

## WOULD YOU TOLERATE YOUR CHILD BEING TREATED LIKE THIS?

UNICEF, Amnesty and UK delegations have reported widespread ill-treatment of Palestinian children in Israeli military custody, **more than 1,200 since October 2015.**

Children aged 8 to 17 years are arrested, typically for throwing stones at army vehicles. If the army do not know who threw the stones, they will arrest a child at random.

They are arrested at night, without warning. Heavily armed soldiers enter the child's home. Their hands are bound with painful plastic ties, they are hooded or blindfolded, thrown on the floor of an army jeep, and taken to a cell till morning. If the child tries to sleep he is woken up, often shouted at, kicked, or punched.

Parents are not told where their child is. He is not allowed a lawyer. He will be questioned for several hours, sometimes threatened with penalties to his family, until he 'confesses'. He is told that if he pleads 'Not guilty' he will be held for 6 months till a court hearing. So most confess.

The children appear in court and are given a suspended sentence. Parents and professionals say the children are traumatised.

See youtube link to the short film "Children in Chains" by Jon Pullman:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iBFOVwnYBBo>



## How Israel Breaks International Law

- The use of plastic ties;
- Arrests during the night;
- No audio-visual recording of interrogations;
- Hooding;
- Denial of parental support;
- Forced signatures to 'confessions' in Hebrew;
- Transfer of children from the Occupied Territories into Israel (a war crime).



The UK Government has complained to Israel but will not take any action. Instead, the Prime Minister stresses Britain's position as a 'friend of Israel'.

Some MPs are calling for action but need more support.

### WHAT CAN YOU DO?

Write to your MP. Demand that immediate **meaningful action** be taken against the Israeli Government until it complies with international law. Or sign a prepared letter at our stall. To find out who your MP is and how to contact him or her, see [www.writetothem.com/](http://www.writetothem.com/)

### WHAT CAN YOUR MP DO?

They can press the government for action – sanctions against Israel, such as imposing an arms embargo or demanding an end to EU trade agreements until Israel complies with International Law.



**For more information see Edinburgh Action for Palestine (EA4P) at <https://www.facebook.com/EdinburghAction4Palestine>**