



What Is Restorative Justice?

April 21, 2023



Introductions

In the chat:

1. Your Name
2. Organization & City
3. Share something that has made you smile recently



2023 Lunch and Learn Series noon-1pm

April 21 - Introduction to Restorative Justice

May 19 - Family Group Conferencing

August 18 - Peer Accountability Circles

September 15 - Victim/Youth Conferencing

October 20 – Responsive Circles

November 17 – Mediation & Truancy Mediation



What is Restorative Justice?

Overview of Restorative Justice

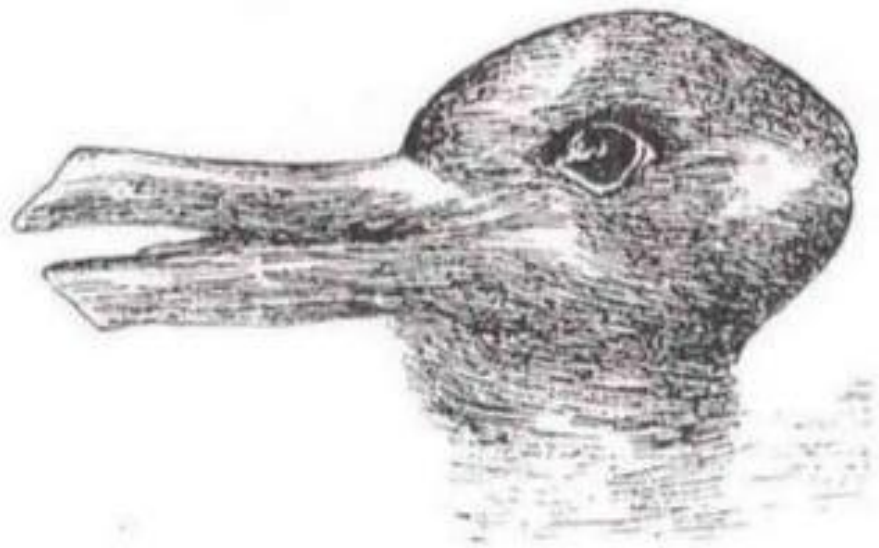
Models to build an RJ mindset

Applying RJ: A Case Study

Program Models for NC

Q & A

Restorative Justice is a mindset



Restorative Justice

“Restorative Justice is a philosophy and set of practices, rooted in Indigenous teachings, that emphasize our interconnection by repairing relationships when harm occurs while proactively building and maintaining relationships to prevent future harm.”

~ David Ryan Barcega Castro-Harris from Amplify RJ



Traditional

Crime = a violation against the State

What law/rule was broken?

Who did it?

What punishment do they deserve?

Restorative

Harm = a violation against relationships

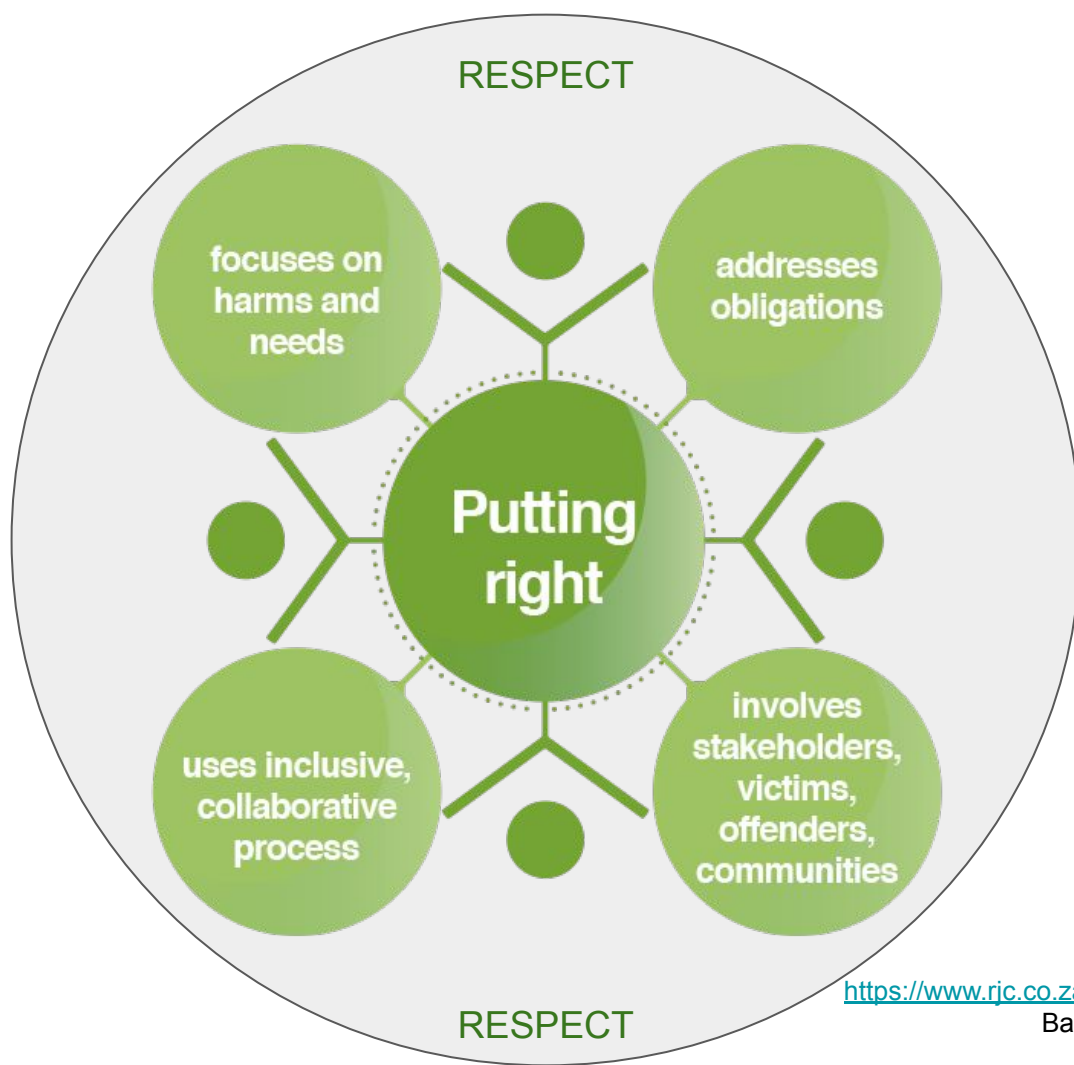
What harm was done?

