



Fact Check: Israeli opinion poll mistranslated as saying soldiers ‘should rape prisoners’

By Reuters Fact Check / August 30, 2024

The question in the screenshot reads: “Recently, the military prosecution requested to extend the detention of the five soldiers suspected of serious abuse and it was clear that evidence was added to strengthen the suspicions against them. In your opinion, if it is found that there is a basis for suspicions against the five suspects, how should they be treated: (% Jews).”

Referring to the Hebrew-written answers, the X post falsely stated: “65% of Israelis believe that IDF soldiers should be able to rape Palestinian prisoners 14% of Israelis are undecided if they should rape prisoners 21% of Israelis believe that Israelis should stop raping Palestine prisoners.”

However, the three answers relate to how Jewish Israelis believe soldiers who commit abuses should be disciplined, not whether abuses are acceptable.

According to a Reuters translation, the screenshot shows 65% of Jewish Israelis answered: “They should be dealt with disciplinarily at the command level only.” An estimated 21% answered: “They should be brought to criminal trial,” while 14% answered: “I don’t know.”

None of the answers in the screenshot mention “rape” or “Palestinian prisoners,” and no other results in the survey support the claims made in the social media post.

A spokesperson for the **INSS**, which carried out the survey, told Reuters in an email: “As the official chart shows, the wording used on the social media post differs from what we published.”

The survey, available in [Hebrew](#)

<https://www.reuters.com/fact-check/israeli-opinion-poll-mistranslated-saying-soldiers-should-rape-prisoners-2024-08-30/>