

# *RESTORATIVE JUSTICE*

## UNA NEWSLETTER

### RESTORATIVE PRINCIPLES

#### Participants' Opinions

The "3 Pillars of Restorative Justice" form the foundation of a justice system that strives to heal the harm done to individuals, the community, and the offender; instead of just punishing the offender for his actions, and the state deciding what the offender deserves. Restorative Justice is centralized on the needs of all and aims to set things right, for the person harmed, the community, and all parties that are directly involved.

(1) Restorative Justice focuses on harm: For a harm to be focused on, there has to be a wrong done, in which Restorative Justice focuses on making those right. Through the State dealing with harms committed, there is no actual right done, between the offender (whom committed the wrong) and the victim (whom was wronged). The offender could be the one that was a victim in the past, in which caused one to act and needs a wrong, righted, also.

(2) Wrongs or harms result in obligations: We are obligated, due to our actions harming others, to understand that accepting the consequences and being accountable for our actions, we take on the responsibility to attempt to make things right. Our choices effect others, in either a negative way or a positive way. It is our responsibility to know that our actions caused harm, to make them right, which is our obligation, to that person or persons.

(3) Restorative Justice promotes engagement or participation: Our highest regard, in engagement and participation, is essential in the goal of getting sincere results. In what we do, we must have purpose and commit to our engagement and participation, with honor.

### 3 PILLARS OF RESTORATIVE JUSTICE

- 1) Restorative Justice focuses on harm
- 2) Wrongs or harms result in obligations
- 3) Restorative Justice promotes engagement or participation

Resource: "The Little Book of Restorative Justice," Howard Zehr, ch. 2