

Cologne, in October 2020

Restorative Justice-Expert day 2020 (online)

„Healing instead of Punishment: international and interdisciplinary perspectives of restorative justice“

Panel discussion

(Simultaneous translation: English/German)

20th November 2020
19:00 until 20:45 (CET)

General notes

On the occasion of this year's International Restorative Justice Week (#RJWEEK): the Service Bureau for Victim-Offender Mediation and Conflict-Settlement by DBH e. V. is organizing an interdisciplinary expert day about „Healing instead of Punishing“. The event is primarily addressed to judges, public prosecutors, prison officers, police officers, mediators, social workers, psychologists, lawyers and all other persons interested in this topic.

[The whole expert day](#) includes a lecture (only in German!) and an international panel discussion (simultaneous translation: English/German). The participation fee is 25 € – for participation in the entire event and for participation in one of the two program points.

In order to keep the COVID-19 infection risk as small as possible, the event takes place online via the platform Big Blue Button.

Topic of the panel discussion

“You never change things by fighting the existing reality.

To change something, build a new model that makes the existing model obsolete.”

(R. Buckminster Fuller)

It is time to recognize that our current criminal system is not designed to prevent people from committing crimes. Rather, demoralization and physical and psychological damage are the consequences of prisons, as Dr. Thomas Galli said in his recently published book: Locked Out.

This nationally and internationally top-class panel is intended to discuss new ways of reacting to crimes.

What would it look like if the focus is on healing instead of punishment? When perpetrators and victims are again actively involved in conflict resolution? When judges shift their focus away from punishing and toward therapeutic assistance, as has been naturally practiced through indigenous justice for centuries.

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The panel discussion takes place from 19:00 until 20:45 (CET) with:

- Judge **Abby Abinanti**, Yurok Tribal Court, North California, US;
- Judge Dr. **Clivia von Dewitz**, juvenile court judge, Germany;
- Retired Judge **Fred McElrea**, District Court Auckland, New Zealand;
- Dr. **Thomas Galli**, former head of prisons, now working as a lawyer, Germany;
- **Bernhard Holtrup**, Coach and Talking Circle Leader, Netherlands/Sweden;
- Senior Sergeant **Simon Kairau**, Māori/Pacific/Ethnic Responsiveness Advisor;
- Chief **Phil Lane Jr.**, internationally recognized indigenous leader in human and community development;
- Dr. **Volkmar Schöneburg**, former minister of justice of Brandenburg, now working as a lawyer, Germany.

Mini Bios for the panel on Healing instead of Punishing (in alphabetical order):

Judge Abby Abinanti (US) is citizen and chief judge of the Yurok Tribal Court since 2007, serving as a Judge on the Yurok Tribal Court since 1997. The Yurok Tribal court is dedicated to supporting the traditional values of the people and to protect traditions. After having studied journalism, she went on to study law and was particularly interested in the field of Indian law. In 1974 she was called to the State Bar of California. She was the first tribal woman to be admitted to the Bar and the first tribal woman in California to become a state judge. From 1990 until 2011 she served as a Commissioner in the United Family Court for the San Francisco Superior Court. She plays a main role in the movie, *Tribal Justice*, written and directed by Anne Makepeace. It is about two Native American Women, both chief Judges in their tribe's courts, strive to reduce incarceration rates and heal their people by restoring rather than punishing offenders, modeling restorative justice in action.

Judge Clivia von Dewitz (Germany) is a Youth Court judge in Germany and drafting a book on restorative Justice and Indigenous Justice. In 1997 she interned at the Truth and Reconciliation Commission in South Africa for 2 months. She wrote her PhD on how Germany dealt with Nazi-propaganda after 1945 and a book on how South Africa dealt with Apartheid-past. In 2014 she trained judges in Tunisia on democracy and human rights. In 2019 she trained judges, prosecutors and lawyers in restorative justice in Nepal.

