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Article abstract: "You go home and tell that to my dad!" conflicting claims and understandings on hymen and virginity.

Reference:

Cinthio, H. (2015). "You go home and tell that to my dad!" conflicting claims and understandings on hymen and virginity. *Sexuality & Culture: An Interdisciplinary Quarterly, 19*(1), 172-189.

Link: <http://search.proquest.com/docview/1660462831?accountid=14522>

ABSTRACT: This article examines the different perceptions and understandings regarding virginity from several Swedish young women. These young women live in a strong patriarchal and conservative society that expects them to not partake in any sexual intercourse or activity until marriage. The importance of chastity until marriage is seen as valuable which makes some women choose to endure the harsh measures of surgery to restore a lost virginity. Swedish sexual politics have chosen to “eradicate the hymen myth” and inform and educate the people with correct scientific and evidence based knowledge by campaigns in schools. However, the teenagers still live with the dilemma and views encircling the “hymen myth”. Even though they are taught correct scientific information, they still have to live in a culture and society that symbolizes the hymen as much more than a simple tissue in the body. This article explores the fact that correct education is not simply enough to eradicate the misconceptions regarding the hymen and overcome deep instilled cultural values.