

Mock Checkpoint Construction and Suggested Roles and Script for Enactment

Supplies:

- Plastic contractor or perimeter fencing (you can get a role of this at Lowes or Home Depot for between \$15-\$35) to mark off the checkpoint. You can also use rope.
- Six folding chairs or other thing you can attach the fencing or rope to.
- Duck tape to attach the fencing to the chairs.
- Army green, black, or camouflage clothing for two-three soldier costumes
- Toy machine guns (you can also cut out rectangular or gun shaped pieces of cardboard, write machine gun on them, and create a attach a string to the ends of them so you can sling them across your body.
- Bull horn if you can use one at the location you are using.

Roles:

- 2-3 soldiers
- 5-7 Palestinian civilians
- 1-2 people to pass out informational handouts and speak to media
- 1 person to film and take pictures
- 3-5 people to hold signs pictures of Shuhada Street (there can be propped up if you don't have enough people)

Set up the chairs and plastic fencing so that there is a gate with an entrance in the middle.

Station the "soldiers" at the gate and have Palestinian civilians line up to enter.

Suggested scripts for “soldiers” and “Palestinian civilians” (these scripts are not exhaustive. Add our own scenarios and sentences)

For soldiers

- Make each civilian take off their belt, coat, and open their bags or backpack
- Make male Palestinian civilians lift up their shirts and their feet
- Make Palestinian civilians stand up against the wall and spread their legs to be searched or kneel or sit on the ground.
- Search through women purses, pulling everything out
- Make them wait to come through while lounging on the phone, talking with each other, or staring off into space. Ignore Palestinian civilians requests that they have to be at work, school, or are in need of medical care
- Arrest them – make them kneel or sit on the ground, blindfold and handcuff them.
- Point your gun at them
- “Let me see your ID”
- “What is your number? This is a closed military zone you are only allowed to enter if you are registered with a number on the list”
- “You can’t come in. Go back. Why? Because I said so”
- “Stop talking to me. I don’t care if you have to be somewhere. This is a closed military zone”
- “You all are terrorists. We will shoot you. This is our land. All of this land is Israel”

For “Palestinian civilians”:

- “I don’t speak Hebrew. I don’t understand what you are saying”
- “Please stop pointing your gun at me”
- “I have to get to my sick mother. Please let me through”
- “I live here. I don’t know why I am not on the list. Please look again. I must be on the list. My house is right there. I have to get home to take care of my family”
- “I am an ambulance I have to get through to take a woman in labor to the hospital or a man having a heart attack” (soldier should delay them or not allow them through).
- “I am trying to get to work”
- “Please don’t shoot me. I don’t understand what you are saying. I don’t speak Hebrew”

After every 2-3 “Palestinian civilians” are denied entry, arrested, or pass through the checkpoint (only allow around 10% at most to have entry) read the description below or one of the personal stories.

“You are watching a simulation of an Israeli checkpoint in the old city of Hebron where closed military zones, checkpoints, and separations are everywhere. Shuhada Street, in the old city of Hebron, which used to be a thriving marketplace, is now a ghost town; Palestinian storefronts and houses are sealed shut; Illegal Israeli settlers move freely while Palestinian residents face strangling restrictions on movements. The Israeli system of checkpoints, closures, and apartheid in Hebron, and throughout the occupied West Bank, is a violation of human rights, denying people the right to move freely, access education, health care, and more. Shuhada Street and is a symbol of the Israel’s continuing expansion of illegal Israeli settlements, apartheid, lack of freedom of movement, and denial of Palestinian dignity and human rights.”