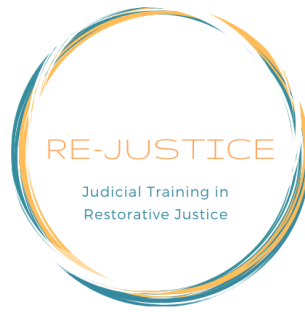




This project is co-funded by the Justice Programme of the European Union (2014-2020)

Judicial training in restorative justice



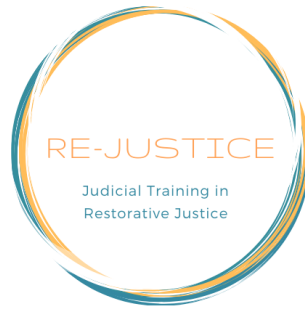


Annex 7

Handout 7:

Impact and effectiveness of restorative justice

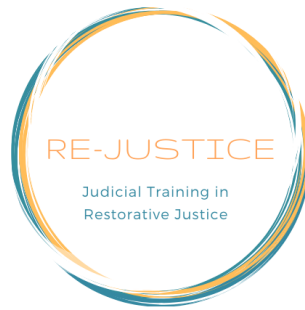
Questions for consideration



- Which factors should we use to measure the impact and effectiveness of RJ ?
- How should conflicting ideas regarding indicators or priorities of impact and effectiveness be handled? For example, how should the victim's desire for resolution (through talking to the perpetrator) be weighed against a direct financial saving because a RJ process would not be offered in that case?



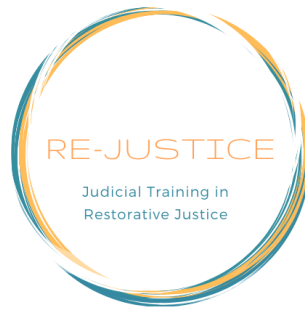
Defining...



- **Resource:** Cost effectiveness, time saving, reduced legal caseload, confidence in the justice system
- **Perpetration:** Recidivism, desistance, deterrence, diversion
- **Direct stakeholder factors:** Self esteem, fear of crime, post traumatic symptomology,
- **Satisfaction:** outcome / process / procedure



Measuring



Type of data

- Qualitative / quantitative / mixed

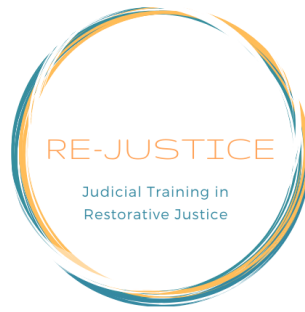
When to measure

- Pre / post / pre & post
- Direct / longitudinal

Research design

- Action research
- Comparative group
- Randomised controlled trials

RCT – RISE experiments



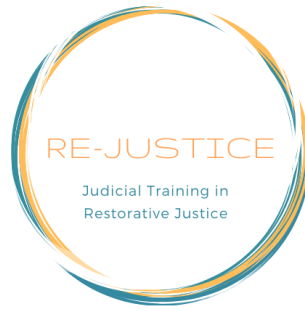
Court vs conferences

- Property crimes with individual victims, committed by offenders (under 18) who admitted responsibility
- Violent crimes committed by offenders (up to 29) who admitted responsibility
- Police officers referred cases...

RJ = significantly more satisfying than court for both victims and offenders

(Strang, 2002)

RCT – Jerry Lee RJ programme



Effects of RJs on victims

- Fear of repeat attack by same offender → decreased
- Satisfaction with case handling → increased
- Need for violent revenge → decreased
- Offender apologies received → increased
- Satisfaction with justice → increased
- PTS → decreased (UK, robbery and burglary victims, esp. female)
- Emotional impact from crime → decreased (Aust., violent and property crimes)

(Sherman, Strang et al., 2015)

Research – 12 randomised trials

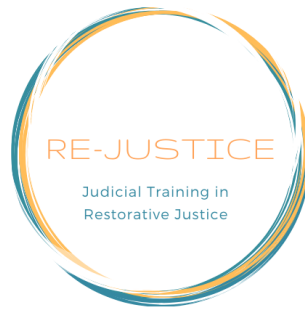


Main effects of RJC's on offenders

- Repeat offending frequency → reduced
- Cost-effectiveness → high (all UK tests)
- Long term recidivism → no main effects (15+ years, Australia)
- Long term recidivism → (UK)?

(Sherman, Strang et al., 2015)

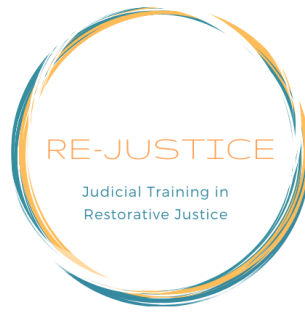
Research – Other experiments



- Desistance
 - Higher impact on offenders motivated to change
 - Important role of mediator

(Lauwaert & Aertsen, 2017)

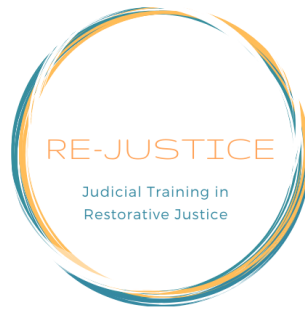
Questions for consideration



- Which factors should we use to measure the impact and effectiveness of RJ ?
- Has something been considered in this lecture that you do not agree with as an evaluation measure or that you would not expect?
- Are there things that have not been covered here that are important measures of impact or effectiveness?
- How should concepts like proportionality and distributive justice be handled?



Thank you for your attention



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