

First claim

- 11 October 2023. Patricia Karvelas: *"We've got these new details of a massacre of civilians at a kibbutz in southern Israel. This is unthinkable stuff, the beheading of women and children, toddlers, babies, by Hamas militants."*

Francesca Albanese: *"May I say something on this? There is an investigation ongoing that has been opened by the Commission of Inquiry on Israel and the occupied Palestinian territory, which is verifying all the information, because while certain, again, this is not to excuse anything out just to be clear, but there is a lot of information that is verified and other information that is not verified, including the beheading of children."*

Sara Sidner of CNN: *"The Israeli government now says today (12 Oct 2023) it CANNOT confirm babies were beheaded. I needed to be more careful with my words and I am sorry."*

Subsequent unchallenged claims on ABC RN

1. 12 October 2023, Colin Rubenstein. *"We saw yesterday 40 babies and toddlers murdered in one Kibbutz line, some decapitated, more than 100 victims in a community of just 1,000 people."*

2. 13 October 2023, Christian Cantor. *"Babies tied and burnt together. A pregnant woman, belly was cut and the fetus was taken out and shot."*

3. 18 October 2023, Zoe Daniel.

Karvelas: *"What happens when Hamas uses sites like hospitals, though, to launch rocket attacks?"*

Daniel: *"Yeah, it's really challenging. I mean, Hamas habitually uses the Palestinian people as human shields. ... I was a foreign correspondent for almost 30 years."*

4. 18 October 2023, Christian Cantor: *"They're using their own people as human shields. ... taking risk of our own soldiers that are risking themselves because of the strategies that Hamas and the PIJ are embracing of using their own citizens as human shields" ...*

"... ask Hamas and the PIJ, what the hell are you doing to your own people? It is a reasonable question to ask them too."

Karvelas: *"You're right. I just don't have them on the program right now."*

5. 19 October 2023, Jonathan Conricus. *"... we asked Palestinians to evacuate out of care for their own safety. Sad to say that Hamas has been blocking these evacuation efforts because they want to keep civilians there as their human shields ... our enemy is the organization Hamas that butchered, killed, massacred, raped and mutilated our women, children and babies ... They constantly use civilians as their human shields and they constantly hide in between the civilian population, failing to distinguish themselves as combatants, which is what they are, and constantly putting everybody around them at risk. And they also use sensitive facilities like schools, hospitals and mosques, some of them UN facilities for their military purposes ... Hamas abuses international humanitarian aid for their military purposes. So we will be watching it, making sure that it gets to the civilians who need it and only to them. And if Hamas tries to take it, we will strike it."*

6. 23 October 2023, Jonathan Conricus. *"They are the ones who butchered our civilians, who raped and murdered and mutilated and took people hostage and are currently*

holding at least 212 Israelis hostage inside Gaza. Women, children, the elderly, infants and even disabled people.”

7. 23 October 2023, Oren Gross. *“So we have Hamas's actions or terrorist acts taking place on October 7th. You have a litany of horrors from execution of hundreds of civilians, men, women, children, babies, point blank, mutilation, desecration of dead bodies, women raped and subject to sexual violence, torture, kidnapping of nearly 200 Israeli civilians to Gaza, burning families alive, directly targeting Israeli hospital clinics, ambulances, medical staff. And this is by the way, by Hamas's own videos that they were kind of boastfully putting up on social media and the documents that they used for the attack. In that sense, Hamas is really worse than ISIS, both in its tactics and in fact in its strategy.”*

8. 30 October 2023, Ofir Metzger. *“What would you do if people will come inside your house, will take your family, will rape your wife or your daughter and will burn your kid?”*

9. 1 November 2023, Jonathan Conricus. *“And the number of civilian casualties was more than 1,000 Israeli civilians butchered, raped, and burnt alive and taken hostage by Hamas.”*

10. 7 November 2023, Tova Lazaroff. *“Hamas killed 1,400 people, and, you know, in some cases, burning them alive, dismembering them.”*

11. 13 November 2023, Peter Lerner. *“Unfortunately, this is an organisation that will butcher babies in their bedrooms.”*

12. 14 November 2023, Allison Kaplan Sommer. *“Hamas forces crossed the border, murdered, massacred, raped, tortured hundreds and thousands of its [Israel's] citizens... I do not believe that the goal of the IDF forces is any kind of vengeance, is any kind of retribution, is any kind of intention to harm or kill civilians... If their goal is to attack this command center that's right under the hospital, it's going to happen, and it's a terrible thing.”*

13. 16 November 2023, Julian Leaser *“I think what Peter was trying to do was to demonstrate that the security situation in this country is deteriorated, particularly for the Jewish community as a result of the demonstrations that we've seen, whether it's the events at the Sydney Opera House where we saw people saying, gas the Jews” ... “And then we've seen these protests where people have said, gas the Jews” (correction added 12 December 2024 after complaint)*

