

Role of Restorative Justice in Strengthening Social Ties and Reducing E-Crime using Social Bond Theory (SBT) and Re-integrative Shaming Theory (RST)

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Abstract

Restorative justice has emerged as a powerful framework within the criminal justice system, offering innovative solutions to strengthen the social relations among individuals and decrease e-crimes. This study aims to explore the impact of restorative justice on building trust between individuals in society and how restorative justice contributes to strengthening social ties. Moreover, the study intends to analyze the psychological and social effects of restorative justice on victims and perpetrators. The study adopted an analytical and descriptive design. The researcher first of all analyzed the previous studies on restorative justice and crime reduction. This helped reach at a deep dimension of the current study topic. Additionally, case studies were revised and examined to enrich the study with examples of successful restorative justice programs. Given the complexity and variety of crime, as well as the limitations of punishment-focused court systems, studying the role of restorative justice in reducing crime and strengthening social ties presents a significant challenge. Despite advancements in understanding the drivers of criminal behavior, many traditional legal systems fail to address the root causes of crime or help offenders change, relying instead on punishment as a deterrent. Most of these groups, ranging from the police to the politicians and locals, also lack what they need to implement the restorative methods that remain. This general lack of knowledge and experience is leading to opportunities being missed in using restorative approaches to lower crime and build better communities. In fact, if restorative justice systems are to succeed and realize their goals, this will be made possible only through major initiatives of education and the acceptance of these frameworks. Cultural differences and varied views on justice can slow down the adoption of restorative methods.

Keywords: Restorative justice; criminal justice system; Cultural differences; E-Crime; Social Bond Theory (SBT); Re-integrative Shaming Theory (RST)

Introduction

Restorative justice is a new approach that purposes the involvement of all stakeholders in a crime (or conflict) to address its consequences and to put things as right as possible. Restorative justice emphasizes a healing-oriented response to crime that focuses on restoration of relationships and on healing. Victims will be consoled, they will be informed about the consequences, and they will be helped with guidance to decide between forgiveness and punishment (Lacey & Pickard, 2015). Conversely, restorative justice veers away from the more traditional punitive approach towards justice and can establish a more favorable social environment that paves the way for good human relationships to flourish. The first thing to be done is to provide education for both the police officers and the community in dealing with the prevention of conflicts at the first stage.

In this study, the researcher will show that restorative justice is not only a tool for addressing particular individual crime case, but also as a process for modifying the conditions that produce the offense, and by doing so significantly contribute to safer and more cohesive communities. The restorative role of justice as a mediator in re-creating social pressures is explored, together with the benefits of such collaborations as a stabilizing and reducing influence on violence and crime.

This paper looks at how restorative justice affects important parts of the criminal justice system. It looks at the basic ideas, actions, and theories behind restorative justice. Real-life examples and facts are shown to demonstrate how well it works, while also recognizing the difficulties and limits. This research shows that we need to include more restorative justice programs, train better facilitators, and get the community involved. Restorative justice takes a complete approach and offers a hopeful way to create safer and more welcoming communities. The current study is theoretically and practically significant in the study of community development and criminal justice. As more and more countries struggle to deal with increasing rates of crime, coupled with the flaws associated with conventional punitive legal systems, innovative approaches such as restorative justice have gained greater support. This study will try to enlighten the many benefits associated with restorative practices, which deal

more with mending the relations within the community alongside the harm caused by the criminal act. From the perspective of theory and practice this current study is highly important related to community development and criminal justice.

The research addresses several parties, including victims, criminals, and local residents. It urges perpetrators to take responsibility for their actions and helps survivors regain their strength and voice by highlighting restorative justice mechanisms. The insights we gain here may be the key to creating a more compassionate and just world. In this world, social ties will not be a reaction to crime, but rather a proactive strategy to

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prevent it. Neighborhoods can rely on these relationships to enhance their safety.

