

Children by Choice

Public Statement on Gaza 2024

Children by Choice calls for an immediate ceasefire and an end to the humanitarian crisis in Gaza.

An environment where individuals can make free and unfettered choices about their reproductive health and life is core to reproductive justice and the mission and values of Children by Choice.

For Children by Choice, a Queensland-based independent non-profit organisation, speaking up about reproductive justice in Gaza underscores the global nature of human rights and solidarity. By addressing the severe inequalities and health infrastructure decimation in Gaza, we amplify marginalised voices and draw international attention to these critical issues. This advocacy educates our local community on the interconnectedness of global health, aligns with our core values, and encourages comprehensive aid efforts that prioritise essential reproductive healthcare. Our stance not only supports those in need but also inspires broader action towards achieving worldwide reproductive justice and equality.

The decimation of Gaza's health infrastructure has prevented the delivery of safe and humane medical treatments or interventions, including reproductive choices, contraceptive access, and pregnancy care. The ongoing strikes on Gaza have destroyed lives, buildings, communities, and any capacity for free reproductive choice and autonomy.

Warfare also exacerbates gender inequalities and there is evidence of gender-based violence, including sexual violence and exploitation, resulting in higher rates of pregnancy that puts women further at risk.

It is estimated that nearly one million women and girls in Gaza currently lack access to essential health services, an increase of almost one thousand percent since before the current crisis began.

The suffering of Palestinians in Gaza can no longer be put into words. Children by Choice calls for an immediate and enduring ceasefire to prevent further civilian deaths and for reproductive healthcare to be an essential part of aid delivered in Gaza now and during Palestine's future recovery.