



[Prosecutor Admits No Evidence Has Been Found to Support Accusations of Mass Sexual Violence on October 7th](#)

Israeli prosecutor Moran Gez has acknowledged that 15 months after the events of October 7th, 2023, Israel has still not identified any victims in which a case can be brought against an alleged perpetrator of a sexual attack. The admission is in line with the complete lack of any credible evidence regarding incidents of sexual violence, which is particularly notable when these were claimed to have been so widespread. Observers have highlighted that various investigations by independent publications fail to corroborate the accusations, including one by The New York Times which thoroughly canvassed hospitals, rape crisis centers, and assault hotlines, yet could not find a single victim of an October 7th sexual attack. Additionally, when the chief prosecutor of the International Criminal Court (ICC) applied for arrest warrants against senior Hamas officials back in May of last year, this did not consist of any allegations of sexual violence on October 7th – a signal to many that investigators linked to the ICC could also not verify them.

Multiple reports by the United Nations came to similar conclusions regarding the lack of evidence to support October 7th rape allegations, uncovering from the considerable materials that they reviewed “no tangible indications of rape” and an “absence of forensic evidence of sexual crimes.” The UN investigations also debunked numerous Israeli claims about what transpired on October 7th such as the unfounded reports of a fetus being cut from its mother’s womb and other specific allegations of sexual violence that were judged to be false, inaccurate, or contradictory. The reports ultimately concluded that the UN investigators behind them were unable to verify any of the accusations. Israeli prosecutor Gez has herself conceded that “In the end, we don’t have any complainants. What was presented in the media compared to what will eventually come together will be entirely different.” She also pointed out that the absence of evidence does not stem from a failure to try and find it, commenting that “We approached women’s rights organizations and asked for cooperation. They told us that no one had approached them.”

In light of this lack of evidence, it is especially disturbing and regrettable that claims of mass sexual violence on October 7th have been used by some as a means of attempting to justify Israel’s destructive and harmful War on Gaza. It has also been unjustly called upon as a ploy to downplay or altogether ignore the heinous war crimes and human rights violations that Israeli forces have committed against the Gazan civilian population. Israel’s actions in Gaza have resulted in the killing of over 46,000 Palestinians – the overwhelming majority of whom are women and children. The relentless assault and bombardment of Gaza has also led to the forced displacement of more than 90% of its population, which amounts to a whopping nearly 2 million civilians, and has decimated much of the Palestinian enclave. Israel has carried out deliberate attacks against civilian infrastructure and has also been found to have restricted access to much-needed humanitarian aid.

Israeli legal authorities’ own admission that no evidence exists to support accusations of sexual violence on October 7th despite extensive investigations is telling. Too many entities have tried to push this false narrative even in the absence of corroborating evidence, while at the same time, similar accusations with more legitimacy by Palestinians against Israeli forces fail to receive such widespread levels of attention and outrage. The lack of

evidence behind the Israeli claims and narratives has rightly spurred skepticism regarding their use as a tool to try and defend the calamitous military assault on Gaza.