

Exploring Restorative Circles and Restorative Justice
with AVC (Feb 2018)

As our collective/individual response to conflict:

- i. What works?*
- ii. What doesn't work quite so well?*
- iii. How do we dream it could be?*

Our dream:

... that our collective processes and individual posture would include:

- Being rooted in oneness; feeling a lived aspiration for this oneness
- Walking towards each other with an open heart
- Deep listening
- Curiosity to understand
- True commitment
- Intuition for how to respond
- Supportive energy-field (not feeding the story, not being destructive)
- A lived sense of community / family
- Taking care of those who are isolated / "trouble-makers"
- Inclusion of all
- Remembering that we're an experiment, and taking everything as a learning
- Seeing everything as a mirror for our growth
- Flexibility
- Emotions channeled to positivity
- Space for all emotions to be held
- Less ego, and letting go
- Systemic reality is taken into consideration
- Spontaneous reaching out: to repair broken connection, to take self-responsibility

What does “JUSTICE” mean, in its pure form?

Accuracy Just = correct/right Balance
Based on truth Equality

Punitive / Retributive

vs.

Restorative Justice

Life-alienating / “negative associations”

Punishment
Imposing
Arbitrary
De-personalized
Misuse of power / power-over / feeling
powerless
Not looking for the truth
Winners and losers
Exclusion
Inequality
Decisions are biased (based on person’s
background)
“Asking for justice”

Life-serving / “positive associations”

Fairness
Equality
Compassion
Human rights respected
Safety
Understanding
Wisdom
Restoring
Help and support
Finding inclusive resolutions
A feeling of release
Healing
Transformation
Accountability
Grace