



Tzali Reshef – Peace Now founder and former MK

On November 4th 1995 at 9:42 pm my wife, Orna, our kids and I were on our way to our car to drive home to Jerusalem after attending the peace rally in Kikar Malchei Israel. Suddenly, everybody around us was talking about a shooting which had taken place: the rumor was that Rabin was shot on his way from the stage to his car. We were glued to the news all the way to Jerusalem. Only after arriving home did they broadcast the infamous announcement by Eitan Haber that Rabin had died. We were shocked.

This was the second political murder that I had experienced. The first one was more than eleven years earlier, when our friend and peace activist, Emil Grunzweig, was murdered, also at the end of a peace demonstration. I was standing very close to him when a hand grenade was thrown in our direction.

Those shattering events did not change my views: they did not weaken our determination to protest again and again, to gather in order to fight for our convictions. They did, however, make it clear to me that the battle over the future of Israel will not be won without a very fierce struggle between us and the enemies of peace and democracy. They taught me that the enemies of peace will use every means in order to stop us from reaching the peace that we desire. They showed us some dangerous aspects of the religious conviction of some of our opponents. The struggle continues today, and our opponents' determination to fight has not weakened. It literally is a struggle for life or death.