14. 15 January 2024, Vicki Treadell. *“It was the evil terrorist attack on the 7th of October, which saw people being killed and slaughtered, tortured before they were killed, women and men raped.”*

15. 29 January 2024, Mark Regev. *“It wasn't just the people, UNRWA, UN employees who were responsible and participated in the October 7 massacre with the rapings and the burning of children alive and the beheadings and all the atrocities that you've reported on the ABC.”*

16. 4 April 2024, Avi Hyman. *“But almost 200 aid workers have been killed in Gaza.” “Well, I would reject these numbers. These numbers provided by the Hamas Health Ministry are the same people that were butchering babies and burning entire families alive and using rape as a weapon. Now, those numbers would also include UN workers that participated actively in the October 7th massacre.”*

17. 5 April 2024, Peter Lerner. *“They came into our kitchens and bedrooms and killed, massacred, raped, beheaded, and abducted over 240 people into Gaza.”*

18. 10 May 2024, Ehud Olmert. *“The war has been inevitable considering the terrible atrocities committed by Hamas, that massacred and butchered and beheaded and raped, children and their parents and their elderly people, more than 1,500 civilians that were killed in their homes and living rooms and bedrooms and so on.”*

19. 22 May 2024, Simon Birmingham. "what occurred on October 7, the deliberate murders, rapes and kidnapping of innocent civilians"
20. 5 September 2024, Eylon Levy. "barbaric massacre that involved burning whole families alive and the acts of gang rape"
21. 7 October 2024, David Mencer. "When you look at the video and the GoPro which the Hamas terrorists took, the sheer delight they took in the murdering and in the beheading and in the raping and in the burning of families alive"
22. 7 October 2024, Julian Leeser. "Sexual crimes are committed against your wife and kids in front of you. Bodies are dismembered in front of you and then people are killed."

Challenged claims

1. 15 December 2023. Deborah Conway.
Karvelas: "I just want to say that in relation to the chants of gas the Jews, that hasn't been verified".
EDITOR'S NOTE: Subsequent to this interview, a NSW Police review found there is no evidence the phrase "gas the Jews" was chanted in videos circulating online from a pro-Palestinian rally at the Sydney Opera House last October:
<https://www.abc.net.au/news/2024-02-02/nsw-police-opera-house-protest-video-analysis/103418582>
2. 15 February 2024. Louisa Bassini, ASU Victoria member and walkout organiser: "We start every meeting with acknowledgments of country as we should, yet that rings hollow when, you know, there's a total silence on the question of a genocide currently unfolding before us."
Karvelas: "OK, so let's just be clear. Israel is contesting that it's a genocide."
3. 22 March 2024. Michaela McGuire, artistic director Melbourne Writers Festival: "So it's because you wanted to empower her being in charge, because obviously this language that was involved, that it was about resisting colonialism and speaking out against atrocities."
Karvelas: "I mean, that idea of colonialism is deeply contested."
4. 24 April 2024. Senator David Shoebridge: "I would commend any student, any citizen from across this country who's read the genocide convention and realises we have individual and collective responsibility."
Karvelas: "Yeah, I mean, of course, that's currently before the International Criminal Court and Israel is contesting that it's a genocide so it's still..."
Shoebridge: "Well, it's overwhelmingly recognised by..."
Karvelas: "Well, no, it's not, it's still going through the process."
Shoebridge: "...that what is happening, the restriction of food, the mass killing of civilians, the indiscriminate and disproportionate response..."
Karvelas: "Yeah, the case is not settled is the point I'm making. The case is not settled is the only point I'm making."
Shoebridge: "Well, our government should support that case and not oppose it and that's another thing the students are saying."
5. 7 June 2024, Max Chandler-Mather.

Editor's note: The use of the term genocide in relation to Israel's actions in Gaza is contested. South Africa's genocide case against Israel is still before the International Court of Justice.

6. 5 July 2024. Senator Fatima Payman, Labor.

Karvelas: "In that interview, Senator Payman says there is a genocide occurring in Gaza. Currently, genocide is contested and it's still before the International Court of Justice. And of course, there are many deliberations on that very question."

7. 7 July 2024, Nasser Mashni, APAN.

Editor's note: The use of the term genocide in relation to Israel's actions in Gaza is contested. South Africa's genocide case against Israel is still before the International Court of Justice.

8. 30 August 2024, Dr Osaid Alser. "So this current ongoing war, or if we're going to call it genocide too, you know, resulted in unprecedented number and unprecedented type of injuries, too. ..."

Karvelas: "In that interview, of course, my guest mentioned genocide occurring in Gaza. Genocide is contested and still before the International Court of Justice."

9. 3 October 2024, Josh Lees.

Karvelas: "In that interview, my guest said many times that genocide is occurring in Gaza. Genocide is contested and still before the International Court of Justice."

10. 22 October 2024, Dr Ana Jeelani.

