

Please Join the Campaign: No Way to Treat A Child: Pass US House of Representatives Bill 4391 to Stop Israeli Military Detention of Palestinian Children

Dear Paul and Laura,

A campaign against the illegal military detention of Palestinian children is being launched in New Mexico by the Albuquerque chapter of Jewish Voice for Peace (JVP) and allied organizations. We are contacting you to:

- 1) **Invite you** to attend the launch of this campaign on **Sunday, May 6 from 1 – 3 pm at the Guild Cinema**, for a special showing of the film *Radiance of Resistance*, which tells the story of two Palestinian girls who have gained international attention in their efforts to resist Israeli incursion into their village of Nabi Saleh on the West Bank.
- 2) **Request** that you share the attached event flyer with your email list, Facebook page, and/or website to publicize the event.
- 3) **Invite you** to co-sponsor the May 6th event, which would involve listing you on publicity as a co-sponsor and ensuring that members of your organization attend the launch on May 6.

The Campaign

JVP has joined the *No Way to Treat a Child Campaign* initiated by the American Friends Service Committee and Defense of Children International. These organizations worked with US Representative Betty McCollum (D Minnesota), to introduce HR 4391 in the US House of Representatives in late 2017. This bill would **ensure that US dollars do not fund Israeli military detention of Palestinian children**. An estimated 10,000 Palestinian children have been detained by Israeli security forces and prosecuted in military court. United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) found that Palestinian children are frequently held for extended periods without access to either their parents or attorneys. Human Rights Watch reported that these children are subject to abuse and, in some cases, torture - specifically citing the use of chokeholds, beatings, and coercive interrogation on children between the ages of 11 and 15. These are documented violations of the Convention of the Rights of the Child.

JVP along with allied organizations will build support to pass HR 4391 in New Mexico, advocate for the support of our Congressional delegation; brief all Congressional candidates on the bill and advocate for co-sponsorship; and educate the public about illegal violations of children's right and other issues related to Israeli occupation of Palestine.

Campaign Launch Event on Sunday, May 6 from 1 – 3 pm: *Radiance of Resistance* at the Guild Cinema,

The Albuquerque Chapter of JVP, Friends of Sabeel ABQ, the Red Nation, and Santa Feans for Justice in Palestine have joined as co-sponsors of the May 6 event. The film, winner of Best Documentary at Respect Human Rights Festival in Belfast, Northern Ireland, includes grass roots footage from local Palestinian journalist Bilal Tamimi. Award winning Filmmakers Jesse Roberts (PUSH Tunisia) and Jesse Locke (AMZ Productions) journeyed to the region multiple times over the course of a year to capture the story.

After the film there will be a panel of three speakers who will discuss the issues and answer questions about Palestinian rights and US policy. Speakers will include Sandra Akkad, Palestinian American rights activist; Sayrah Namaste, director of American Friends Service Committee of New Mexico; and members of other sponsoring organizations.