



APADRC's **Restorative Justice program** provides **opportunities for collaborative, group dialogue** with the goal of **both healing and empowering diverse communities** through the development of **relevant, peaceful solutions and positive, ongoing relationships.**

What is Restorative Justice?

Restorative Justice (RJ) is a process in which all of the people affected by a crime or other conflictual situation are invited to listen to each other fully, to express themselves openly and to work together to create a Restoration Agreement for moving forward.

What happens during an RJ session?

- *Police officer describes situation;
- *harming individual speaks of his/her responsibility;
- *harmed individual speaks of the effects on him/her;
- *all participants have a chance to contribute;
- *the harming individual's family creates a proposal;
- *it is discussed, modified and confirmed by all;
- *a follow-up is performed within the following year.

When is RJ appropriate?

- *School related issues (bullying, gangs)
- *Community nuisance (disturbing, noise)
- *Property crimes (vandalism, theft)
- *Violent crimes (assault, threats, abuse)
- *Family issues (abuse, negligence)
- *Not limited as to complexity or degree

What does a Restoration Agreement contain?

- *Formalized acknowledgements;
- *Monetary or in-kind restitutions;
- *Community involvement;
- *Empowerment towards self-evaluation;
- *Appropriate to the harmful act;
- *Decided upon by participants.

Who participates?

- *The police/court representatives
- *The harmed and harming individuals
- *Their families
- *Interested professionals and community members
- *See Note on terminology for specifics regarding all terms used here.

Why APADRC's RJ program?

- *RJ sessions are carried out in a safe, serious and structured environment with the active participation, and final approval, of both Police Officers and Community Members.
- *RJ facilitators are fully trained and possess appropriate linguistic and cultural knowledge.
- *An emphasis is placed on accountability. Openness and honest self-evaluation are encouraged, while consistent and impartial moral support is provided and a clear discipline is maintained.
- *A large referral network is in constant development. Contacts and resources (for Restoration Agreements notably) are maintained throughout the San Gabriel Valley and the entire LA area.
- *A reliable presence in the community is maintained and facilitators are available for contact.
- *Funding from LA County requires that 55 cases be resolved per year.
- *RJ is based on a simple, predeveloped and consultable written script with facilitator's role limited to maintaining the focus and guiding the discussion through open-ended questions.

