

Review of: "[Essay] Speaking about Restorative Justice"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

Dear Editor,

Thank you very much for the opportunity.

Is the author a member of this organization https://antirecidivism.org/who-we-are/?gad_source=1&gclid=Cj0KCQjws560BhCuARIsAHMqE0Htx12dulL8AS5Y6cszRKsQvFhJYbw1gegOhNGWjPUH1aNKIN9pRZEaAm8uEALw_wcB ? If yes, this should be mentioned.

Another question concerns "intercultural competency." For instance, "rape" can be used as a weapon during war, and some cultures or religions might perceive "sexual intercourse" as a duty of the married couple. If "rape" occurs within the family, should this be considered as "failing to perform a marital duty" or as "rape"? From this perspective, would the author like to discuss "universal rights" concerning "guilt-violence" and the corresponding punishments? (Overholser, A. (2024). A review of women, power, and rape culture: The politics and policy of under-representation. *Teaching Public Administration*, 01447394241239514. / Johnson, N. L., Gutekunst, M. H., Robinett, S., & Lipp, N. S. (2024). 'We need a culture change': military sexual trauma through the lens of rape culture. *Culture, Health & Sexuality*, 26(3), 285-302. / Amudhan, S., Sharma, M. K., Anand, N., & Johnson, J. (2024). "Snapping, sharing and receiving blame": A systematic review on psychosocial factors of victim blaming in non-consensual pornography. *Industrial psychiatry journal*, 33(1), 3-12.)

Can we consider violence as a contagious phenomenon, spreading through communities and social groups? If so, how do social norms and cultural practices influence the perpetuation or prevention of violence? Additionally, would the author like to elaborate on strategies and measures that can be implemented to support individuals or groups who are at risk of becoming victims of predators, especially those who hold positions of power and authority? What role do legal frameworks, community support systems, and educational initiatives play in protecting these vulnerable populations? (<https://content.iospress.com/articles/work/wor220619> / <https://medscidiscovery.com/index.php/msd/article/view/944> / <https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/19371918.2021.2019165>)

"The other question is, could punishment encourage predators?"

<https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/10.1177/0022427802239255>

Best regards

PS: Could you clarify how intercultural competency affects the application of RJ principles, particularly in cases involving sexual violence or marital rape?

<https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/10282580.2024.2330375>

“Court processes can often be long and drawn-out with delays and adjournments, and cases can be dismissed or withdrawn, denying the victim any sense of justice. While the court setting is a place where more serious penalties can be imposed, it is also a place the accused may deny their offending behaviour (Daly, [Citation2006](#)). This potential for disempowering victims/survivors through the traditional criminal justice process could revictimize and retraumatize them through an extension of the power dynamic related to the actual offending (Curtis-Fawley & Daly, [Citation2005](#)), a dynamic which should not be played out in the criminal justice process (Jeffries et al., [Citation2021](#)). Consequently, it is argued that RJ meetings or conferences are better than the traditional court experience for victims/survivors, as they can safely address the justice gap created by the criminal justice system in cases of sexual and domestic violence (Daly, [Citation2006](#); Hudson, [Citation1998](#); Keenan & Zinsstag, [Citation2022](#); McAlinden, [Citation2017](#)). While the traditional criminal justice system remains a symbol of denunciation, it does little to hold offenders to account or to address entrenched forms of offending behaviour. RJ and related restorative processes can seek genuine engagement with offenders to help them acknowledge the harm that they have caused through their actions (McAlinden, [Citation2017](#)).”