From an increase in crime rates to flaws in traditional punitive-based systems of justice, innovative models such as restorative justice have gained considerable appeal. The current study, therefore, tries to highlight several advantages that could be associated with the application of restorative practices aimed at repairing relationships in the community and repairing damage from criminal acts. This study also comes at a time when there is a high demand for policies that can reduce crimes amidst skepticism over the efficiency of incarceration. High rates of incarceration and the attendant social costs have forced many countries to reconsider the manner in which offenders are handled.

Restorative justice is one such alternative which can foster changes in negative criminal behavior and at the same time reduce burdens placed on the criminal justice system. This study contributes to that growing body of work supporting rehabilitation over punishment as a workable means to promote public safety and community well-being by examining how social interactions might be leveraged as a means to hinder criminal activity.

This study, which influences policy and practice, truly sets it apart. Today, politicians and police focus on using evidence-based methods—those that make communities more united and maintain peace. The results of this study could change the flow of funds, training, and the implementation of programs that focus on repairing matters in communities, schools, and courts. When everything is said and done, we may witness a significant shift in our concept of justice, moving towards kinder and more inclusive methods that benefit everyone involved.

Research explores the interaction between restorative justice and social bonds, emphasizing the need to engage communities in crime prevention. Communities that engage in conflict resolution enhance the sense of belonging and shared responsibility among members, thereby reducing the likelihood of criminal behavior. This empowerment can strengthen communities and improve their ability to manage conflicts.

Research affects many people, such as victims, perpetrators, and neighbors. Criminals feel a drive to take responsibility for their actions. Meanwhile, help the victims regain their strength and express their opinions by guiding them to the principles of restorative justice. This helps in mending divisions and sparking dialogue. It supports the idea that strong community ties are essential for reducing crime rates. In this vision, social ties will not help us respond to illegal acts, but will prevent them. People will rely on these relationships to enhance the safety of their neighborhoods.

In some cases old-fashioned ideas about justice might clash with new approaches. To make restorative justice a normal part of community life, we need to get past these cultural roadblocks. These challenges show we need to look at how restorative justice can strengthen social bonds to cut down on crime. Several things make it harder to build safer more united communities. These include not enough community participation, victims feeling left out, offenders being labeled, and people not understanding restorative techniques.

Generally, offenders are judged and little is done to help them or get them out into society after serving the time in prison. The separation itself alienates offenders, allowing them to be more subject to committing crimes again. Inability of the Justice System to enable offenders to integrate back into society at large perpetuates recidivism. This creates a situation that might drive individuals to crime instead of preventing it. It would be highly relevant to elaborate, from this point onwards, upon how restorative justice practices could fill the gap between offenders and their communities through relationship-building and community-oriented approaches. This is in order to note that, on one hand, restorative justice ideas are also not yet fully cognized or even acknowledged by both practitioners and public views themselves.

Research Methodology

Literature Review: Analysis of previous studies on restorative justice and crime reduction. Case

Studies: Providing examples of successful restorative justice programs.

Surveys and Opinions: Collect data from the community about their experiences with restorative justice.

This research is based exclusively on the basis of previous studies conducted in Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (KSA) by different scholars, hence no field data (primary data) is required to be collected. Therefore, population/community, sampling technique, sample size, method of selecting sample, etc. is not required. Population in this consisted of e-criminals and their victims in Saudi Arabia as mentioned in various past studies. As E-crime is adversely affecting the Saudi community, there is need to present a omprehensive view for planners and administrators to arrive at procedures an extension of present legal system for effective mechanism to provide self-examination psychological skills to the criminals (prisoners) and similarly to the victims. As crimes generally are committed out o constricted or oppressive changed social conditions, not for the fun, frolic or amusement, identifying root causes and then counselling the criminals concerned would make long range effect and a sense of responsibility towards fellow humans. Punishments would not eradicate mental frame once criminal tendencies crop up and firmly get positioned in the psyche. Discussions, preceded by psychological inputs by expert sociologist or psychologist, would smoothen the process of transformation to give up criminal behaviour and get bonded with family, relatives, friends and the community. Giving them skills, as per their aptitudes, in making handicrafts and fabrications, operating computers, repairing electronics and electrical appliances, etc. would provide them opportunities to earn their livelihoods if they belong to lower strata of society; others from well-off families can be persuaded to engage in business or industrial activities or in any innovative enterprises if they are literate or skilled. The purpose of the study was to make criminals/convicts realise and understand human values and social responsibility and for eliciting favourable response, they need to be brought into congenial and friendly atmosphere. With sustained efforts, ranging in some cases a few months or up to even one year, will result in change of their heart and commit to be responsible citizens and act as real human beings imbibing values to the core. Story telling containing individuals sacrificing for others would create desired impact.

