
NOT AVAILABLE ON LINE

SUMMARY AVAILABLE AT: http://fp.enter.net/restorativepractices/thamesvalley.pdf


ANNOTATION:

The Thames Valley Police Department typically "cautions" about one third of its criminal cases. The Initiative in Restorative Cautioning did not change the selection criteria for cautioning but trained police officers to convene conferencing sessions with scripts. Sessions included offenders, offender family members and support persons, and when possible [1915 cases] victims, victim family members and support persons. In cases where victims were not present [12,065 cases], victim concerns were presented by police. To date, this represents the largest restorative justice initiative in the United Kingdom.

DESIGN: The study examined two subsets of cases in depth: an initial 23 cases from the first year of operation, and 56 cases from the second year. The first year case analysis was chiefly utilized as an implementation check and served to develop recommendations for improving the program. The second year cohort served as the evaluation.

SATISFACTION AND FAIRNESS: In the 56 cases from the second year cohort, participants were satisfied and felt the process was fair, and over half reported achieving a sense of resolution.

IMPACT: Twenty-eight percent of offenders reported at least some improvement in their relationship with friends or family.

RECIDIVISM: Only 14% of offenders in this cohort reoffended in the year following the conference; "compared with a study of the effectiveness of traditional cautioning, this suggests that restorative cautioning halved the likelihood of re-sanctioning within a year."

GROUP CONFERENCING
ALL AGES
MIXED CRIME TYPES
VICTIM DATA, OFFENDER DATA
FAIRNESS, SATISFACTION, RECIDIVISM, IMPACT
SURVEY DATA; RECORD DATA
UK

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