What are the needs of those involved?

How can the harm be repaired and who is responsible to make those repairs?

What is Restorative Justice?

Restorative Justice is a process that seeks to primarily address or repair the harm caused by an incident or offense (to the extent possible), and involves those who have a stake in a specific offense and to collectively identify and address harms, needs and obligations.



Graphic adapted from:
<https://www.rjc.co.za/applying-rj-in-sa/what-is-rj>
Based on Howard Zehr's work

Restorative Justice

Traditional Mindset

Goal of the Message to the Offender:

You chose to commit an offense and we will sanction you to deter you from future offending. We will do this through approved processes and programs, peer accountability, and supervision.

Restorative Mindset

Goal of the Message to the Youth who caused harm: Your actions impact others; you have caused harm to another person and/or the community through your actions in this incident. You are responsible for your actions and capable of repairing the harm and making amends.

Restorative Justice

Traditional Mindset

Goal of the Message to the Victim: Our first concern is to make offenders face the consequences of their crime. You will benefit because the offender will be punished.

Restorative Mindset

Goal of the Message to those Harmed: Our community believes you are important and that your voice is important in this process. We will do our best to ensure that the youth who harmed you takes steps to repair that harm, to the extent possible.

Restorative Justice

Traditional Mindset

Goal of the Message to the Community:

We will do our best to protect you by identifying offenders and sending a message, through punishment, to would-be offenders that crime will not be tolerated.

Restorative Mindset

Goal of the Message to the Community:

Holding youth accountable to repair the harm they have caused is our priority. We need the help of the community as a key stakeholder to help hold the youth accountable through their efforts to make amends, and also in supporting their restoration as a valuable community member.

Example

Gabriel's next-door neighbors were on vacation. His friends told him he could sell used video games to a second hand store for 40% of their actual value. Because he had been in his neighbor's home many times, he knew they had a large collection of games consoles and video games. One day after school, Gabriel decided to enter his neighbor's home. He broke a window pane to unlock a basement window and crawled into the house. He took a Nintendo Switch, an Xbox and 30 games, and left the house. When he tried to sell the video games, the owner of the store became suspicious and called the police. Gabriel, age 17, was charged.

Traditional Perspective:

- What was the law broken?
- Who broke that law?
- What punishment do they deserve?

Restorative Perspective:

- What harm was done?
- What are the needs of those involved?
- How can the harm be repaired?

Compare:

- What are the long-term implications for Gabriel's future?

