

# **SEVEN MUSLIM CHILDREN**

## **A REFLECTION ON GAZA AND CHURCHILL**

**BY JO RUEBEN**

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# **SEVEN MUSLIM CHILDREN**

## **A REFLECTION ON GAZA AND CHURCHILL**

**BY**

**JO REUBEN**

**1.**

**TELL HER WE ARE GOING ON A HOLIDAY**

**TELL HER TO BE QUICK**

**DON'T TELL HER ALL THE JEWS WILL BE KILLED**

**TELL HER SHE SHOULD KNOW**

**DON'T TELL HER**

**SHE NEEDS TO KNOW**

**SHE SHOULD NEVER KNOW**

**TELL HER WE WILL RETURN NEXT WEEK**

**TELL HER THOSE WHO ARE COMING ARE OUR FRIENDS**

**ARE U SURE**

**I'M NOT SURE BUT TELL HER I'M SURE**

**TELL HER THE JEWS ARE BAD**

**WHY TELL HER THAT**

**BECAUSE THEY WON'T BE HERE WHEN WE RETURN**

**TELL HER THEY WILL GO AWAY**

**TELL HER IT'S MAGIC**

**2.**

**TELL HER THIS IS A PICTURE OF THE HOME WE LEFT**

**DON'T TELL HER WHY WE LEFT**

**SHE WILL ASK WHY WE LEFT**

**BLAME THE JEWS**

**BUT THE JEWS DIDN'T MAKE US LEAVE**

**WE HAVE TO BLAME THE JEWS**

**BUT WE LEFT BECAUSE THEY TOLD US THEY WOULD KILL THE  
JEWS**

**WE LEFT BECAUSE WE WERE AFRAID OF THEM NOT THE JEWS.**

**WE CAN'T TELL HER THAT**

**DON'T TELL HER ANYTHING**

**TELL HER ITS SAFE TO BLAME THE JEWS**

**WE CAN'T TELL HER THAT**

**TELL HER NOTHING**

**TELL HER EVERYONE BLAMES THE JEWS**

**BUT DON'T FRIGHTEN HER**

**TELL HER THERE ARE NO JEWS HERE**

**3.**

**TELL HER OUR HOME HERE IS TEMPORARY**

**DON'T TELL HER HOW MANY YEARS WE HAVE LIVED HERE**

**TELL HER THE EGYPTIANS ARE OUR FRIENDS**

**DON'T TELL HER THEY WON'T LET US STAY IN EGYPT**

**TELL HER WE WON'T BE HERE MUCH LONGER**

**TELL HER THAT ONE DAY WE WILL GO BACK**

**TELL HER GO PLAY WITH HER FRIENDS**

**TELL HER ONE DAY WE WILL BE FREE**

**DON'T TELL HER THE EGYPTIANS WON'T LET US BE FREE**

**TELL HER ABOUT HER COUSINS IN ISRAEL**

**TELL HER ONE DAY LIKE THEM SHE WILL BE FREE**

**DON'T TELL HER THAT**

**TELL HER SHE SHOULD KNOW**

**DON'T TELL HER THAT IT'S TOO DANGEROUS**

**4.**

**TELL HER ABOUT THE PLANES**

**DON'T TELL HER**

**TELL HER THEY HIJACKED THE PLANES TO MAKE THE WORLD LISTEN**

**TELL HER HIJACKING PLANES IS WRONG**

**DON'T TELL HER THAT**

**TELL HER THEY MEANT NO HARM**

**TELL HER THEY HAD NO CHOICE**

**TELL HER KILLING CANNOT HELP**

**TELL HER KILLING JEWS CAN HELP**

**TELL HER KILLING JEWS IS WRONG**

**TELL HER KILLING JEWS ONLY MAKES THINGS WORSE**

**TELL HER THEY HAD NO OTHER CHOICE**

**TELL HER THERE IS ALWAYS A CHOICE**

**TELL HER WE ARE ABANDONED BY THE WORLD**

**NO TELL HER WE ARE USED BY THE ARAB WORLD**

**DON'T TELL HER THAT**

**THEN DON'T TELL HER ANYTHING**

**TELL HER WE LOVE HER**

**JUST TELL HER THAT**

**5.**

**TELL HER ABOUT THE BOMBS ON THE BUSES**

**DON'T TELL HER THAT**

**TELL HER THAT HER BROTHER IS A HERO**

**TELL HER THAT HER BROTHER IS DEAD**

**TELL HER THAT HER BROTHER IS A MARTYR**

**TELL HER THAT HER BROTHER IS A MURDERER**

**TELL HER TO LOVE HER MARTYRED BROTHER**

**TELL HER THAT HER BROTHER WAS BRAIN WASHED TO HATE**

**TELL HER WE ARE PROUD OF WHAT HE HAS DONE**

**DON'T TELL HER THAT**

**TELL HER WE ARE PROUD OF HER**

**TELL HER TO CHOOSE LIFE NOT DEATH**

**TELL HER SOMETIMES THERE IS NO CHOICE**

**TELL HER HE HAD A CHOICE**

**TELL HER THERE IS ALWAYS A CHOICE**

**TELL HER HE MADE THE WRONG CHOICE**

**TELL HER TO NEVER MAKE HIS CHOICE**

**TELL HER SUICIDE IS WRONG**

**DON'T TELL HER THAT**

**TELL HER HE IS A HERO**

**THEN TELL HER KILLING WOMEN AND CHILDREN IS NOT  
HEROIC**

