

Maybe Israel Is Committing Genocide After All?

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People tend to believe that in order to commit genocide, you have to murder an entire nation. Well, no. You don't have to try so hard. You can earn the designation more easily.

Raphael Lemkin, who coined the term "genocide," worked tirelessly to have it recognized as a crime under international law and given special status. Thanks in no small part to his efforts, an international convention was drawn up [designed to fight genocide and to punish its perpetrators](#) and their abettors. The treaty also includes a list of what acts a state or people must commit to be considered perpetrators of genocide.

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Article 2 of the convention lists five acts that make up the definition of genocide. In order to determine whether or not Israel is committing genocide, it's worthwhile examining all five criteria and see how many of them [Israel is committing in the Gaza Strip](#). Here they are, word for word.

Article 2a: "Killing members of the group." No problem. We easily meet the criteria for this section. Although the convention does not specify a required number of dead, 43,000 is surely enough. You can put a checkmark on this one.

Article 2b: "Causing serious bodily or mental harm to members of the

group." Who would ever deny that we have successfully met the requirements of this section as well. We have bombed day and night; hundreds of limbs have been amputated; we ruined the lives of tens of thousands of children and their parents; we have torn them apart with bodily and mental injuries. Definitely put a checkmark.

- [Netanyahu's ethnic cleansing in Gaza is on display for all to see](#)
- [Wikipedia editors add article titled 'Gaza genocide' to 'list of genocides' page](#)
- [My Palestinian sisters and brothers, we need a new version of the Palestinian resistance](#)

Article 2c: "Deliberately inflicting on the group conditions of life calculated to bring about its physical destruction in whole or in part." The hunger and thirst, [delays in humanitarian aid](#), endless torture and deportation from place to place, the systematic destruction of residential areas, houses of prayer, schools, thousands of people buried under the rubble, the employment of demolition contractors to flatten the city of Rafah (partial list). More than enough to meet the requirements section 3. I am proud to check it off.

4: "Imposing measures intended to prevent births within the group." The destruction of almost all of [Gaza's hospitals](#) including delivery rooms, emergency rooms, neonatal and maternity wards, preventing shipments of medical equipment, killing medical personnel... Is there any doubt that Israel would look favorably upon the crash of the Palestinian birthrate in Gaza? Put a checkmark with honors.

5: "Forcibly transferring children of the group to another group." Finally, something that Israel has not done. A pity. Maybe taking some children out of the hell we created for them would have saved their lives. But it doesn't get a checkmark.

Of the five criteria for genocide, we have performed four exemplarily.

That's a fine score. Especially when the execution of one of the five sections, it doesn't matter which one, is enough to be considered a perpetrator. Bravo.

Warning: [Feigning innocence](#) will not be admissible as a defense. No one will believe that we did all this in good faith, or purely for reasons of self-defense. Nor will public displays of misery and weeping be of any use this time. And above all, it is not worth relying as we do on the Holocaust as a defense. It may provoke comparisons.

The treaty, by the way, also refers to those who incite genocide and those who conspire to commit it, and states that they will be punished. In other words, all ministers and members of the coalition. As far as I'm concerned, [issuing international arrest warrants](#) for everyone is enough. Their forced respite from roaming abroad at the public expense, due to the very possible threat of arrest, would be a more bitter punishment than death. How nice.

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