A key issue is how the regular legal system pushes victims to the side. Victims often feel powerless because the criminal justice system puts the state's interests first, not theirs. This failure can only lead to continued conflict and bitterness towards the criminal justice institution by the community as victims are being alienated and embittered. "Without necessary acknowledgement, or in situations of insufficient closure for a victim, a process toward healing is brought to an abrupt halt". The unhealthy web of pain produced leads to the continuation of hurting how a community can hold together. It means looking at other models, such as restorative justice, that focus more on engaging victims and contributing to community healing - both urgent and a lot of sense to do. Another major concern is the lack of trust and disconnection between offenders and their communities, which occurs so often.

According to Lin (2023), restorative justice has become an important approach in the criminal justice system. It provides new ways to help people not commit crimes again and support their return to society after serving their time.

Nadya (2024) argued that using restorative justice in the criminal justice system is closely linked to the rules and policies of the law. In restorative justice, there are legal efforts to create a kinder justice system, reduce the overcrowding in prisons, and help victims recover. A big change in the laws about restorative justice in Indonesia is the release of Supreme Court Regulation (PERMA) Number 1 of 2024. This regulation provides guidelines for dealing with criminal cases using restorative justice. The way this study was done is called normative juridical research. The goal of this research is to learn how restorative justice ideas are used in the criminal justice system before the law PERMA 1/2024 was introduced. It aims to find out the problems that arise and to look at the legal guidelines and the need for putting restorative justice ideas into practice according to PERMA 1/2024. Before PERMA 1/2024, using restorative justice in

Indonesia's criminal justice system went through different stages and faced many difficulties. Even though it did not have the strong legal support that PERMA 1/2024 gives now, many programs and efforts were successful in using restorative justice ideas. These guidelines provide a clear plan for using restorative justice. They focus on helping victims heal, making offenders take responsibility, and repairing relationships in the community, instead of just punishing the offenders.

It is very important to change the criminal justice system in Indonesia from one that focuses on punishment to one that emphasizes healing and helping people. Even though there is discussion about a new way to provide justice, it is showing problems in the current system. These problems include not helping people to change for the better and focusing too much on revenge, finding blame, and giving out punishments (Lacey & Pickard, 2015). The person who did something wrong is held responsible through punishment, which often does not make them feel sorry for what they did. Putting people in prison also has bad effects. One issue is that there are too many people in prisons in all countries, even in Saudi Arabia. Too many prisoners in LAPAS is making it hard to provide proper guidance. The success rate of helping prisoners improve themselves after they finish their time in prison is low (Lacey & Pickard, 2015). Also, after being released from prison, former inmates face negative opinions from people in the community. It stops people from being successful in returning to society, which leads them to commit crimes again. Restorative justice is a new idea in the legal system that focuses on fixing the harm caused by crimes. It brings together the person who did the crime, the victim, and others involved to find a fair solution. The goal is to restore everything to how it was before, rather than seeking revenge. In restorative justice, the person who did wrong shows they understand their mistakes and gets help figuring out how to make things right. It needs to be done to fix things. The aim is to create a better society in the future. This research discussion looks at how effective restorative justice can be in lowering the chances that people will commit crimes again, using ideas from differential association theory and social control theory (Mahardhika, 2020).

