

# SIX WARS OLD

## SIXTEEN YEARS OF CHILDHOOD IN GAZA

Of 2.3 million Palestinians in Gaza, **47% are children**. Most of these children have lived their entire life under Israeli blockade, **experiencing multiple types of trauma**.

### LIFELONG CONDITIONS

#### WATER CRISIS

97% of fresh water contaminated. Lack of access to clean drinking water is a leading cause of illness and child mortality in Gaza

#### DEEP POVERTY

61% poverty rate / 63% food insecurity; 55% of Palestinian children under 5 at risk of not reaching their developmental potential due to chronic trauma

#### RIGHT TO EDUCATION

2/3 of schools in Gaza operate on double shifts due to classroom shortages

#### MENTAL HEALTH

95% of children in Gaza showed symptoms of anxiety, depression and trauma in one 2022 study

### AGE 0

#### BORN A REFUGEE

I was born as one of the more than 70% of Palestinians in Gaza whose families were originally displaced during the Nakba in 1948

#### BLOCKADE

The year I was born, Israel imposed a blockade on Gaza (ongoing as of 2023) by land, air, and sea, intensifying earlier restrictions

### AGE 5

#### SECOND ASSAULT

I survived an eight day attack as Israeli forces killed 168 Palestinians in Gaza, including 33 children

### AGE 7

#### THIRD ASSAULT

I survived fifty days of onslaught as Israeli forces killed 2,251 Palestinians in Gaza, including 556 children. Over 1,500 children were orphaned

### AGE 11

#### GREAT RETURN MARCH

For two years, I saw my community turn out en masse to protest the blockade. Israeli forces killed 214 protesters, including 46 children, and injured 8,800 children with live ammunition, rubber bullets, and tear gas

### AGE 14

#### FOURTH ASSAULT

I survived an eleven day attack as Israeli forces killed 230 Palestinians, including the 67 children killed were participating in a trauma recovery program

### AGE 15

#### FIFTH ASSAULT

I survived a three day attack on Gaza. Israeli forces killed 33 Palestinians, including 9 children

### AGE 16

#### SIXTH ASSAULT

I am experiencing acts of genocide. In 46 days, Israeli forces killed 14,854 Palestinians, including 6,150 children. Thousands of children are missing in the rubble, and doctors are using the acronym WCN5F: wounded child no surviving family

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In Gaza, there is no 'post' [traumatic] because the trauma is repetitive and ongoing and continuous.

Samah Jabr

Chair of Mental Health Unit, Palestinian Ministry of Health

### TYPES OF TRAUMA

#### CHRONIC TRAUMA

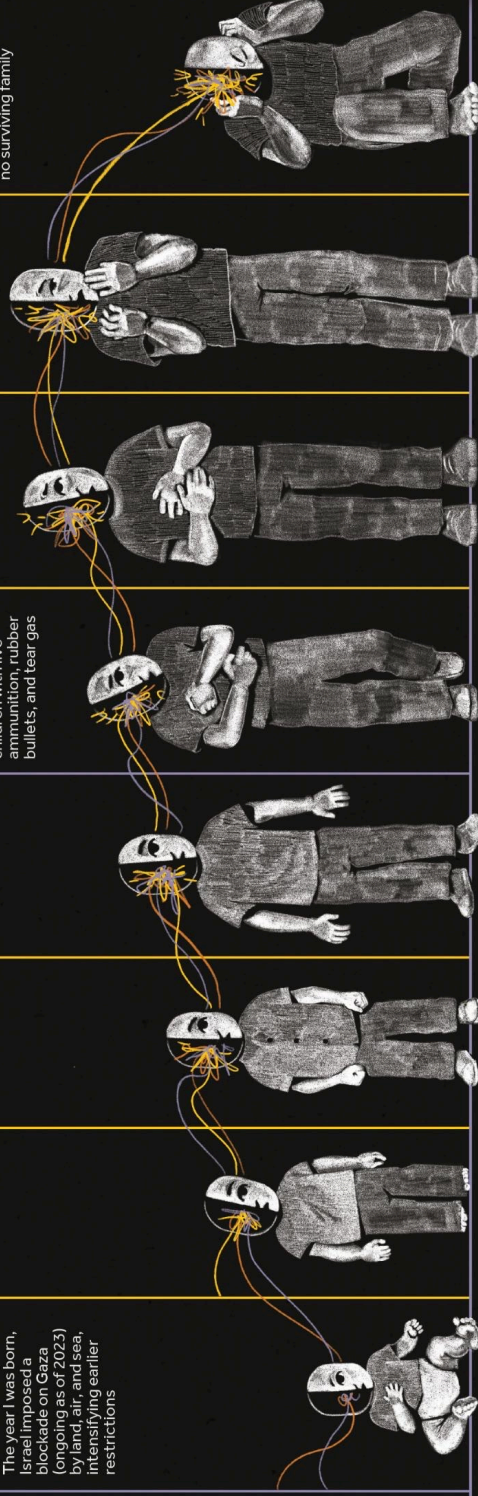
Prolonged, pervasive conditions such as poverty or institutionalized discrimination

#### INTER-GENERATIONAL TRAUMA

Psychological trauma experienced by the descendants of a person who has survived a traumatic event

#### ACUTE TRAUMA

An extremely distressing event



2007

DEC 2008 - JAN 2009

NOV 2012

JULY 2014

MAR 2018 - DEC 2019

MAY 2021

AUG 2022

OCT 2023 - ONGOING

VISUALIZING PALESTINE

SOURCES: [bit.ly/vp-trauma](http://bit.ly/vp-trauma)  
WWW.VISUALIZINGPALESTINE.ORG

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