

# The Values and Standards of Restorative Justice

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First some questions

Where to start?

Ownership

## IIRP statement

The fundamental unifying hypothesis of restorative practices is that “human beings are happier, more cooperative and productive, and more likely to make positive changes in their behavior when those in positions of authority do things with them, rather than to them or for them.”

# On the other hand

- There is now considerable evidence that institutional needs regularly over-ride the needs of the people that the institution is designed to serve (Pavlich 2009, Hoyle and Rosenblatt 2016, Bolivar 2015, Choi et al 2013, Zernova 2007, Choi and Gilbert 2010, Hoyle et al 2002, Strang 2002, Barnes 2016, Bolivar, Pelikan and Lemonne 2015)
- The key blind spot is the participation of the victim.

How to accommodate  
restorative justice within a more  
powerful system?

Who does restorative  
practices?





What is the role of the  
practitioner?

A tall, multi-level scaffolding structure is shown against a light sky. The scaffolding is made of blue metal poles and cross-braces, with wooden planks forming the work platforms. Several workers in safety gear are visible on different levels. One worker is on the top level, another is on the second level from the top, and two others are on a lower level. The structure is complex and provides a safe way to reach high places.

**Restorative processes as scaffolding**

**Providing strong, safe platforms  
enabling people to reach dangerous  
places and to do difficult work.**

# Cultures, Contexts, People and Processes

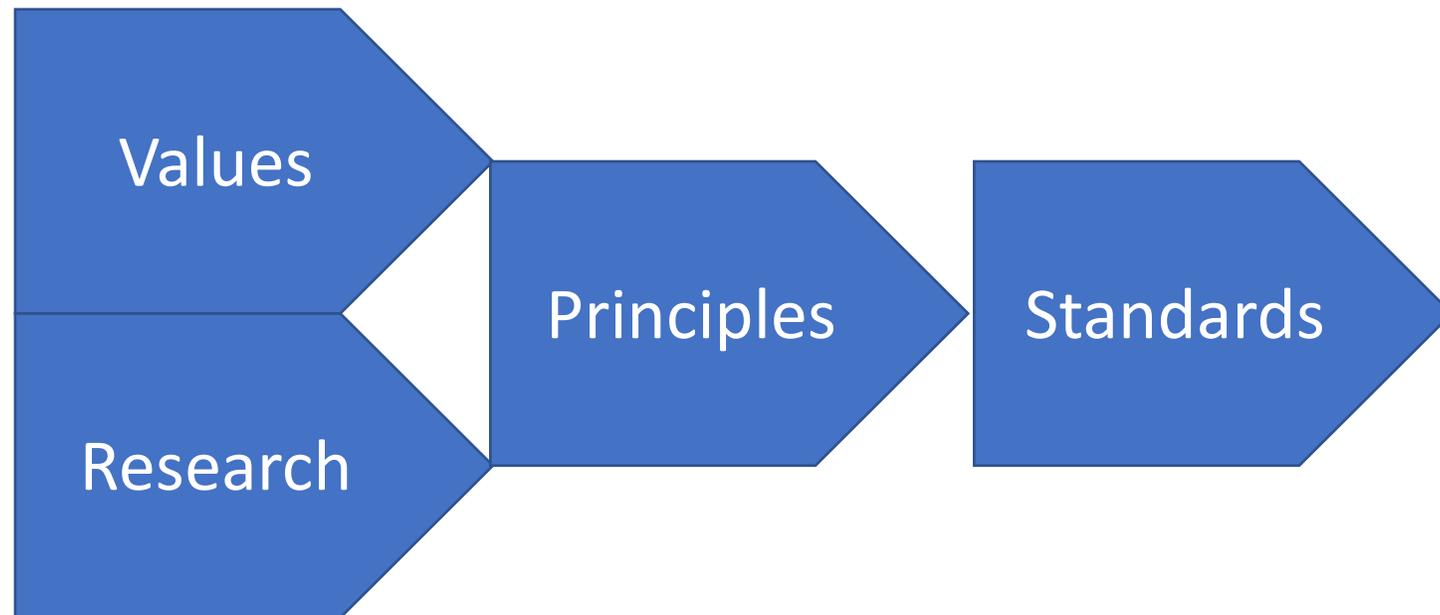
How to define and raise  
standards yet encourage  
flexibility, creativity and  
innovation?

What are values, principles  
and standards?

# Definitions

- Values: Key concepts which guide the practice of restorative justice
- Principles: Key practices which exemplify both the values and what works best
- Standards: How we make sure people experience best standards of practice

Is as it should be



# Values

- Within the boundaries of human rights, the rule of law, equality and active citizenship.
- Respect for human dignity
- Solidarity and responsibility for others
- Justice
- Truth

# Principles

- Voluntary participation based on informed consent
- Direct and authentic communication
- Processes designed to fit the participants' needs, capabilities and culture
- Value each participant's needs and wishes equally
- Non-judgemental, multipartial facilitation
- The importance of dialogue
- Rigorous implementation of agreed actions

# Standards in the form of questions

- Organising the restorative process
- Facilitating the process
- Outcomes
- Expectations of the practitioners
- Expectations of organisations offering restorative processes
- Expectations of the legal framework for restorative justice

***People, even more than things, have to be restored, renewed, revived, reclaimed, and redeemed; never throw out anyone.***



Thank you  
Danke

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