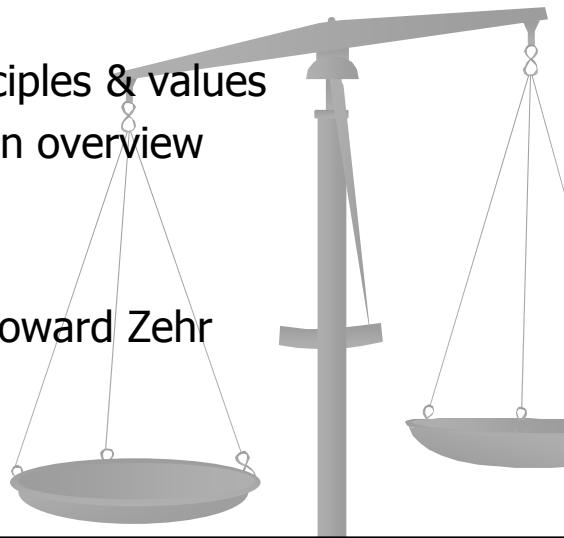


Restorative justice

Principles & values
an overview

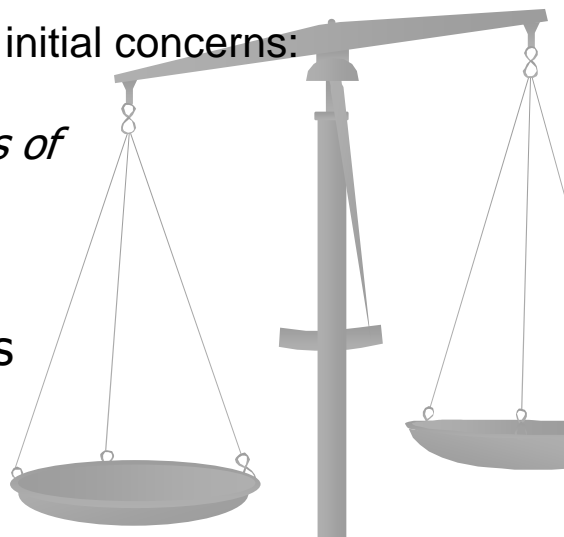
Howard Zehr



Began in 1970's,
in practice, not theory.

Three initial concerns:

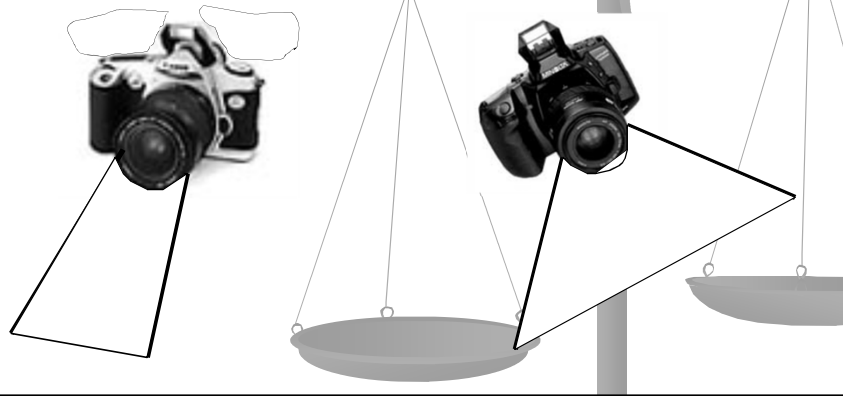
- *Needs and roles of*
 - victims,
 - offenders,
 - communities



Two lenses

Criminal Justice

**Restorative
Justice**



Criminal Justice



- A telephoto lens has a narrow angle of view and depth of field.
- It brings a sharp focus to a narrowly-defined subject.
- It misses things that are outside its focal area and field of view.

