

MYTH: Israel forcibly sterilized Ethiopian Israeli women upon arrival.

FACT: There was no forced sterilization of Ethiopian women. There was no sterilization, period.

The slander, referenced in circles that accuse Israel of racism and sexism, is blatantly false. The smear came from a news article in Ha'aretz in 2012, which reported that Israeli authorities forced Ethiopian women to receive shots of Depo-Provera, a contraception that lasts three months, in order to immigrate to Israel.

Sloppy journalism turned "birth control" into "forced sterilization."

Additionally, every Israeli official (from three agencies involved) denied that birth control was a prerequisite for immigration.

An Israeli committee investigated the incident. The investigation, which ran from 2013 until the beginning of 2016, exonerated Israel:

"No evidence could be found for the claims raised that shots to prevent pregnancy were administered to Ethiopian women under pressure or threats, overt or covert, or in any way that was improper."

State Comptroller Joseph Shapira, Haaretz. January 2016.

We can draw two conclusions: either thousands of Israeli doctors take part in a tremendous conspiracy to limit the Ethiopian Jewish birth rates, or no such incidents occurred.