



Giving Voice
Repairing Harm
Restoring Relationships
Bringing Balance

Restorative Justice:

Balancing the Needs of Victims, Communities and Offenders

Branigan Library Dresp Room A

Tuesday, May 1, 2007
7:00 pm – 8:30 pm
(Free of charge)

What is Restorative Justice?

How can it benefit our community?

How can I get involved and support it?

**Informational Presentation
with Video
Followed by Questions
and Discussion**

Giving voice.

Victims and survivors of crime should have an opportunity to speak, to express the impact of the crime, and to have a say in what happens.

Repairing harm.

Those involved in causing harm have an obligation to repair the harm and make things right.

Restoring relationships.

Relationships affected by crime can be restored.

Bringing balance.

The needs of victims, the community, and offenders are taken into account.



Dear PVA Member,

At the March 22 PVA Meeting, I asked for a show of hands of those who were interested in an informational workshop on the concept and practice of Restorative Justice. Now here it is.

Ben Luchini

**Restorative Justice:
Balancing the Needs of Victims, Communities
and Offenders**

Stéphane Trustorff Luchini, M.A.

Restorative justice is an emerging response to crime that seeks to heal harm in the aftermath of crime and to prevent further harm. It balances the needs of victims and the community with the responsibility of offenders. Victims have an opportunity to meet the offender to ask questions that only the offender can answer, and to express the impact of the crime on themselves. Offenders are held accountable and engaged meaningfully in repair of the harm. Community members support victim healing and offender accountability.

Restorative justice is primarily practiced as dialogue between victims, offenders, and community members that is facilitated by trained mediators and facilitators. Participants are able to speak in a non-adversarial process about what happened and how it affected them where everyone feels heard and understood. Agreements are then made to repair the harm.

Research shows that restorative dialogue provides increased satisfaction and sense of fairness with the criminal justice system, reduced recidivism of offenders, and increased compliance with restitution agreements.

The increasing support by criminal justice professionals in North America and around the world is reflected in the support by judges and the district attorney in the 6th Judicial District of southwestern New Mexico, where Mr. Luchini introduced a program of restorative justice in 2004.

Mr. Luchini will present restorative justice in the context of advancing the practice in southern New Mexico.

Mr. Luchini is Executive Director of the Restorative Justice Community Center of Southwestern New Mexico and is in private practice as a mediator and conflict intervention specialist working with families and businesses. He holds the degree Master of Arts in Conflict Resolution from Antioch University. He grew up in Las Cruces where he graduated from Las Cruces High School in 1981 and New Mexico State University in 1986. He currently lives in Silver City.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

**The Restorative Justice
Community Center**

PO Box 2783
Silver City, NM 88062-2783
505.534.0336

<http://www.RJNM.org>
RJCC@RJNM.org

Read "Information" (PDFs) at:
<http://www.rjnm.org/rjcc/rjccinfo.php>

Las Cruces Links:

PROGRESSIVE VOTER ALLIANCE

<http://pva-nm.org/>
PVA Working Group – Ben Luchini
hasjelti@zianet.com