

# RESTORATIVE JUSTICE

## What is Restorative Justice (RJ)?

Restorative Justice is a process of identifying and assisting individuals who have had an encounter in a specific offence.

The process involves identifying and addressing the **Harm**, needs and duty of care (obligation) in healing and restoring state of wellbeing for the victims, offenders and their respective families and communities.

The restorative justice process allows individuals to:

- Restore and reparate
- Heal and repair the **Harm**
- Build an accepting community.

The restorative justice process works on case by case with

- Victims their family and support groups
- Offenders their family and support groups
- Community groups.

What is **Harm**?

Harm refers to the following forms of offence:

- violence
- sexual abuse
- physical abuse
- verbal abuse

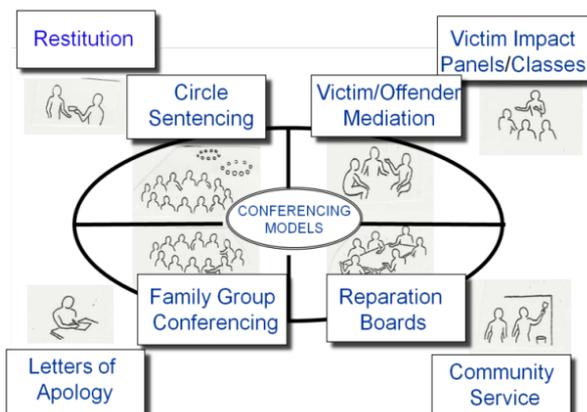
The restorative justice process provides following needs and benefits to victim, offender, community and government system:



Victim	Offender	Community	Government System
Safety Answers Tell Story Truth Vindication	Accountability Support Understanding	Needs addressed Safety · Opportunity to build community · Responsibility	Assistance and support from the community · Alternatives · Resources

The diagram below explains how **Harm** and healing have rippling effect on affected individuals:

## RJ Intervention Practices



### How does this process work?

*Step one:* We consult the offenders, victim and community.

*Step two:* Victim Offenders Conferencing (VOC)

*Step three:* Family and Group Conferencing (FGC)

What does **Victim Offenders Conferencing (VOC)** mean?

Victim Offenders Conferencing (VOC) is a process that holds offenders accountable to the person (victim) they harmed.

It assists

- repair victims and offenders emotional and material harm caused by a crime
- getting answers and a greater sense of closure
- develop a mutual acceptable plan that addresses the harm caused by the crime.

What does **Family and Group Conferencing (FGC)** mean?

Family and Group Conferencing (FGC) is a process that holds offenders accountable to the families and community or groups they have harmed.

It involves:

- diversion
- accountability
- involving the victim
- involving and strengthening the offenders family
- consensus decision making
- cultural appropriateness
- due process

**Contact:**

At Pacific Centre for Peacebuilding (PCP), we engage with individuals who are accountable for harmful behaviour to improve and promote safety and restoration to victims and communities. We assist vulnerable affected individuals to develop skills that help reduce crime and harm.

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*Basic Philosophy of Restorative Justice*  
*Crime harms but Justice heals*  
*Crime violates peoples relationships, obligation but RJ restores.*  
*RJ's principal objective is to heal the harm being done*  
*It's to place right and wrong in any humanly way possible*  
*RJ's focal point is on Reparation and Restoration*