Cannane: "Dr Anna Jeelani, a pediatric and orthopedic surgeon from Liverpool in the UK joining us there on the line, and of course in that interview, Anna did refer to genocide occurring in Gaza. Currently, genocide is being contested by Israel and still before the International Court of Justice."

All uses of word "challenge" by host

1. 26 October 2023, Kamalle Daboussy.

Daboussy: "I think the increases [in Islamophobic incidents] are related to the language by our federal leaders when they attack Hamas' actions which of course they're free to do and they should do in some circumstances but it's also giving license to right-wing extremists to take action and they've been emboldened and they therefore take action locally and I think that's the linkages to what's happening locally."

Karvelas: "OK, I have to **challenge** you on that."

2. 3 November 2023, Francesca Albanese.

Albanese: "And look at the intent, since the 7th of October, Israeli political leaders and military leaders have called for the erasure of Gaza. They've stressed that in Gaza there are not civilians, there are animals, there are all terrorists."

Karvelas: "Let me just **challenge** you on that because I've listened very carefully to many statements. And in fact, consistently they've called for the erasure of Hamas, not of the Palestinian people. There is a distinction there and Hamas is a terrorist organisation that wreaked terror on Israelis, killing scores of them. Was that not a genocidal act?"

Albanese: "No, Patricia. There is, for example, there is a current Likud member, a member of parliament who is the former minister for diplomacy, who has called for the erasure of Gaza from the face of the earth. And others before her have insisted, including the IDF

spokesperson, since the very early hours of the offensive in Gaza, when not many, but still a significant number of people in Gaza had been killed.

The emphasis, it was said, was on destruction, not on accuracy."

3. 17 November 2023, Tahani Mustafa. Karvelas: "Now you said a little earlier, which I really need to **challenge** because I'm just wondering what evidence we have that doctors have been shot and targeted."

4. 28 February 2024, Adel Salman.

Salman: "And so I think the community is basically saying, look, we support the ICV's position. We also won't be attending the iftar. And you've seen this, you know, really strong grassroots campaign basically saying to the government, we won't be attending. And I think it has very broad, from my understanding, it has very broad support."

Karvelas: "I just want to **challenge** you on the value of pulling out. Isn't it at a time like this that you'd want their ear, that you'd want to be in that room?"

Salman: "And I think what we were looking for is firmer action from the Australian government, similar to the approach that they've taken with the Russians.

I mean, Australia has taken such strong action on many different fronts against the Russian regime because of their invasion of the Ukraine."

Karvelas: "But just to **challenge** you on that, the circumstances are actually different.

On October the 7th, there was an attack on Israelis. 1,200 died in a brutal attack. It's not the same as what's happened in Russia and Ukraine."

Salman: "No question that the October 7th attacks have led to that response from Israel, but our point is that what has happened since October the 7th and that continues until today is a humanitarian catastrophe and Australia needs to actually take a meaningful step to actually prevent that."

5. 9 May 2024, Nick Riemer.

Riemer: "When we're talking about safety in these Gaza encampments, the key fact that strikes me is that just obviously there are many Palestinians, Middle Eastern people and their supporters in those encampments, but there are overwhelming numbers of Jewish people."

Karvelas: "Sure, but the actual term, I just need to **challenge** you on this, but the term Zionist not welcome, we know an overwhelming number of Jewish people and Jewish students, therefore, do define themselves as Zionists and there's different interpretation of what that word means. So if you're saying Zionists not welcome, you're saying they're not welcome on campus. Do you understand why that would be an inflammatory thing to say?"

Riemer: "Look, it's crucial what you understand by Zionism. And I mean, you know, the current genocide in Gaza is being justified as necessary to, you know, to the prosecution of Zionism, which I understand as the violent dispossession and colonization of the Palestinian people."

6. 7 June 2024, Max Chandler-Mather

Chandler-Mather: "I think that it is remarkable to me that so much of the media this week was focused on a small few protests that the Greens didn't support and certainly didn't organise instead of the fact that the Australian government continues to refuse to ban two-way arms trade with Israel."

Karvelas: "Let me just **challenge** you there. Is it not possible for us as a country to be concerned about violent protests and also be talking about the very significant violence overseas? Why can't we do both?"

Chandler-Mather: "I suppose the murder of 35,000 Palestinians and 15,000 children should warrant more coverage in the Australian media when the Australian government is not taking any material actions to put pressure on Israel to stop it."

Karvelas: "Why was the Green Senator Mehreen Faruqi outside Anthony Albanese's office encouraging a blockade?"

Chandler-Mather: "It's a peaceful protest that Mehreen was participating in."

*Karvelas: "But I want to **challenge** you again, if there's a blockade of an office and of course people go to MP's offices, you are an MP and ask for all sorts of help with navigating a really complex system and a lot of people who are really disadvantaged actually turn up to offices like that asking for help. How is it helpful to be blockading the office? Why do you think that's appropriate?"*

Chandler-Mather: "Well, because people feel like they're not being heard. And this is the prime minister of this country, the most powerful person in this country."