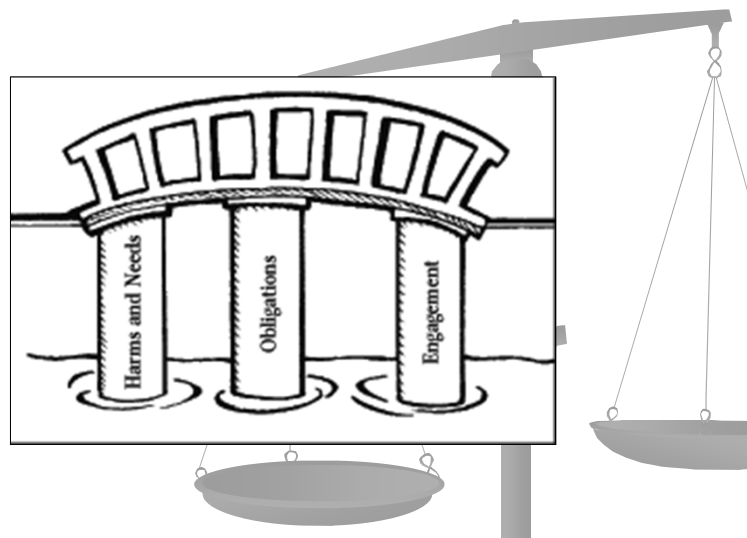
Restorative Justice

- A wide angle lens has a more encompassing angle of view and depth of field.
- It includes more information within its view and area of sharp focus.



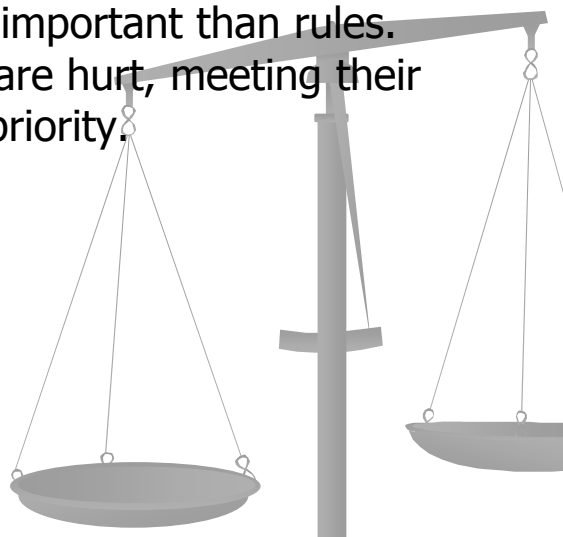
Criminal justice	Restorative justice
<ul style="list-style-type: none">◦ What laws have been broken?◦ Who did it?◦ What do they deserve?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">◦ Who has been harmed?◦ What are their needs?◦ Whose obligations are these?

3 Pillars of Restorative Justice



Restorative justice assumptions

1. Harm is more important than rules.
When people are hurt, meeting their needs is first priority.

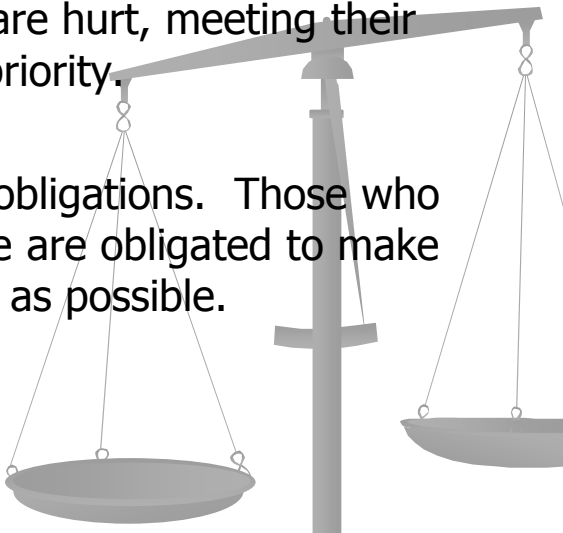




Common "justice needs" include

- *acknowledgment of responsibility*
- *information about who, what, etc.*
- *"truth-telling"*
- *empowerment: choices, involvement*
- *Repair of harm*

Restorative justice assumptions

1. When people are hurt, meeting their needs is first priority.
 2. Harms create obligations. Those who are responsible are obligated to make things as right as possible.
- 

