

Restorative Approaches

Criminal Justice

A facilitated dialogue about harm and repair, and the evidence for it.

A voluntary, facilitated dialogue focused on harm and repair rather than on formal punishment.

STRONGEST FINDING

High victim satisfaction rates

WEAKER FINDING

Modest reoffending reduction

- Participation is voluntary on both sides
- Normally requires accepted responsibility
- Victim satisfaction is consistently high
- Effects on reoffending are modest but real
- Better evidenced for personal than property crime

LOOK FOR IT

Conferencing has been trialled at charge, at sentence and after sentence.

Educational reference. Trials show benefit but vary in design and setting; restorative processes are not suitable for every case.