

About us

The Restorative Justice Council (RJC) is the independent third sector membership body for the field of restorative practice. It provides quality assurance and a national voice advocating the widespread use of all forms of restorative practice, including restorative justice.

The RJC's vision is of a restorative society where everyone has access to safe, high quality restorative justice wherever and whenever it is needed.

The RJC's role is to set and champion clear standards for restorative justice. It ensures quality and supports those in the field to build on their capacity and accessibility. At the same time, the RJC raises public awareness and confidence in restorative processes.

Show your support for restorative justice

Anyone can join the RJC as a supporter for as little as £3 a month. Supporters help make our vision for universal access to restorative justice a reality. As a thank you, we will send you our thrice yearly magazine, Resolution, which is packed with interesting stories and case studies from every field of restorative practice. You will also receive our monthly members' bulletins with the latest restorative justice news and discounts to events. There are additional membership categories for restorative practitioners and organisations.

For more information email enquiries@restorativejustice.org.uk, visit www.restorativejustice.org.uk or call us on 020 7831 5700.



Patron: HRH The Princess Royal

Charity no: 1097969



Restorative
Justice
Council

Promoting quality restorative
practice for everyone

Restorative Justice Works

www.restorativejustice.org.uk

What is restorative justice?

Restorative justice gives victims the chance to meet or communicate with their offenders to explain the real impact of the crime - it empowers victims by giving them a voice. It also holds offenders to account for what they have done and helps them to take responsibility and make amends. Government research demonstrates that restorative justice provides an 85% victim satisfaction rate and a 14% reduction in the frequency of reoffending.

Restorative justice is about victims and offenders communicating within a controlled environment to talk about the harm that has been caused and finding a way to repair that harm. For offenders, the experience can be incredibly challenging as it confronts them with the personal impact of their crime. For victims, meeting the person who has harmed them can be a huge step in moving forward and recovering from the crime.

How does it work?

Restorative justice conferences, where a victim meets their offender, are led by a facilitator who supports and prepares the people taking part and makes sure that the process is safe. Sometimes, when a face to face meeting is not the best way forward, the facilitator will arrange for the victim and offender to communicate via letters, recorded interviews or video.

For any kind of communication to take place, the offender must have admitted to the crime, and both victim and offender must be willing to participate. Restorative justice can be used for any type of crime and at any stage of the criminal justice system, including alongside a prison sentence. The Restorative Justice Council advocates the use of safe, high quality restorative justice wherever and whenever it is needed.

What participants say

“For me, restorative justice turned the tables and I don’t feel like I’m a victim any more. I’m in control now. The biggest thing is that I stopped being scared of him.”
Christine, murder victim’s daughter



“When you’re a victim of a crime it hits you in the pit of your stomach and you have this anger boiling up inside you. When you meet somebody and they say ‘I did it and I’m sorry’, it takes all of that away. It’s therapeutic for the victim.” **Dave, burglary victim**

To find out more about restorative justice visit www.restorativejustice.org.uk