

# What Israel Supporters Really Mean When They Say “Release The Hostages”

By [Caitlin Johnstone](#)

Global Research, August 26, 2024

[Caitlin Johnstone](#)

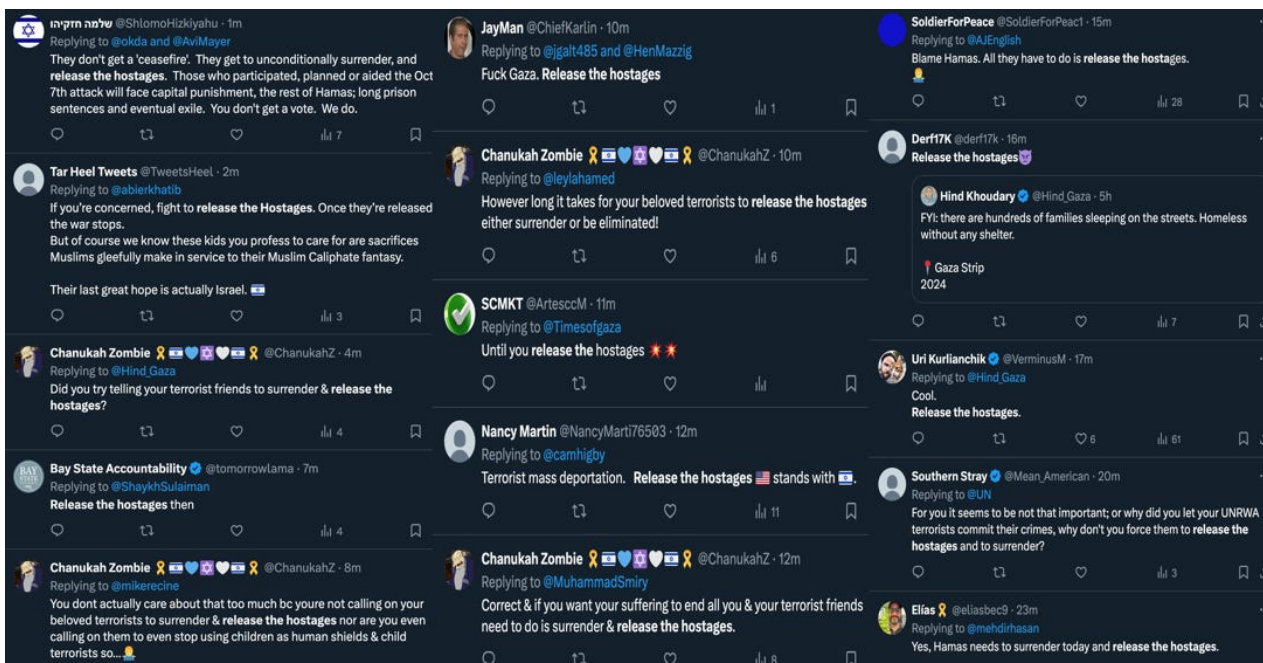
Region: [Middle East & North Africa](#)

Theme: [Law and Justice](#)

In-depth Report: [PALESTINE](#)

*If you're not on social media, you've likely spent ten and a half months blissfully unaware of an extremely freakish but very common phenomenon in which Israel's supporters respond to images and videos of dead and mutilated children in Gaza by [babbling about the Israeli hostages](#) being held there by Hamas.*

Whenever you see someone sharing raw footage of the most horrific thing imaginable being inflicted upon someone who couldn't possibly have done anything to deserve it, and someone in the replies yelling “RELEASE THE HOSTAGES!”, it's important to be clear what they're saying.



[Click here for an enlarged view](#)

What they are saying is that they believe Israel should murder children, decapitate them, rip their guts out, dismember them, mutilate them, burn them alive, every single day, until its military demands are submitted to. They are also probably saying that they personally would help Israel do these things to children if circumstances permitted.

They are saying they are fully on board with killing, decapitating, eviscerating, dismembering, mutilating and incinerating small children every day until the hostages are released.

They are saying this despite the [mountains](#) upon [mountains](#) of evidence that what's being done in Gaza has nothing whatsoever to do with releasing the hostages.

They are saying this despite the [mountains](#) upon [mountains](#) of [evidence](#) that the IDF has been killing and injuring Israeli hostages with its attacks on Gaza.

They are saying this despite the [mountains](#) upon [mountains](#) of evidence that Netanyahu is doing everything he can to sabotage a hostage deal while the genocide in Gaza continues.

They are saying this despite the fact that Israel [holds thousands of Palestinians hostage](#) under "administrative detention" without due process, and while Israel [holds millions of Palestinians hostage](#) in the giant extermination camp known as Gaza.

And they are saying this despite the [mountains](#) upon [mountains](#) of evidence that Israeli forces are raping, mutilating and torturing Palestinian hostages in torture dungeons as a matter of policy.

It's important to be aware that this is what they are saying because it's important to be aware of who Israel's defenders and supporters really are. These are not normal people. These are not people with healthy minds, with functioning empathy centers in their brains. There is something deeply, profoundly wrong with who they are and how they are.

It's important to be aware of this because otherwise you might fall into the trap of thinking this issue must be more complicated than it looks, and the interpretation of what we are seeing in Gaza must be a matter of subjective opinion. No, that's not true at all. What's happening in Gaza is very simple and straightforward, and is exactly what it immediately and obviously looks like to anyone who beholds it through the lens of conscience and basic human empathy.

The reason for all the debate and disagreement you are seeing about Gaza has nothing to do with complexity or nuance, and everything to do with some very warped and damaged minds lacking the fundamental faculties that cause normal people to care about other human beings.

\*

Click the share button below to email/forward this article to your friends and colleagues. Follow us on [Instagram](#) and [Twitter](#) and subscribe to our [Telegram Channel](#). Feel free to repost and share widely Global Research articles.

[One Month Before Global Research's Anniversary](#)

Featured image [source](#)

The original source of this article is [Caitlin Johnstone](#)  
Copyright © [Caitlin Johnstone](#), [Caitlin Johnstone](#), 2024

---

## [Comment on Global Research Articles on our Facebook page](#)

## [Become a Member of Global Research](#)

Articles by: [Caitlin Johnstone](#)

**Disclaimer:** The contents of this article are of sole responsibility of the author(s). The Centre for Research on Globalization will not be responsible for any inaccurate or incorrect statement in this article. The Centre of Research on Globalization grants permission to cross-post Global Research articles on community internet sites as long the source and copyright are acknowledged together with a hyperlink to the original Global Research article. For publication of Global Research articles in print or other forms including commercial internet sites, contact: [publications@globalresearch.ca](mailto:publications@globalresearch.ca)

[www.globalresearch.ca](http://www.globalresearch.ca) contains copyrighted material the use of which has not always been specifically authorized by the copyright owner. We are making such material available to our readers under the provisions of "fair use" in an effort to advance a better understanding of political, economic and social issues. The material on this site is distributed without profit to those who have expressed a prior interest in receiving it for research and educational purposes. If you wish to use copyrighted material for purposes other than "fair use" you must request permission from the copyright owner.

For media inquiries: [publications@globalresearch.ca](mailto:publications@globalresearch.ca)