Contents

	List of Illustrations	ix
	Preface	x i
	PART ONE · Jewish Circumcision and Christian Polemics	
Ι.	A Canonical History of Jewish Circumcision	3
2.	Were Jewish Women Ever Circumcised?	55
3.	Christian Questions, Christian Responses	67
4.	From Reticence to Polemic	93
	PART TWO · Why Aren't Jewish Women Circumcised? Four Responses	
5.	The Celebration of Manhood	111
6.	The Reduction of Lust and the Unmanning of Men	143
7.	True Faith and the Exemption of Women	174
8.	The Celebration of Womanhood	191
	Conclusion: Challenges to the Circumcision of Jewish Men	207
	Notes	225
	Bibliography	273
	General Index	293
	Index of Premodern Sources	2 T T

Illustrations

I.	La circoncision des juifs portugais (The Circumcision of	
	Portuguese Jews), by Bernard Picart	48
2.	The Circumcision of Christ, drawn by Bernard Picart and	
	engraved by G. de Broen	49
3.	Cérémonies de la circoncision des juifs (The Circumcision	
-	Ceremonies of the Jews), an anonymous engraving	51