

RESTORATIVE JUSTICE

GUIDELINE FOR HEALING IN SEXUAL ABUSE

WHAT IS RESTORATIVE JUSTICE

As an **alternative** to conventional legal systems, restorative justice can be defined as the process in which the victim and offender (primarily), with the help of a mediator to get involved on different practices with the goal of **meeting** the victim's needs.

SUCH PRACTICES INVOLVE:

- conference** face-to-face in a **safe space**
if not possible or desired...
- letters**
- recorded **interviews** or videos
- via **facilitator** (third party)



BENEFITS

For the **VICTIM**:

- Offers the possibility of **recovering** their voice, as survivors
- To be heard and have questions **answered**
- To heal and move **forward** in a positive way

For the **OFFENDER**:

- Improves the **understanding** of the on how their acts can affect others
- Make **amends** with the victim and reconnect with the community

For the **COMMUNITY**:

- Restorative justice saves **money**
- Restorative justice increases public **safety**



WHY IS IT VITAL IN LEGAL SYSTEMS?

- 1** **IT GIVES THE VICTIM A VOICE:** enables the victim to speak unmediately
- 2** **VALIDATION:** potential accountability by perpetrator
- 3** **FUTURE PLAN-** provides solution, a pragmatic plan on long and immediate-term harm



1. ENCOUNTER

ESTABLISH THE FACTS - what happened, consequences (meaning), who the author is



ESTABLISH LIMITS - to avoid revictimisation or more harm to any part (avoid some questions, not doubtful). To evaluate offenders and the risk inherent



INFORMED CONSENT- both parts have to agree on involving.



RESPECT AND ACCEPTANCE - the offender should acknowledge their actions in order to accomplish the goal



CARE FOR THE TIMELINE - the practices should be carried out not long after the trial process to avoid revictimization



SAFE SPACE SCENARIO - both victim and aggressor should feel comfortable to speak and participate



FULL ENGAGEMENT OF ALL PARTS (offender, victim and community), with a specialized mediator on sexual violence



once the victim decides to start the process...

THE CONVERSATION SHOULD :



ACTIVE AND RESPECTFUL LISTENING

not **patronizing** nor **doubtful**, not forcing the victim to repeat the traumatic event or feeling



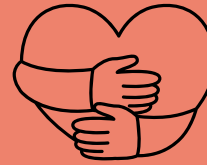
FREE EXPRESSION OF THE VICTIM

victims heal from the encounter and through relieving from stress by speaking **directly** and **freely**



AMEND-MAKING

not only with the **victim**, but also with the **society**. They should atone for the wrongdoing and work directly and indirectly for those amends



CAREFUL ACTION FROM MEDIATOR

Facilitating the process (understanding the dynamics of sexual violence and being specialized on the process itself), **cooperating** with other institutions to make sure the victim is safe and the communication is successful



SUPPORT FROM SOCIETY

all institutions should work to **heal** and help **restart** the victim's life as well as not **marginalize** the aggressor but rather cooperate for their **reinsertion**



2. REPAIR

3. TRANSFORM



once the practice has finished, ask the parts:



What would you like to see happen next?



What would you like to offer?



What would you like to request?

the creation of these spaces

leads to...

transformation of individuals



problem detection from the roots



potential change to a safer and more fair society for victims