

# HOW IS RESTORATIVE THINKING DIFFERENT?

## Conventional Thinking:

## Restorative Thinking:

Focused on the rules broken	Focused on the people harmed
Accountability equals punishment	Accountability means repairing the harm
Focus on Past	Focus on Future
Focused on offender	Focused on community
Offender defined by their crime	Offender seen holistically
Justice is focused on establishment of guilt/innocence	Justice is focused on needs and responsibilities of all involved
All behavior is motivated by punishments and rewards	All behavior is motivated by basic universal human needs
Challenging behavior is used to get things (e.g., attention) or escape / avoid things (e.g., work, responsibility).	Behind most challenging behavior is: a problem to be solved and skills to be trained.
Behavior is a matter of the child's will	Behavior is a matter of skills
Focused on "what" people are	Focused on "how" people are
Outside interventions (court, police)	Community interventions (people most affected by harm)
Focus on control/compliance	Focus on connection/influence/skills
Focused on behavior	Focused on problem-solving
Power over/under	Power-with
Based on moral judgments	Based on values judgments
External motivation	Internal motivation