Miriam (2020) believes that prosecutors have a responsibility to act fairly and seek justice, not just to get convictions. They are expected to work with honesty and good judgment to help keep the public safe. However, many prosecutors focus mainly on punishment, which often leads to long prison sentences for those who have done wrong. Miriam (2020) talks about a different way to hold people accountable called restorative justice. It looks at how this approach can help prosecutors move away from locking people up a lot and punishing them harshly for their actions. Miriam (2020) looks at how prison-based methods have not helped victims or their communities, and how restorative justice offers a better solution to these problems. Next, this article gives examples of restorative justice methods and talks about the results of various restorative justice programs. In conclusion, this article talks about how prosecutors can help improve these programs, making them available to more people.

Macpherson (2017) agrees that there are clear problems in drug laws and the fight against drugs is not working. This is because, even though groups like schools, religious organizations, and families are trying to reduce drug use and its problems with different approaches, drug use is still getting worse in Nigeria. This has made it necessary to consider restorative justice as a solution that could effectively solve the problem. The ideas about social connections and re-integrative shaming showed that this community-based approach to mental health, social issues, and the law is valuable and important. Its official use in both formal and informal situations aims to help drug offenders repair relationships with people and organizations harmed by their actions. Instead of going through the regular criminal justice system, they are helped and corrected in the community where their bad behavior happened. The program aims to create a clear and useful plan for dealing with the changing problems of substance abuse in our local communities. It is a powerful motivation and plan for getting better control of drug sources and treatment options. It can also provide a fair and trustworthy way to help create effective drug policies in Nigeria.

Thomas (2018) believes that people with mental health issues who are in the criminal justice system have many difficulties when trying to reintegrate into their communities after being released. There is an urgent

need to create and test ways to help these people connect with their community. This includes improving their natural social relationships and supporting them to take part in important activities. This article aims to explain and give reasons for using a specific restorative justice method called circles of support and accountability. It also suggests a way to understand how this method can help meet certain needs. We explain the basics of restorative justice, which include fixing harm, involving everyone affected, and changing the roles and relationships in the community and government. We also show how these ideas connect to the elements of the circles intervention. These elements involve getting people involved in their community, having good support from others, making decisions together, sharing responsibility for safety issues, and linking to local resources. We then propose how changes in identity, moral growth, motivation, and group effectiveness could influence the connection between these intervention aspects and community integration results. In conclusion, we suggest that the circles program for people with mental health issues who are being released from custody should be carefully examined, and we offer advice for laws and practices.

Donna (2011) believes that traditional criminal justice systems often focus on punishing offenders to get revenge and to keep them away from society. However, this method does not always succeed in its larger goals, like helping victims heal, preventing repeat offenses, and creating safer communities. We need to understand the problems with this way of doing things and work towards a more inclusive and changing process in the criminal justice system. Because of this, we really need to find better ways to make sure everyone is treated fairly and to create safer communities. In the last few years, restorative justice has become a popular way to shift the focus of the criminal justice system from punishing people to helping them heal (Donna, 2011). Restorative Justice focuses on getting those who did wrong to take part, helping victims heal, bringing people together, and accepting responsibility. Its main aim is to fix broken relationships and encourage positive change for everyone involved. The restorative justice way recognizes that crime and problems affect more people than just the person who commits the crime and the person who is hurt by it. In this situation, this method aims to do more than just punish; it wants to bring back balance, fix what has been lost, and create lasting fairness. One important part of restorative justice is that it includes the active participation of many people, such as those who did something wrong, the people they hurt, their families, the community, and other interested groups. Restorative justice helps people talk openly and understand each other. It gives those who commit a crime a chance to think about their actions, feel sorry, and grow. At the same time, it allows victims to share what they need to heal.

According to Zandil (2024), the importance of restorative justice programs in helping offenders feel remorse and connect with their community was shown through an analysis of key themes.

These results back the Social Bond Theory (SBT) and Re-integrative Shaming Theory (RST), showing that Restorative Justice (RJ) can help people take responsibility for their actions and reduce repeat offenses. Social Bond Theory (SBT) and Re-integrative Shaming Theory (RST) are both criminological theories. The former (SBT) puts emphasis upon strong social bonds which help in preventing crime, the factors at its base being attachment, commitment, involvement and belief. The latter (RST) gives focus on idea that shaming offenders effectively though community disapproval can deter committing future crime; it also serves the purpose of allowing criminals/offenders to get them re-integrated into society as normal human beings (reformatory approach).

