Doctors doing Harm

Dr. Bassem Saab
Physicians Involved in Torture

• About 3,910,000 results in 0.37 seconds
• CIA made doctors torture suspected terrorists after 9/11, taskforce finds.
  
  *The Guardian Monday 4 November 2013*

• Drs from non-democratic & democratic countries are involved in torture.
  
  *Torture 2008;18(3):161-75*
Why HPs Are Involved In Torture?

• HPs not trained in addressing human rights issues of detainees
• Told the mantra "first do no harm" doesn’t apply to people who aren't ill
• Conflict of interest
• Lack moral courage
Torture More than a Face
Much More than Physical

- Sleep deprivation
- Solitary confinement
- Threats
- Withdrawal of food & water
- Exposure to extreme temperatures
- Water boarding
Torture of Khiam POW

- Case control study-118 POW
- Lack food/water 68% (most common)
- Solitary confinement 61%
- Denial medical Rx. 42%

*Social Science and Medicine 2003; 57:1249-57.*
Torture by Deprivation

“Hunger is humiliating and more difficult than death... I would consider it a feast when I was given the yolk of an egg”

Khiam POW
Thank you!
Torture-A Universal Issue

Google: 74,500,000
Torture: Accompanied Mankind
AUBMC- Pioneer Work

• First paper on Arab tortured prisoners
• US army envoy to discuss work
• US funding
How Many Children You’ve Killed?
Liberating Tortured Lebanese POW
MDs & Torture

Don’t kill a breadwinner or injured,
Don’t harm a handicapped
Don’t harm or rape the women
No one shall be subjected to torture or to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment.
Definition

The action or practice of inflicting severe pain on someone as a punishment or in order to force them to do or say something.