

Probation and Restorative Justice Czech Republic

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Milan Morava



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Probation and Mediation Service

- Leading force in pioneering and promoting RJ in the Czech Republic
- RJ – core element of all activities
- All members of staff trained in RJ
- RJ activities provided nationwide through PMS centres
- RJ activities carried out at both pre-sentence and post-sentence stages
- RJ projects
- International cooperation

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Restorative Justice since 2000 Are we there yet?

- Misbelief
- Prejudice
- False rumours

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Quote 1

Why don't the offender and victim just get together and talk things over?
Why exactly do they need mediation?

- Lack of information
- Emotional state

- Safety
- Equal approach
- Legal framework

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Quote 2

Why contact the victim after so many years? You will only cause more harm.

- We care
- Free choice
- Professional approach

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Quote 3

There is no point trying RJ with prolific offenders. Do not waste your time.

- No generalization
- Each case is different
- Tailored approach

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Quote 4

There is an obvious conflict of interest if you work with the offender and the victim as well.

- No advocacy
- Equal approach
- Settlement

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Quote 5

If he thinks that he will get away with it by simply saying sorry, he is very much mistaken.

- No advocacy
- Legal framework

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Quote 6

If I let you do all this RJ stuff, then I cannot keep my deadline.

- People first
- Alternatives

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Restorative practice: say it with a story.

- Type of offence – theft
- Type of probation – conditional release with probation supervision
- PO – offered mediation to both the offender and the victim
- Mediation – offender's explanation and apology, settlement

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Thank you for your attention!

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