Judge Fred McElrea (New Zealand) is a retired District Court Judge from the District Court of Aotearoa/New Zealand including a short spell as an extra Supreme Court Judge in Tonga (2004). He is still active in RJ (restorative justice) work. His international consultancy role is shown by the fact that in 10 years he travelled overseas 16 times (to 10 countries) to present papers on the subject, and at home had much influence over the development of public policy in these areas. Last year he co-authored with David Thompson a series of 3 articles in the New Zealand Law Journal on the history of the traditional criminal justice and penal systems in English-speaking countries, from an RJ perspective. In 2017 they launched a website containing some 80 papers including most of Fred's writings on RJ over his judicial career: see: <https://www.napierlibrary.co.nz/collections/judge-mcelrea-papers/>

Phil Lane Jr. (US) is an enrolled member of the Ihanktonwan Dakota and Chickasaw Nations, and is a citizen of both Canada and the United States. With master's degrees in Education at National University and Public Administration at the University of Washington, Chief Phil Lane Jr. is an internationally recognized indigenous leader in human and community development. Chief Phil Lane Jr. is the recipient of many awards, including the John Denver Windstar Award, and is a frequent speaker on behalf of indigenous rights and wisdom. Founder of the Four World's International Institute. A known film and video producer, community leader, writer, speaker, educator, consultant and editor.

Dr. Thomas Galli (Germany) has been working as a lawyer in a law firm in Augsburg since 2016. He has worked in the prison system since 2001. In 2013 he became head of the correctional facility in Zeithain (Justizvollzugsanstalt Zeithain). He was a member of the crime prevention council of the city of Dresden and a representative of Saxony at the federal association of prison directors. He publishes on issues of criminology, the penal system and everyday prison life. Most recently, Edition Körber 2020 published "Blocked away - Why prisons are not useful to anyone".

Ing. Bernhard Holtrup (Netherlands/Sweden) is an international organizational and societal development consultant. Specialist in facilitating healing and restorative dialogues in both the corporate world as well in troubled neighborhoods. Has extensive experience (17 years) in designing and facilitating

healing and reconciliation processes in high tense urban societal situations in the cities like Rotterdam and Amsterdam. Such as: racial conflicts in neighborhoods, deadly conflicts between youth gangs, and between police and youth gangs. He further develops and executes healing and reintegration retreats in nature for homeless people in Amsterdam as well for young corporate professionals. Currently writing a book: 'Dialogic Leadership in a polarized world'.

Senior Sergeant Simon Kairau (New Zealand) is a District Māori/Pacific/Ethnic Responsiveness Advisor. He maintains a strong cultural/indigenous footprint within the New Zealand Police Service to oversee Iwi Liaison & Ethnic Liaison officers, along with holding a number of portfolios such as indigenous alternative justice, cultural legislation, community programs and supported resolutions within the New Zealand Police. He is a recipient of the Woolf Fisher Police Fellowship from the Woolf Fisher Family Foundation in New Zealand for his work with Alternative Justice through Iwi Community Panels. He completed a scholarly visit to Saskatchewan, Canada, to learn and present to a number of organizations and to observe a range of initiatives relating to indigenous peoples and communities. In November 2019 he presented as an international key note speaker at the Canadian National Restorative Justice Symposium in Banff Alberta.

Dr. Volkmar Schöneburg (Germany) is currently working on a book about law and power. From 2014 to 2019 he was a member of the Brandenburg State Parliament, from 2009 to 2013 Minister of Justice of the State of Brandenburg, from 2006 to 2009 a judge at the Constitutional Court of the State of Brandenburg and from 2002-2009 a lawyer in Potsdam, with a focus on criminal law and penal law. From 2002 to 2009 he was a research assistant at the Law Faculty of the Humboldt University in Berlin. From 1991 to 2001 he worked as a research assistant at the Academy of Sciences of the German Democratic Republic (GDR), Institute for Philosophy. He wrote his doctoral thesis on the "Criminal Scientific Legacy of the Kommunist Party of Germany (KPD) 1919-1933". (1984).

Costs

The participation fee amounts to 25 €.

Participation and registration

Until 6th November 2020, a binding registration is possible via the website of the VOM Service Bureau by DBH e. V. Participants will receive their access data to the online platform two days before the event begins (at the latest).

Cancellation policy

Cancellation must be made in text form (by mail, letter or fax). Cancellation is possible free of charge until the registration deadline (06th Nov. 2020). In case of a later cancellation up to the day before the event (working day), a cancellation fee of 50% of the participation fee will be charged. In case of cancellation on the day of the event, the total costs are to be paid. Further information can be found in our General Terms and Conditions (**German language only!**): <https://www.toa-servicebuero.de/agb>

Technical requirements and notes

To participate in the online event, you need a computer with a good internet connection and a current browser. Participation and communication with the moderator, the speakers and possibly other participants is also possible without microphone and webcam.

To avoid technical difficulties: Please make sure in advance that you are using the current version of your Internet browser with the default settings (e.g. no pop-up blockers, etc.).

During your participation in the event, please make sure that no telephone rings or you can be distracted in any other way.

Please contact us if you have any questions regarding content or organization:

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