The Road to Repair: Restorative Justice in the Aftermath of Serious Violence and Harm

Martina Kartman, DeVitta Briscoe and Priya Rai
TOPICS WE WILL COVER

Criminalization
Impact of Criminalization
Promises of Alternative Approaches
Values Restorative Justice
Models
Q + A
Impacts of Criminalizations

SURVIVORS OPT OUT
More than half of people who experience violence contact 911 to begin with.

SURVIVORS NEEDS ARE NOT MET
Many victims and survivors who do "successfully" navigate the criminal legal system are not satisfied with their experience.

SURVIVORS ARE CRIMINALIZED
Many survivors are criminalized for actions they have taken to survive violence.

IT DOES NOT REDUCE VIOLENCE
Arrest, convictions and prison sentences do not address the root causes of harm and often, lead to further violence.
Junior Gardening Class 2020
What other options do we have?
Punitive Justice

What laws have been broken?
Who did it?
What do they deserve?

Restorative Justice

Who has been hurt?
What are their needs?
Whose obligations are these?
Punitive Justice

Crime is a violation of the law and the state

Violations create guilt

Justice requires the state to determine blame (guilt) and impose punishment

Restorative Justice

Harm is a violation of people, relationship and obligations to one another

Violations create obligations

Justice involves everyone involved in an effort to address the harm
Restorative Justice is not...

1. ONLY FOR "MINOR OFFENSES"
2. MEDIATION
3. ABOUT FORGIVENESS
4. NOT A PANACEA
Our Values: A Compass, Not a Map

From coercion and punishment to self and community accountability

From justice as "getting even" to justice as "getting well"

Centering racial equity
More Resources

CREATIVE INTERVENTIONS TOOLKIT
- Comprehensive and practical tools

TRANSFORMHARM.ORG
- Resource hub about community ways to end violence

SURVIVED & PUNISHED
- National project to defend criminalized survivors of violence