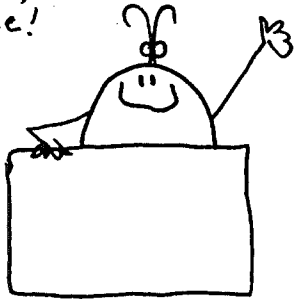


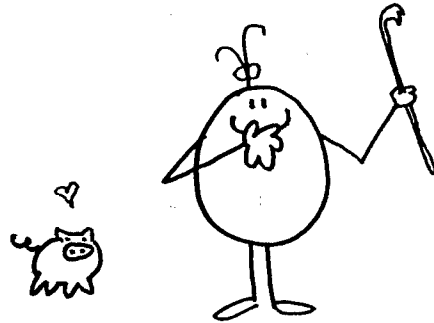
VARIETY OF MENSTRUAL TABOOS

(of 61 primitive societies) - Deborah Klee Dees

later,
dude!



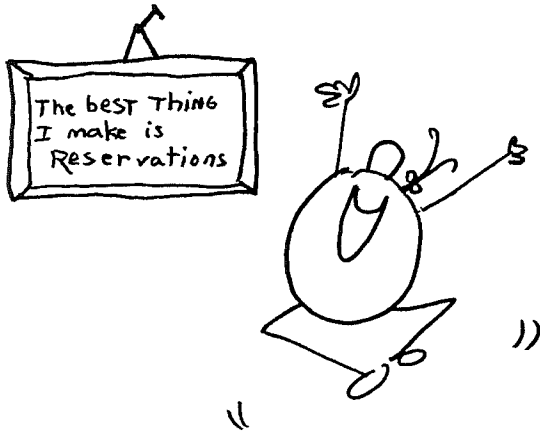
80% explicit rule that menstruants should not indulge in sexual intercourse



62% Personal restrictions or requirements on menstruants, such as food taboos, no scratching of body, no loud laughing.



49% menstruants not allowed to have contact with male things, espec. such capital equipment as bows or fishing gear.



38% menstruants not allowed to cook for men



18% menstruants must spend their periods in menstrual huts.

NUMBER OF TABOOS PER SOCIETY

(of 156 societies)

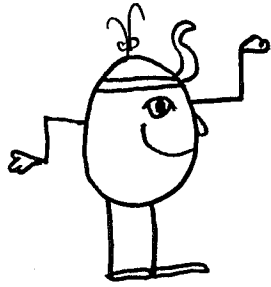
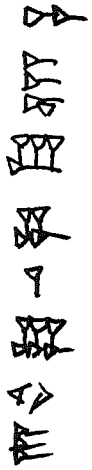
0 taboos	7%
1 taboo	24%
2 taboos	23%
3 taboos	15%
4 taboos	14%
5 taboos	17%

Sources: Young + Bacdayan, "Menstrual Taboos + Social Rigidity," *Ethnology* 4 (1965): 226

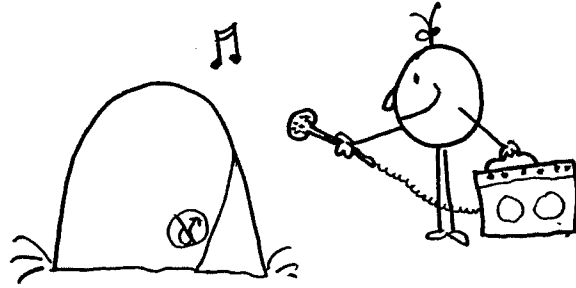
Sanday, Peggy. *Female Power + Male Dominance* (Camb: Camb Univ Press, 1981): 109ff.

Part of last night's Women's Study Series

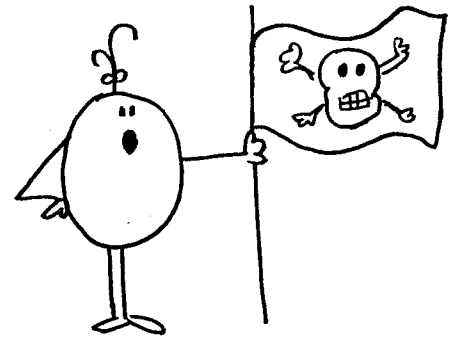
SOME EXPLANATIONS OF THE MENSTRUAL TABOO



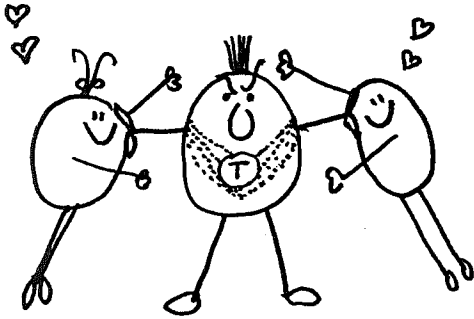
Common Ancient
Near Eastern
Taboo



Cross-cultural studies



Death / Loss of
Life fluids



Control of
Sexual Behavior



Psychology



Hygiene