Social Bond Theory (SBT) and Re-integrative Shaming Theory (RST) are both criminological theories that attempt to explain criminal behavior, but they focus on different aspects: SBT emphasizes the importance of strong social bonds in preventing crime by looking at factors like attachment, commitment, involvement, and belief, while RST focuses on the idea that effectively shaming offenders through community disapproval, while still allowing them to be reintegrated back into society, can deter future crime; both theories can be seen as supporting restorative justice approaches to crime prevention.

Social Bond Theory (SBT) is impregnated with core factors aiming at Happiness and prosperity at personal and family level as also mutual fulfilment, peace and harmony, and peaceful relations in society at large;

these factors are: (i) Strong social bonds to family, friends, community, and institutions discouraging criminal behavior; (ii) Elements of a social bond which emphasises social nature of man like living in groups; (iii) Attachment which means feeling of connection and affection towards others; (iv) Commitment which means honouring and involving in conventional goals and activities; (v) Involvement which means participation in pro-social activities that limit opportunities for crime; and (vi) Belief which means acceptance of societal norms and laws.

Families need to help people who have made mistakes get better and fit back into society by providing therapy and support. To make sure RJ programs work well and meet the specific needs of the community, the study stresses the importance of including community members in creating and assessing these programs. RJ programs can help create a better and kinder justice system by focusing on talking, healing, and helping people reintegrate into society. This will result in safer and fairer communities. The study suggests a complete plan to reduce repeat offenses. This plan should include ways for the community to help with restorative justice, support for families, targeted help for individuals, and job counseling for people who have been in prison.

According to Lodi (2021), the current international discussion, especially after the recent recommendation CM/Rec (2018), focuses on promoting restorative justice in criminal cases. It also encourages new ways to use restorative practices outside of official legal systems. This shows that justice and restorative methods are not just about dealing with crimes. Restorative justice and practices can help with conflicts in different communities, like schools. They can be used not just to deal with problems when they happen, but also to prevent them by improving relationships and building stronger communities. So, after people have been hurt, it may be necessary to restore trust and resolve conflicts to help everyone heal and repair the connections in the community. The goal is to stop bad actions that could hurt our hopes for a better future—a future where everyone feels safe, trusted, responsible, and happy. Restorative justice is a way to help people and their relationships when a crime happens. It focuses on fixing the harm done and healing the pain, with the goal of stopping harmful actions in the future.

Mahmoud, R (2024) believes that restorative justice is a different way to handle the harm caused by crime. It aims to help victims, those who commit the wrongdoing, and the community-heal together. A main part of social work is the ethical responsibility to promote social justice. This is mostly seen as making sure that resources and opportunities are shared fairly. This study looks at how restorative circles help create a good school environment, encourage students and parents to get involved, and build trust and understanding among people in schools. This research uses a descriptive approach to look at the relationship between restorative justice practices and how students behave in schools. It examined a group of 185 people, including students, teachers, and parents. Non-probability sampling methods and random selection helped make sure everyone was represented, and the study followed ethical guidelines at all times. The study says that restorative circles help make schools better by creating a positive environment, resolving conflicts, and improving relationships among everyone in the school. There are some things that can be better, like getting parents more involved and helping students understand other people's views better. In general, the similar answers from everyone, shown by the low standard deviations, indicate that there is strong support for using restorative circles in schools.

Claes (2017) agrees that in the past twenty years, studies on stopping crime and on repairing harm have increased significantly. Both topics have become exciting and important areas of interest in criminology today. In Europe, when using restorative justice practices, the main focus has been on helping the victim. However, it has also been important to work on helping the offender change and improve their behavior. This approach to restorative justice focuses on the offenders and looks at more than just how well it reduces crime. It also considers the links between making amends, reintegrating into the community after serving a sentence, and stopping a pattern of criminal behavior. This article looks at how restorative justice programs in prisons can help reduce the chances of offenders committing more crimes. It also includes some early findings from current research on victim-offender mediation.

