

Restorative justice in threes

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3 *assumptions* underlie restorative justice:

- When people and relationships are harmed, needs are created
- The needs created by harms lead to obligations
- The obligation is to heal and “put right” the harms; this is a just response.

3 *principles* of restorative justice reflect these assumptions: A just response...

- repairs the harm caused by, and revealed by, wrongdoing (restoration);
- encourages appropriate responsibility for addressing needs and repairing the harm (accountability);
- involves those impacted, including the community, in the resolution (engagement).

3 underlying *values* provide the foundation:

- Respect
- Responsibility
- Relationship

3 *questions* are central to restorative justice:

- Who has been hurt?
- What are their needs?
- Who has the obligation to address the needs, to put right the harms, to restore relationships?

(As opposed to: What rules were broken? Who did it? What do they deserve?)

3 *stakeholder* groups should be considered and/or involved:

- Those who have been harmed, and their families
- Those who have caused harm, and their families
- The relevant community

3 *aspirations* guide restorative justice: the desire to live in right relationship...

- with one another;
- with the creation;
- with the Creator.

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