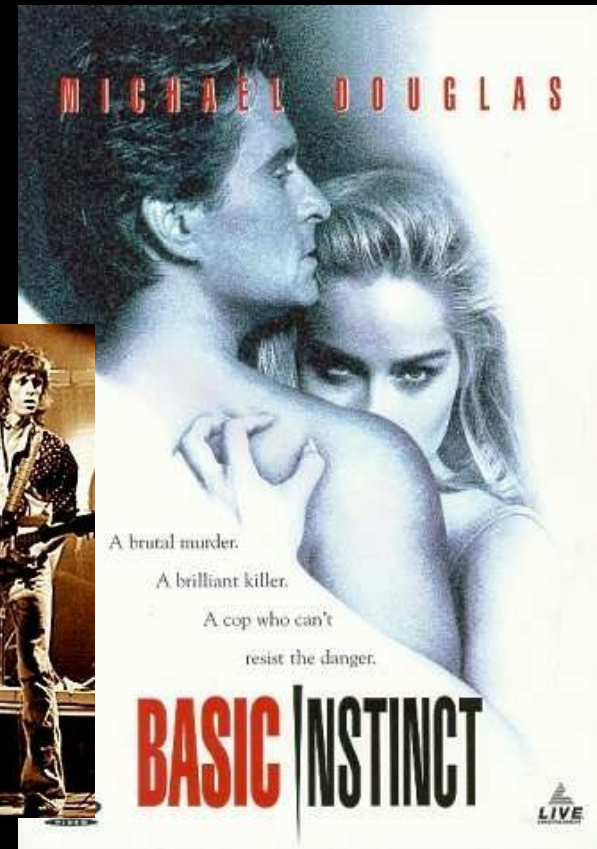


**AND AS SO MANY IN THE  
WORLD ARE WEARING NOSE  
RINGS, EYEBROW RINGS,  
BELLY RINGS, TONGUE STUDS,  
ETC. THEN WHY SHOULDN'T  
WE?**



***"You adulterous people, don't you know that friendship with the world is hatred towards God? Anyone who chooses to be a friend of the world becomes an enemy of God."***

**JAMES 4:4**



**AS SO MANY CHRISTIANS HAVE IMMERSED  
THEMSELVES IN PAGAN MUSIC, IMMORAL VIDEOS AND  
WORLDLY AMUSEMENTS, IT SHOULD NOT SURPRISE US  
THAT SO MANY OF OUR YOUTH ARE INDISTINGUISHABLE  
FROM THEIR NON-CHRISTIAN FRIENDS.**

**THE MIND-ROTTING, BRAIN-  
NUMBING, SOUL-DESTROYING  
TRASH THAT FILLS THE EARS,  
EYES AND MINDS OF OUR  
YOUTH SHOULD BE SUFFICIENT  
EXPLANATION FOR THE  
BACKSLIDING, IMMORAL AND  
UN-CHRISTIAN BEHAVIOUR,  
WHICH NOW EVEN INCLUDES  
PROFESSING CHRISTIANS  
DISFIGURING THEIR BODIES  
WITH PAGAN PIERCINGS.**





*There is no fear of God before their eyes.*

**ROMANS 3:18**

**IT IS TIME FOR YOUTH LEADERS AND PASTORS TO  
STUDY WHAT THE SCRIPTURE TEACHES ON THIS  
SUBJECT AND THEN TO BOLDLY, AND WITHOUT  
COMPROMISE, PREACH ON THESE PASSAGES AND  
CALL THOSE PEOPLE WHO ARE DEFILING THEIR  
BODIES TO REPENT. WE NEED TO  
TAKE GOD'S WORD SERIOUSLY.**



***"Let us purify ourselves from everything that contaminates body and spirit, perfecting holiness out of reverence for God."***

**2 CORINTHIANS 7:1**

***"May God Himself, the God of peace, sanctify you through and through. May your whole spirit, soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus."***

**1 THESSALONIANS 5:23**

# BODY PIERCING

## A Return to Paganism

In some of the most unexpected places we are confronted by a revival of the old tribal practices of body scarification, body piercing and body mutilation. Nose rings, eyebrow rings, belly rings, tongue studs, multiple earrings, nipple rings, tattoos and other disfigurements are more than an identifiable sub-culture – it is all part of an aggressive fashion statement which is challenging the Christian Church.

***"Do not cut your bodies ... or put tattoo marks on yourselves. I am the Lord."***

Leviticus 19:28

Unfortunately, most Church leaders have remained silent on this practice, even while some youth leaders and Bible College students are giving themselves over to body modification.

***"Priests must not shave their heads ... or cut their bodies. They must be holy to their God and must not profane the Name of their God ... they are to be holy."***

Leviticus 21:5 – 6

As Christians, we are called to be holy, set apart and different from the world, consecrated to God. *"Everybody's doing it"* is hardly an argument to justify Christian involvement. The very fact that pagans practice body piercing should be a compelling enough argument against Christians being conformed to the world.

***"But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God, that you may declare the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His wonderful light."***

1 Peter 2:9

The Scriptures are clear that we must treat our bodies with respect, they are not our own to do with as we wish. They belong to God, Who made them and Who purchased them with His own blood. Our bodies are to be temples of the Holy Spirit. We are to glorify God with our bodies.

***"Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ Himself? ... Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit, Who is in you, Whom you have received from God? You are not your own; you were bought with a price. Therefore honour God with your body."***

1 Corinthians 6:15, 19 – 20

On the other hand, the Bible records how pagans abused their bodies. The false prophets of Baal *"slashed themselves with swords and spears, as was their custom, until their blood flowed."* (1 Kings 18:28).

The demon possessed man of Gadara cut himself with stones and ran around naked (Mark 5:5). It was the custom of the Ishmaelite men to wear gold earrings. (Judges 8:24).



Biblically, a pierced ear is a public indication of permanent slavery. When the Hebrews were led out of slavery in Egypt by Moses, they were urged *"take off the gold earrings ... so all the people took off their earrings ... These are your gods, O Israel."*

Exodus 32: 1-3

After God spoke to Jacob, he instructed his household to get rid of their idols and purify themselves. Along with their stone idols, they buried their earrings.

***"So Jacob said to his household and to all who were with him, 'Get rid of the foreign gods you have with you, and purify yourselves and change your clothes' ... so they gave Jacob all the foreign gods they had and the***







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