**TELL HER THAT TOO**

**6.**

**TELL HER THIS PLACE IS OUR HOME**

**TELL HER OUR HOME IS A PRISON**

**TELL HER ONE DAY WE WILL BE FREE**

**TELL HER THAT GOD IS GOOD**

**TELL HER THAT NOT ALL OF THOSE WHO SPEAK OF GOD ARE GOOD**

**TELL HER THAT GOD WILL OPEN THE PRISON GATES**

**TELL HER ONLY WE CAN OPEN THE GATES**

**TELL HER ONE DAY IT WILL BE DIFFERENT**

**TELL HER IT WON'T CHANGE UNTIL THEY STOP FIRING ROCKETS**

**TELL HER THEY FIRE THE ROCKETS BECAUSE GAZA IS A PRISON**

**TELL HER IT IS THE ROCKET FIRE THAT HAS TURNED GAZA INTO A PRISON**

**TELL HER THE JEWS HAVE MADE GAZA A PRISON**

**NO TELL HER THE JEWS LEFT AND HAMAS TURNED GAZA INTO A PRISON**

**THAT'S TOO DANGEROUS DON'T TELL HER THAT**

**TELL HER SHE WILL ONLY BE SAFE IF SHE BLAMES THE JEWS**

**TELL HER IT'S THE JIHADISTS NOT THE JEWS WHO ARE TO BLAME**

**DON'T TELL HER THAT**

**JUST TELL HER THAT ONE DAY IT WILL BE BETTER**

7.

**TELL HER THE WAR IS OVER**

**TELL HER SHE IS NOW SAFE**

**TELL HER THAT NOW WE HAVE HOPE**

**DON'T TELL HER THAT THERE IS NO REASON TO HOPE**

**TELL HER THERE IS ALWAYS HOPE**

**TELL HER ONE DAY THE PEACE WILL BE PERMANENT**

**TELL HER THERE WILL BE NO PEACE UNTIL THE JEWS ARE  
DRIVEN INTO THE SEA**

**DON'T TELL HER THAT**

**BUT SHE IS ONLY SAFE IF SHE BELIEVES THAT**

**TELL HER BELIEVING THAT IS THE CAUSE OF ALL OF THIS**

**TELL HER THAT HER GREAT- GRANDPARENTS COULD HAVE  
STAYED**

**TELL HER THEY DID NOT HAVE TO GO**

**TELL HER WE ARE CURSED BY OUR HISTORY**

**TELL HER THE JEWS ARE CURSED BY THEIR HISTORY**

**TELL HER OUR HISTORIES ARE INTERTWINED**

**TELL HER HISTORY IS NOT ALWAYS THE TRUTH**

**TELL HER WE ARE CURSED BY EACH OTHERS HISTORY**

**TELL HER WE MUST ALL BREAK FREE OF THE PAST**

**TELL HER THERE IS TOO MUCH HATE**

**TELL HER WE ARE ALL HUMAN BEINGS**

**TELL HER THE JEWS ARE NO DIFFERENT TO US**

**DON'T TELL HER THAT IT'S TOO DANGEROUS**

**TELL HER FOR HER SAKE SHE SHOULD KNOW**

**SHE SHOULD KNOW IT DOES NOT HAVE TO BE LIKE THIS**

**SHE SHOULD KNOW IT COULD HAVE BEEN DIFFERENT**

**SHE SHOULD KNOW IT CAN BE DIFFERENT**

**IF ONLY THE EXTREMISTS WOULD LET IT BE DIFFERENT**

**TELL HER TO BE DIFFERENT**

**TELL HER PEOPLE RESPECT DIFFERENCE**

**TELL HER PEOPLE FEAR DIFFERENCE**

**TELL HER THEY WON'T LET ANYONE BE DIFFERENT**

**TELL HER BEING DIFFERENT IS DANGEROUS**

**TELL HER LIFE IS DANGEROUS**

**TELL HER PLAYING SAFE IS DANGEROUS**

**TELL HER FOR TOO LONG IT HAS BEEN THE SAME**

**TELL HER 60 YEARS IS TOO LONG**

**TELL HER 60 YEARS IS TOO LONG TO HATE**

**TELL HER THAT THEIR INDEPENDENCE WAS OUR NAKBA**

**NO TELL HER THAT OUR CATASTROPHE IS THEIR  
CATASTROPHE TOO**

**TELL HER WE SHOULD EACH BE INDEPENDENT**

**TELL HER 60 YEARS AGO WE COULD EACH HAVE BEEN  
INDEPENDENT**

**NO DON'T TELL HER THAT IT'S TOO DANGEROUS**

**TELL HER NO MORE INNOCENTS SHOULD DIE**

**TELL HER TOO MANY HAVE DIED FOR THE LAND**

**TELL HER IT IS TIME TO LIVE FOR THE LAND**

**TELL HER THERE SHOULD BE NO MORE TALK OF JEWS**

**TELL HER ISRAEL AND PALESTINE'S TIME HAS COME**

**TELL HER IT IS TIME TO MAKE IT DIFFERENT**

**TELL HER IT IS TIME TO BE GOOD NEIGHBOURS**

**TELL HER IT IS TIME TO LIVE IN PEACE**

**TELL HER IT IS GOD'S WILL**

**TELL THEM TOO -- THE ONES WHO REJOICE IN DEATH AND  
MARTYRDOM AND BLOT OUT THE LIGHT**

**TELL THEM OF GOD'S WILL TOO**

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**Jo Reuben is a nom de plume. The author has published a  
number of recognized works. This is the author's first play.**

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