



PROBAČNÍ A MEDIAČNÍ SLUŽBA

Development of Restorative Practice in Probation

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A story

Characters:

Karel, a perpetrator

Hana, a victim



A story

- Karel was released from prison some time ago. He returned home to his family, to his mother, who has a drinking problem, and his brother, a drug user. Karel did not manage to find a job, he is short of money and resumed using drugs. On a walk through the town one night he noticed an open window in one of the houses he was passing by. He decided to take that opportunity and got inside. While the family inside the house were sleeping, Karel stole a wallet he found in a handbag in the hall.
- Hanka was living in the house with her little son and her mother. When she was getting ready to go to work the following morning, she found out her wallet was missing. Then she noticed some scattered things and footmarks on the floor and also saw the window she forgot to close the night before. She called the Police.
- It did not take too long for the Police to trace Karel. Once again he was in trouble being prosecuted. Hanka was in trouble too. Her money, personal documents, payment card were missing. She was both angry and scared when she realized that a stranger was inside her house while she and her loved ones were sleeping.
- Karel and Hanka are strangers. They do not know each other, but they share the same experience – they were at the same time at the same place.
- Together let us take a look at how this story of two people would unfold in 1991, 2001, 2021 and 2031 in different settings of Czech restorative justice practice.



1991

Karel

- Little chance to change anything
- No support network
- Community sentencing not a common practice



1991

Hana

- Little chance to access support services
- Probably the only option to hire a lawyer



1991

Context

- Political and social transformation
- Criminal justice yet to adopt new approaches and methods



2001

Karel can

- Approach the newly established Probation and Mediation Service
- Turn to support services



2001

Hana can

- Approach the newly established Probation and Mediation Service
- Turn to victim support services



2001

Context

- Probation and mediation service established
- Community sentencing part of criminal justice
- Existing network of support organisations



2021

Karel can

- Approach Probation and Mediation Service
- Turn to support services
- Enter a rehabilitation programme



2021

Hana can

- Approach Probation and Mediation Service or a victim counsellor
- Turn to victim support services
- Exercise her legally recognised victim's rights



2021

Context

- Probation and mediation service is well established within the criminal justice system
- Victims of Crime Act
- Wide network of support services



2031

How should Restorative Justice in Czech Republic develop next?

What do YOU think?



2031

How should Restorative Justice in Czech Republic develop next?

- National multi-agency offender management conception
- National multi-agency victim support conception



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**Thank you for your attention!
You have been a great
audience!**

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