

# NOORAN'S STORY

EACH YEAR THE ISRAELI MILITARY DETAINS AND PROSECUTES AROUND 700 PALESTINIAN CHILDREN. (<http://nowaytotreatachild.org>)

Nooran, 14, was detained in Bethlehem on her way to pray in Jerusalem. She was accused of holding a knife. This is her story in her words.

“She (the soldier) started to yell, ‘Undress, undress, undress!’ And I told her I wouldn’t undress. She got closer to me all of a sudden, and she grabbed my shirt wanting to pull it up....I punched her in the nose and she fell to the ground. During this moment, they were supposed to respect our religion. But they didn’t have [respect] for either religion. ... They only had one goal and that is to make me take off my clothes. I of course refused. I refused strongly. And even if I was going to die, I wouldn’t remove anything. I fell to the floor....I found a sniper on top of me, a soldier. He was holding his weapon to my head....I thought I was going to die.

I entered the Israeli Intelligence room... An Israeli commander said “Welcome, who do we have in this room here?” I looked at him, he was wearing civilian clothes. Commanders are supposed to be wearing their uniforms. So I asked him - you speak Arabic, tell me who are you. He said 'Ahh', he came in and closed the door....He then asked, 'do you know who I am?'.... And he told me, 'Ok I am an Israeli commander. But you're from Bethlehem?' And I said 'yes'. And he said, 'do you know Dheisha refugee camp?' And I responded 'of course Dheisha is near us in Bethlehem'. And he told me, 'Every day I invade Dheisha refugee camp. You don't know me?' ...And he said 'Yes, captain Nidal'. [*Captain Nidal is an Israeli commander responsible for the Bethlehem area. He usually comes with Israeli forces to arrest people or to search houses here in refugee camps.*]...He told me he was captain Nidal on purpose. I asked him, 'You're captain Nidal, the one who invades every day and injures the youth and shoots them in their legs?' He said 'Yes ...I don't want to allow you guys to go to your god. I want to keep you guys tortured and die from the pain from your legs.' [*Interrogation violates, inherently violates the child's rights because the parents and lawyers can't be present. And that means that interrogators often use intimidation, threats, sometimes physical pressure or violence which could amount to torture.*]

He grabbed me by the shoulders, and he threw me to the floor. I began to scream... He started to call the soldiers, screaming, 'Come take her to the Maskoobiya.' The Maskoobiya is an interrogation center....They torture people there. The psychological [torture] is stronger than the physical....over the course of two days, 48 hours of them interrogating me and telling me, 'You came with the intention of stabbing'. And I'd tell them 'No!' They kept repeating the same question just to get me tired to say yes, even though I didn't do it.

The last court hearing sentenced me to four months and a half. I started to cry and I said, "You guys sentenced me unjustly. I will go home and speak about the injustices and your crimes."....**So I would like to ask every person to empathize with Palestinian children. I want every human consciousness to know the suffering of Palestinian children.**”

Nooran's testimony is excerpted from the film, *Imprisoning a Generation*, by Zelda Edmunds: <http://anemoia.net>

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## PALESTINIAN CHILDREN IN ISRAELI MILITARY DETENTION

### Types of ill-treatment by Israeli forces 2012–2016

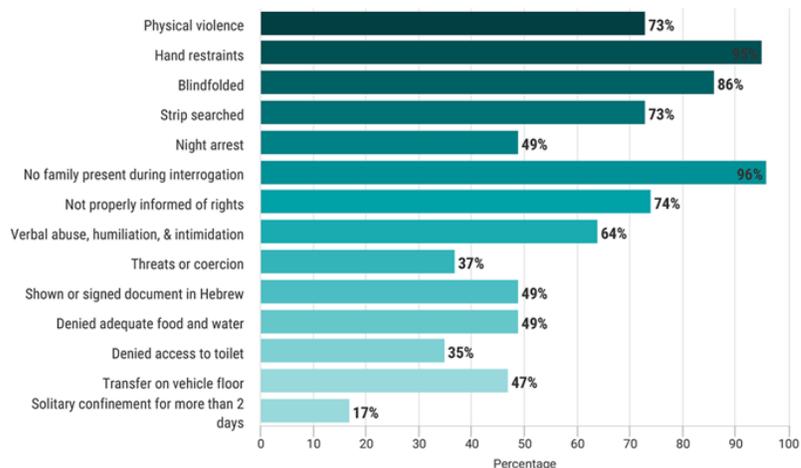
- 72 percent experience physical violence
- 95 percent were hand tied
- 85 percent were blindfolded
- 96 percent were interrogated

**NO WAY TO TREAT A CHILD** UNITED STATES  
[nowaytotreatachild.org](http://nowaytotreatachild.org)

Source: Defense for Children International - Palestine  
AHMAD GHARABLI

### Ill-treatment of Palestinian child detainees by Israeli forces

Israel prosecutes between 500 and 700 Palestinian children in a military court system each year that lacks basic fair trial guarantees and is notorious for widespread, systematic, and institutionalized ill-treatment of Palestinian child detainees. Defense for Children International - Palestine (DCIP) collected 739 sworn affidavits from Palestinian children detained by Israeli forces from the occupied West Bank between 2013 and 2018. The data below shows the types of ill-treatment reported by these children.



Source: Defense for Children International - Palestine (DCIP)