
A preliminary report out of the RISE (Reintegrative Shaming Experiments), providing data comparing participant perceptions of conferencing versus standard court procedures.

**NOT AVAILABLE ON LINE**

**DESIGN:** The sample drawn into the study was a highly active group of repeat offenders and used alcohol and marijuana at high rates; victims suffered “substantial harm” as a result of the crimes. Sample was randomly assigned to conferencing or court.

**PROCESS:** Conferences treated victims better than court: victims were notified in a more timely manner, were more likely to be present at conferences than at court (property cases: 5% vs. 81%; violence cases 13% vs. 91%), and received apologies in conferenced cases (67% of property cases and 82% of violence cases) but not in court cases. Offenders found conferences more stressful than court. Conferencing and court were observed to be different on a number of other restorative characteristics. In comparison to court cases, conference cases took more time, involved more participants, had higher emotional intensity, more frequently resulted in forgiveness, and were more likely to discuss offender drug and alcohol issues.

**FAIRNESS:** Both victims and offenders said conferences were fairer than court

**SATISFACTION:** Victims of property crimes were more satisfied with conferencing than with court; there was no satisfaction difference for victims of violent crime.

**GROUP CONFERENCING**
- ALL AGES
- MIXED

**SATISFACTION; FAIRNESS; PROCESS**
- VICTIM DATA, OFFENDER DATA
- SURVEY, RECORD DATA, OBSERVATION, CONTROL GROUP
- AUS