
DESIGN: Fifty burglary victims, 62% of whom participated in a Minneapolis VOM program, were selected for an exploratory analysis of how victims define and experience fairness within the justice system. Each victim had been victimized by a juvenile.

FAIRNESS: Eighty percent of those participating in VOM indicated they experienced the justice system as fair compared with 38% of those victims going through the traditional justice process.

Three dimensions of fairness served to differentiate among victims. Nearly half defined fairness as being certain the offenders were receiving rehabilitation services. The remaining victims split fairly evenly between defining fairness as being compensated for their losses, or as providing appropriate punishment for the offender. Victim participation in the criminal justice process as an element of fairness cut across all types of victims.

SATISFACTION: Victims participating in victim-offender mediation indicated high levels of satisfaction with the mediation process.

KEYWORDS
VOM
JUVENILE
PROPERTY
SATISFACTION, FAIRNESS
VICTIM DATA
SURVEY, COMPARISON GROUP
US