

• החברה הפסיכואנליטית בישראל
Israel Psychoanalytic Society EST. 1934

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We, Israeli child psychoanalysts and psychoanalysts in general, like the rest of the Israeli citizens, are under an ongoing traumatic onslaught following the heinous acts of Palestinian Hamas terrorists, which took place on Saturday, October 7th in the southern Kibbutz, villages and towns of Israel. In the past days we are exposed to horrifying evidence about the massacre of civilians: children, women and elderly people in their homes and the abduction of citizens to Gaza with abuse and humiliation that is beyond description in words. The sadistic cruelty towards infants, children and young adolescents, many of them mutilated, raped and tortured after having been forced to witness the murder of their parents and of entire families, is unthinkable. This is not just a crime born out of hatred of Jews (which the Hamas openly propagates in all its official channels) or territorial or religious conflict, but a crime against humanity. The target is humanity, not just Israel.

Our main concern now are the children who were kidnapped to Gaza, and who are hopefully still alive, held in captivity by murderous terrorists. Some of those children were unmercifully orphaned, as the terrorists brutally abused their parents and often murdered them while the children were forced to watch the horrifying scene. The terrorists then shot and burned their parents in front of their eyes, celebrating the killing, filming and broadcasting the horrors in their victims' social media, after taking their cellular phones and using them for these horrific purposes.

The sadistic, deliberate targeting of infants and children for abuse, torture and murder is an attempt to destroy the most fundamental link to humanity. It is an attempt to annihilate any connection to vulnerability, development, love and goodness. It is a death-driven culture of hate and destruction. It has nothing to do with territorial claims or conflict, and everything to do with

a perverse idealization of death and torture. As such, these perpetrators exiled themselves from any inclusion in human discourse.

We call upon every government and organization to speak out loud, condemn these monstrous actions and perpetrators and call for the immediate, unconditional release of the Israeli children who were abducted to Gaza.

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