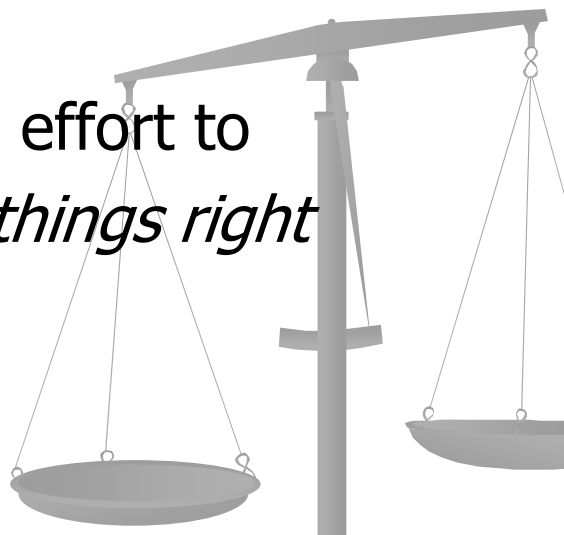
Obligations include accountability

- that addresses harms and encourages empathy, responsibility, re-integration
 - rather than denial and separation



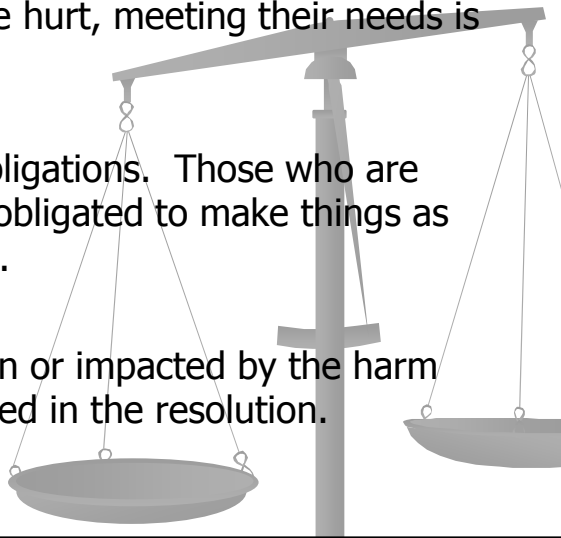
At the center:

an effort to
put things right



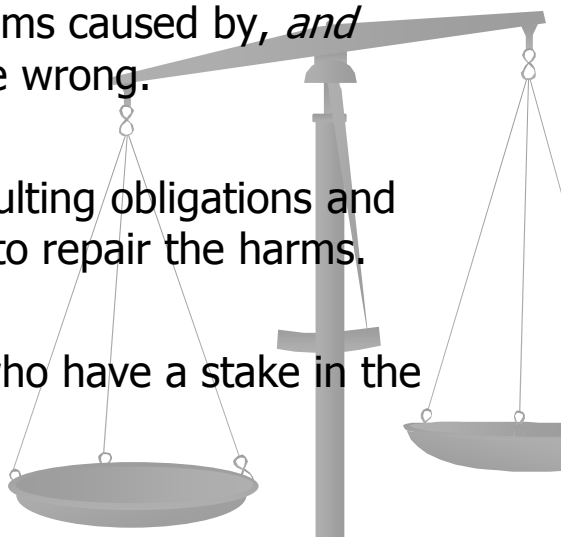
Restorative justice assumptions

1. When people are hurt, meeting their needs is first priority.
2. Harms create obligations. Those who are responsible are obligated to make things as right as possible.
3. Those involved in or impacted by the harm should be involved in the resolution.



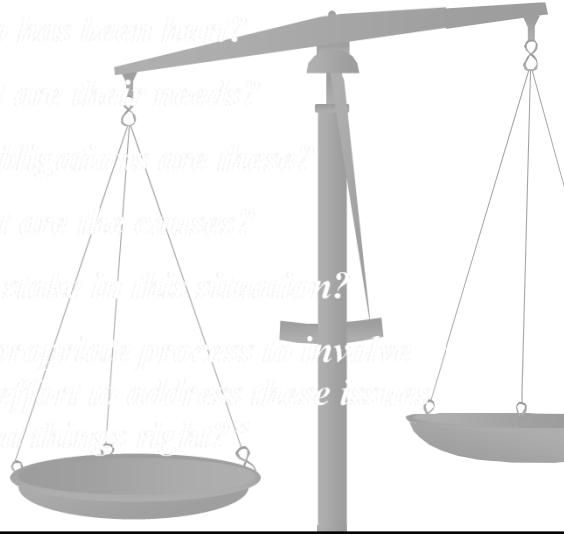
Another way: when wrongs occur, we...