Bohmert (2018) argue that more people are judging and shaming sex offenders when they get out of prison, restorative justice practices have become a hopeful way to help these offenders reintegrate into society. These practices have been shown to lower the chances of them committing another crime. Experts in crime and supporters of restorative justice think that giving help to people who have been in trouble with the law is very important for preventing them from committing crimes again. This case study looks at the emotional and practical help that sex offenders got and needed while taking part in Circles of Support and Accountability (COSAs), a program in Minnesota that helps them reintegrate into society. It also explores how this support affects important results for these offenders. Interviews with sex offenders who are back in the community and volunteers from their programs showed that 75% of the offenders felt they had little to some support from others when they left prison. About 70% said they got practical help from their Circle of Support and Accountability (COSA) programs, and all of them said they received emotional support. The results help improve programs for helping sex offenders when they return to society, focusing on social support, obstacles they face, and fair treatment.

Octaviyanti (2024) argues that corruption is a big problem in Indonesia and stops progress, but restorative justice offers a fair and lasting way to fix this issue. This research looks at how restorative justice can be used to deal with corruption in Indonesia. Using a standard legal research method, the study points out the problems that restorative justice faces; like trouble finding victims and conflicts over compensation. The results indicate that making state restitution the main punishment and setting up ways to recover losses are important for improving restorative justice. The main finding of this research is that using restorative justice for corruption cases helps victims get money directly from those who harmed them. It also makes those responsible more accountable and eases the pressure on the courts by solving cases without going to court. This research aims to help fight corruption and restore people's trust in the justice system.

According to Frank (2015), the history of discipline in American colleges and universities started with tough punishments. Colonial regime time educational institutions, even colleges, adopted regular practice of inflicting Colonial colleges used punishments on erring or slow-learning students, even for absenteeism, like fines, suspensions, and expulsions, but the most common forms of punishment were beating and hitting on the head. In many educational institutes, this savage practice rather teachers' behavior continues as disclosed in a few studies made in the past (refer to next paragraph for observation on this score).

Restrictions or penalties: In the 19th century, a new way of thinking about punishment began. Instead of teachers being in charge of discipline, new roles were created called "dean of men" and "dean of women." Mostly, this is a way of gradually leaving people out. As the attack gets stronger.

In serious cases, the plan is to keep the student away from the school even more. This makes sense if the aim is to show that the community disapproves of the behavior and to keep the campus community safe from more harm or danger. But this exclusion goes against the goals of helping students recover and rejoin their school community, which want to improve their personal well-being and relationships. Being suspended makes this relationship worse, making it harder for students to do well in school and leaving them feeling more alone. Restorative justice is based on different ideas than punitive justice.

Instead of saying which rule was broken, the main focus is on the harm caused. It's clear that the Facebook group for dentistry students has hurt many people. This includes not just current students, but also former students, teachers, university staff, and possibly even dentists and their patients in the larger community.

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Restorative practices look for not only the person who was hurt but also the other who hurt the other, to ask both of them to share how they felt after the offensive/hurting moment had passed and what they thought should be done to fix the situation (towards restoration of relation to prior status).

Discussion and Results

One of the main outcomes of restorative justice is how it empowers victims. RJ methods involve victims in direct talks about the harm done and possible fixes, unlike the traditional legal system, which often ignores victims and focuses on punishment. This involvement causes the victim's experience in the legal system to change from one of passivity to activity. They can communicate their desires, feelings, and stories, giving them a sense of urgency that is sometimes absent from punitive practices in the judicial system without regard to urgency and need to bring about reformation and rehabilitate offenders (criminals). traditional processes.

For offenders, Accountability and Understanding: Restorative justice has an influence on offenders to take more responsibility for their actions. During the process, offenders often explain how their deeds affect victims and the community: realization results in true regret and a wish to make things right creating chances for both sides to move forward; Building empathy allows wrongdoers to view their actions through the eyes of those they have hurt. This instills a sense of responsibility that might be missing in traditional courts.

