

## Australia's Experience in Implementing Restorative Justice

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#### **Restorative Justice**



With thanks to Rob Seward



### Because crime hurts,

## justice should heal



Restorative Justice seeks an opportunity for all stakeholders affected by an injustice to discuss how they have been hurt by it, to heal those hurts, repair relationships, take responsibility for reform, prevent recurrence and enhance the capabilities for human flourishing of those affected.

So Restorative Justice is about:

- Dialogue
- Active Responsibility
- Healing
- Building Relationships
- Building Human Capabilities
- Prevention of future injustice



#### Canberra Restorative Justice Unit Values

Safety

Accountability

Empowerment

Healing



#### **Passive Responsibility**

#### **Active Responsibility**

J Braithwaite 2002 Restorative Justice and Responsive Regulation, Oxford University Press



#### Start by asking:

What's working in this community to deliver justice and conflict resolution to people?

What are the circumstances where *adat* delivers justice and conflict resolution in this community? How restorative is that *adat*?



For John Braithwaite publications on Restorative Justice:

johnbraithwaite.com



#### **Assumption**

Incompetent or Irrational Actor

Incapacitation

Rational Actor

Deterrence

Virtuous Citizen

**Restorative Justice** 

Learning Citizen

Capacity development



Strang H, Sherman LW, Mayo-Wilson E, Woods D, Ariel B 2013. Restorative Justice Conferencing (RJC) Using Face-to-Face Meetings of Offenders and Victims: Effects on Offender Recidivism and Victim Satisfaction. A Systematic Review. Campbell Systematic Reviews. (also published in Journal of Quantitative Criminology 2014).

Latimer J, C Dowden and D Muise 2001 *The Effectiveness of Restorative Justice Practices: A Meta-Analysis*, Ottawa, ON: Department of Justice.

Bonta J, R Jesseman, T Rugge and R Cormier 2006 'Restorative justice and recidivism: promises made, promises kept?', in Dennis Sullivan and Larry Tifft (eds.), *Handbook of Restorative Justice: A Global Perspective*, London: Routledge.

Braithwaite, J 2002 *Restorative Justice and Responsive Regulation*. New York: Oxford University Press.



David B Wilson, Ajima Olaghere, Catherine S Kimbrell 2017 Effectiveness of Restorative Justice Principles in Juvenile Justice: A Meta-Analysis, US Dept of Justice.



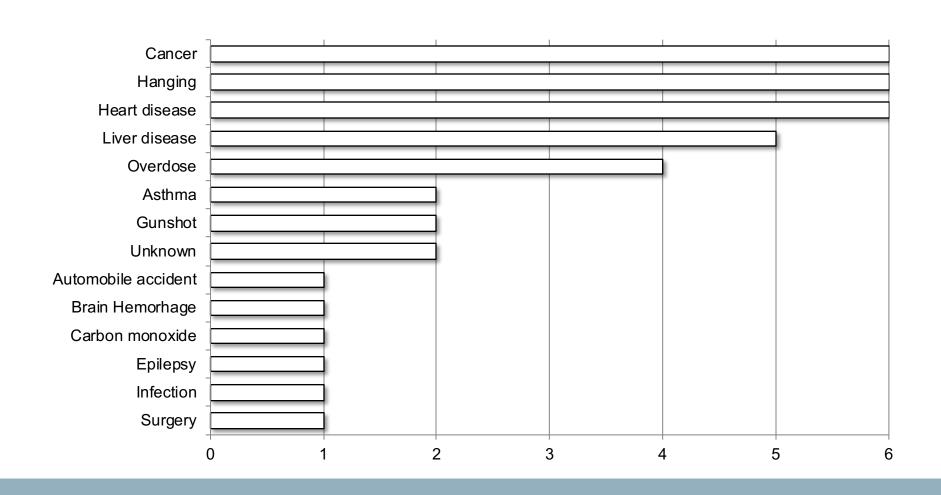
Angel, Caroline M., Lawrence W. Sherman, Heather Strang, Barak Ariel, Sarah Bennett, Nova Inkpen, Anne Keane, and Therese S. Richmond. "Short-term effects of restorative justice conferences on post-traumatic stress symptoms among robbery and burglary victims: a randomized controlled trial." *Journal of Experimental Criminology* 10, no. 3 (2014): 291-307.



Sherman, L and H M Harris 2014 'Increased death rates of domestic violence victims from arresting vs. warning suspects in the Milwaukee Domestic Violence Experiment (MilDVE)', *Journal of Experimental Criminology.* 

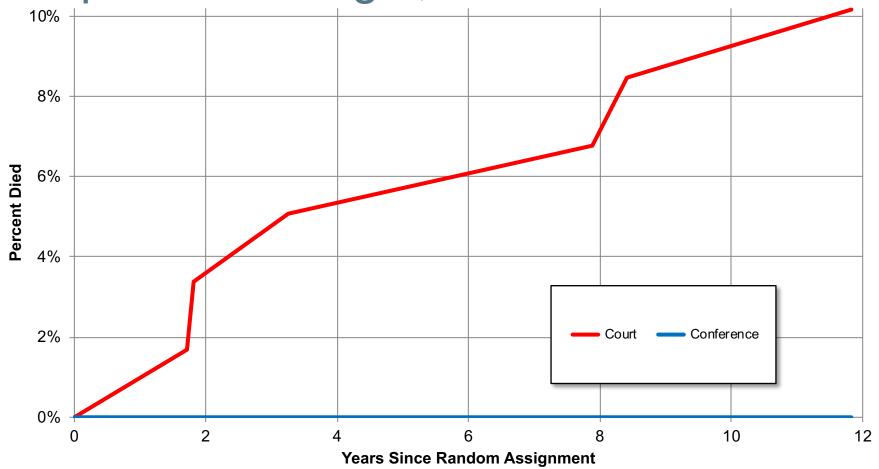
Free online

## Causes of Death Sherman/Strang Canberra RJ Experiments





Survival Analysis: Canberra Violence experiment: Angel, Barnes et al





Reducing the Bangladesh prison population through paralegals and restorative justice conferences that got more than 7000 people released from prison.

J. Braithwaite (2015) 'Paralegals Changing lenses', *Restorative Justice: An International Journal* 3(3), 311-324.



Implementing the agreement as an outcome

Effect sizes tend to be stronger for violent and serious offenders

This is a reason so many of the weakest effect sizes are for juvenile offenders

Lawrence Sherman and Sword of Damocles effects



# Imbalances of power and restorative justice



## Net widening as an outcome of concern

But some virtues of restorative police cautioning