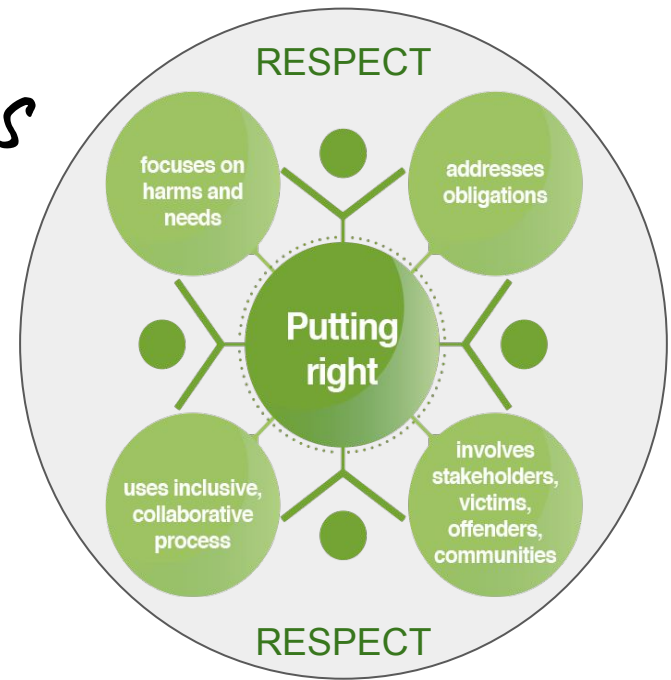
RJ Programs

Circles:

- Responsive Circle
 - Peacekeeping Circle
 - Support Circle
 - Re-Entry Circle
- Peer Accountability Circle

Conferencing:

- Restorative Conferencing (Victim/Offender)
- Family Group Conferencing



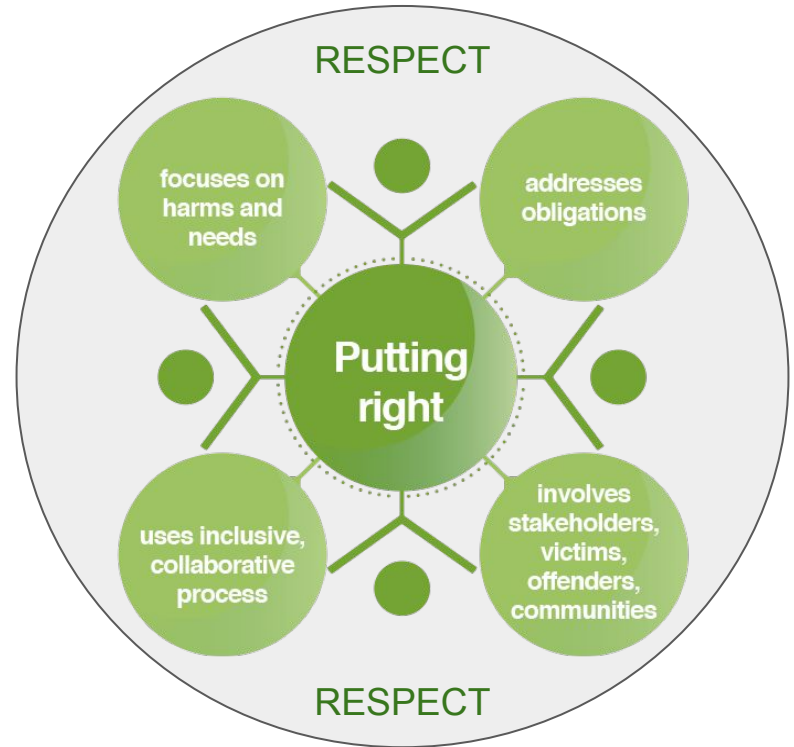
RJ Programs

Restorative Dialog

- Juvenile Mediation
- Truancy Mediation

Panel/Board

- Restorative Teen Court



RJ Programs

Competency Development

- Restorative Repairs
 - Reparative Community Service & Restitution
- Educational Opportunities
 - Prosocial Skills
 - Moral Reasoning
 - Academic
 - Workforce Development
 - Independent Living





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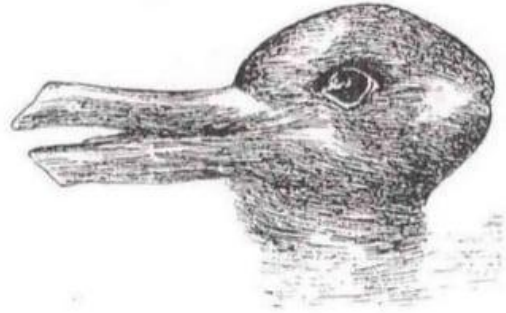
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What Is Restorative Justice?



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Triad
Restorative
Justice

Restorative Justice

Mindset used **responsively** to respond to harm with both informal and formal processes

Restorative Practices

Mindset & values used **proactively** to build relationships and develop community with both formal and informal processes