Strengthening of Community Ties: RJ shifts the focus from the individual to the group by getting the community involved in the justice process. Community-led circles create a space for open talks between victims, offenders, families, and community members. These kinds of talks help communities tackle the root causes of crime, heal together, and rebuild trust. By working on problems as a group, people feel closer to each other and social bonding becomes stronger with process of forgetting, forgiving and correcting errant behaviour. Both the person who suffered hurt and the other who caused hurt must be facilitated through discussion – hurting one to feel gravity of his unbecoming rather savage behaviour and promising to shun such behaviour, and the other trusting th offender ready to pardon and coming forward to re-establish happy and cordial mutually fulfilling relations. This process has to be a continuous programme as ideal situation where there is no crime worth mentioning in any society is a far cry. We realize that man is essentially dependent upon other humans and also upon nature and environment as a whole. Therefore, solutions for moral/behavioural and social aberrations and maladies (crime to be more specific), must be group responsibility for social cohesion and peace and harmony as well as for human bonding through relationships. This brings the community together and makes it stronger.

Stigma Reduction: Using restorative justice methods helps to lower the stigma linked to criminal involvement and victims. Offenders who complete the restorative process might find it easier to rejoin society because they take part in their own rehabilitation. When communities acknowledge and validate victims' experiences, these individuals receive more support instead of feeling alone. In the past studies, it was stated that there was need for victims and offenders to be brought face to face; and discussion in the calm and congenial atmosphere is expected to result in rehabilitating social relationship: offender accepting his wrongdoing and the person suffering hurt accepting apology and pardoning the offender thus restoring happy relations. The present study doer also advocates this approach even if it would be time-consuming, but it would surely turn fruitful. Open, frank and objective discussion would soften their hard attitude; even the toughest of the offenders would transform themselves on happy note and the community (society) would benefit in the end. the community.

Conflict Transformation: RJ advocates for a new vision on how to approach conflict-the one that is more punitive, but rather complementary to punishments. Conflicts become viewed as opportunities for growth rather than problems to be solved. This helps individuals learn the art of responding to complaints positively, resolving disputes, and reconciliation instead of vendetta. Over time, it can be hopefully predicted that crime rate will get reduced, if not eliminated altogether. Following human values in relationships will undoubtedly make human bond stronger. Rigidity of approach to justice, as currently followed through punishments, will only decide issues but not mete out justice as per modern reformative approach and so, the present judicial system will not succeed in reducing or

eliminating crime. Administration of justice with human face will be better option in containing or reducing crime.

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the impact of this contributes to reduced crime and closer bonds in the community.

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Conclusion

Restorative justice indicates a different approach in terms of understanding criminality and the effect of crime on individuals and society. The emphasis on what victims think and need, pushing offenders to take responsibility, and allowing communities to heal is at the very core of RJ. Various discussions and studies connected with the practice of restorative justice indicate great potential of this practice for crime reduction. More than that, it has the potential to forge in every respect closer social bonds: among individuals, within communities, and throughout society.

Restorative justice shifts the focus away from punishment into making it right. This perspective realizes that crimes hurt not only victims, but entire communities. By opening dialogue among the stakeholders-victims, offenders, families, and community members-the process of RJ opens avenues to all for sharing what was done, how it has affected them, and their needs. This interaction forms the backbone of handling the aftermath of crime and its consequences at both individual and social levels. It gives victims a chance to be heard and in control again. For those who committed the crime, this process can help them realize the consequences of what they did; this may leads to genuine regret and a need to apologize to the victim and to all those affected.

Restorative justice shifts the paradigm in how we deal with crime; it shifts from punishment to repairing what is torn apart. It creates a space where all can share their thoughts, feelings, and needs. This two-way talk is key to handling the emotional and mental fallout of crime.