- Address the harms caused by, *and revealed by*, the wrong.
- Identify the resulting obligations and responsibilities to repair the harms.
- Involve those who have a stake in the resolution.



Guiding questions of RJ

- 1. What has been hurt?*
- 2. What are their needs?*
- 3. Whose obligations are these?*
- 4. What are the causes?*
- 5. Who has a stake in this situation?*
- 6. What is the appropriate process to involve stakeholders in an effort to address these issues and "put things right"?*

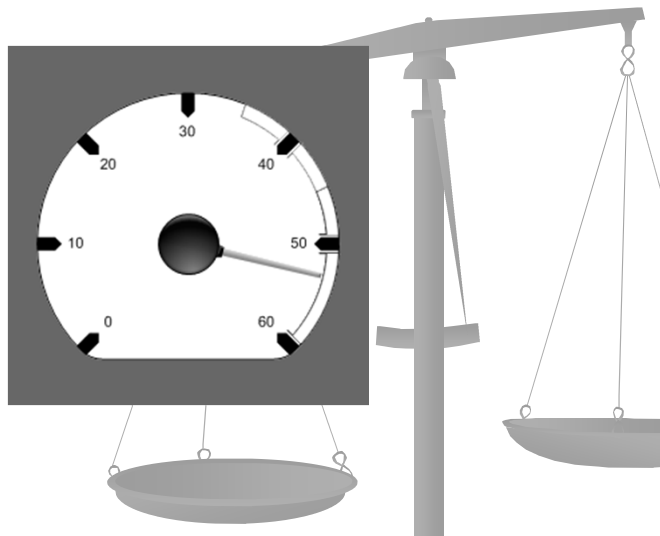


Restorative values

- Respect
- Responsibility
- Relationships

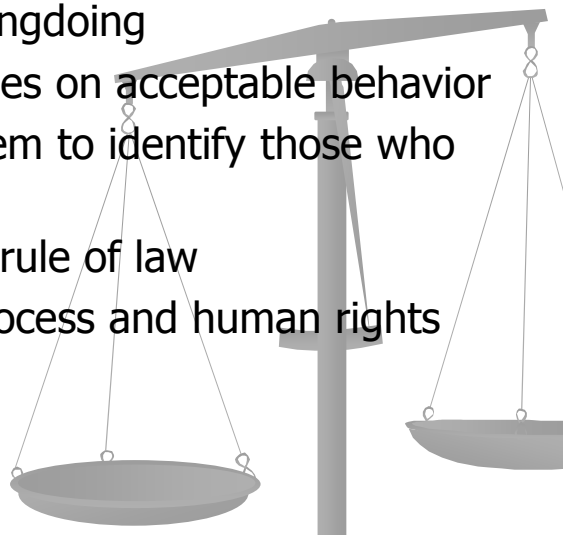


Criminal justice vs restorative justice?



The legal system serves important functions

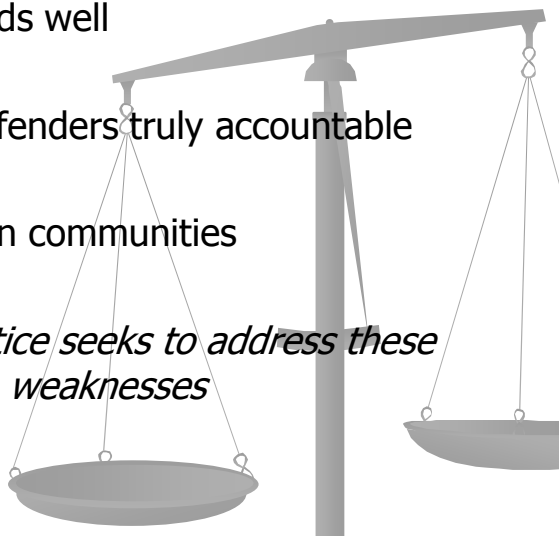
- Denounces wrongdoing
- Draws boundaries on acceptable behavior
- Provides a system to identify those who do wrong
- Establishes the rule of law
- Protects due process and human rights



But criminal justice does not...

- serve victims' needs well
- effectively hold offenders truly accountable
- work to strengthen communities

Restorative justice seeks to address these weaknesses



What if everyone asked the RJ questions?

- Police
- Prosecutors
- Judges
-

