

Khaled Ben Mustafa- All Part of the System

Ultimately, there is no use in seeing a psychologist because he is just going to listen to you and then he will prescribe some medicine. We all know what the problem is. It isn't going to be fixed with medicine. The psychologist knows the problem. He knows what's wrong with you. So there is some hypocrisy behind all this because everyone knows what the problem is. It isn't hard to figure out. When you see the living conditions in Guantanamo, you know what the problem is. So, he is going to listen to you, he is going to give you medicine, but he too is an accomplice in the system. You know what I mean? In Guantanamo, everyone you've met, they are all part of the system. One cannot trust anyone in Guantanamo, not anyone, because they are all on the same side. They are all fine with the system.

When we had just arrived in Guantanamo, they gave us pills. What did they call them? I don't know what for. There was some illness. I don't know what it was. And they gave us some sort of pill. A lot of pills. I forget why. And you must take them. And we didn't want to take them. We don't want any medicine. We do not trust them at all. Even if we are ill, we don't want any medicine. And that caused a huge problem at first. At first, there were many, many problems with this issue. And we must take the medicine in front of the nurse. The nurse is there. He checks whether you have actually taken the pill. And then he says, "open your mouth," in order to make sure that you have haven't hidden it.

There were immunization shots against Hepatitis B, C. Some people never agreed to get the shots. And if you don't want to receive that shot, they bring in the intervention squad. So they handcuff us, they gas us, handcuffs, then they inject the vaccine by force. Immunizations were compulsory.

We just cannot trust them, you see. I will tell you something that may shock you, but when I returned to France, I was sent to jail right away and when I was in jail I went to see the doctor. I asked him for a blood test to see whether I had AIDS and the doctor agreed. Later he asked me, "Did you engage in sexual intercourse that you are worried about?" I told him, "No, I had no sexual intercourse, but I'm coming from Guantanamo and I was given many injections there. I don't trust them. I don't know what they injected me with." He told me, "But the Americans are very up-to-date. They only use clean needles." I said, "You don't understand. I think they've injected me on purpose."

He cannot understand it. He could not understand. But in my heart I was sincere because I cannot trust them. In truth it is impossible to trust them. It is shocking to tell you this, but I was convinced, I was certain that they had injected me with something. That was our state of mind in Guantanamo.