The advice to give full training to everyone involved in RJ plays a key role. When we give community members, police, teachers, and lawmakers the right tools and skills, it becomes easier to switch to a restorative system that works well. Learning programs will help people understand RJ values better leading more groups in society to support and join in. Also, setting clear rules will make sure that restorative steps are taken and with respect looking after what matters to all sides.

As RJ methods grow and change ongoing assessment will be key to their success. Collecting data in an organized way will help measure how well these efforts work and spot what works best and where they can get better. By looking at crime numbers how often people reoffend how happy victims are, and what the community thinks, those involved can tweak and enhance their restorative justice approaches. This ensures they keep meeting the specific needs of their communities.

In the end restorative justice can boost relationships, help people heal, and make communities safer. By tackling the emotional and social parts of crime, RJ gives us a fuller picture of justice that goes beyond just punishing wrongdoers. It mends relationships by giving power back to people instead of taking it away from them, and brings people together rather than pulling them apart by retribution and punishment. For neighborhoods struggling with crime and social problems, restorative justice does not just help cut down on criminal acts. It also gives people a big chance to rebuild trust and connections with each other.

Using restorative practices can lead to a kinder and resilient, and more cohesive society over time. This approach sees how victims, offenders, and communities are all connected. As we go on, it is

crucial to put restorative justice ideas into action. This will help create a more caring and healing way to deal with crime and what it does to people.

Restorative justice has the power to change how people interact and cut down on crime in neighborhoods. It makes communities stronger by getting people to talk, take responsibility, and heal together. This helps both victims and wrongdoers with their immediate needs. When key people put specific ideas into action, they can bring restorative justice into their systems. It also builds trust, empathy, and understanding between people.

Suggestions

During the course of the present study, a few important ideas emerged which are given below as suggestions:

Training and Education: The best way restorative justice could work is through extensive training programs provided to the community, police officers, teachers, and lawmakers. The course needs to cover RJ principles, cultural awareness, trauma-informed approaches, and how to mediate. It's highly relevant that all parties be educated with these practices to have an environment that supports RJ.

Community Engagement Initiatives: Communities should support projects that raise awareness and engage citizens in restorative justice activities. Events such as workshops, learning events, and town talks can be organized to showcase how RJ works and ways to involve the community in designing projects. Involvement of local champions, community leaders, and groups builds team spirit and generates increased interest in RJ approaches.

Fitting into Existing Justice System: Restorative justice should be made an extension to the present system of justice. It should rather not be as an overall replacement of the present judicial system. We can create mixed models that bring RJ techniques into youth justice setups, programs that steer offenders away from court, or sentencing plans. These models would give wrongdoers a chance to say sorry before they serve time or face tough penalties.

Setting Up Clear Rules and Steps: Restorative justice needs well-defined rules and steps. These outline what each person does how things should go, and what we want to happen. The rules make sure everything's fair and balanced putting victims and offenders first.

Offering Help Along the Way: During the whole process, we need to set up ways to help both victims and offenders. This could mean therapy for victims to deal with their pain and tough feelings. For offenders, it might be services to help them get back on their feet and rejoin society. By looking after what both sides need, we can make restorative justice work better.

Data Collection and Evaluation: Ongoing assessment plays a key role in the growth and impact of restorative justice methods. We need to focus on gathering data about crime rates, repeat offenses how satisfied victims feel, and how well communities stick together. This data helps us see what's working and what's not in RJ programs. 6. This information can be used to make things better by the policymakers and influence changes based on actual evidence.

Network and Partnership Building: In implementing an effective restorative justice plan, several groups must come together to put the plan into action. These include social services, police, schools, and nonprofit organizations. As these agencies come together, they develop a robust supportive network that can meet the numerous needs of those affected by the crime. This also gives room for a holistic approach to the safety of the public and the involvement of the community.

Cultural Adaptation of Practices: The very success of restorative justice depends on an understanding that each group has its roots in unique cultural heritage and traditions. Adaptation of RJ approaches to local cultural norms and values can enhance the prospects of acceptance and

effectiveness. Where RJ processes are designed and implemented with the participation of community leaders, they are more relevant and appealing to the community.

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