**Postcard responses: Dialogue 2**

**Summary**

**I came today because . . .**

We asked this question to pick up on the motivation behind attendance. There was a mix of general interest in RJ from both a practice and academic perspective as well as specific concerns with the topic of its application to sexual violence.

**What I want say is . . .**

We asked this to pick up on points of view about the issues under discussion although again, several writers used it as an opportunity to reflect on the event. These views were positive with the impression that the experience has been 'informative' and 'interesting' coming through strongly, as well as an acknowledgement of the sensitivity of the issue. It may be that people in the room with strong negative or critical views did not fill in the postcards. Nonetheless no-one who did, expressed such a view.

**What I want to suggest is . . .**

This section was intended to pick up on specific action points on RJ in Scotland. There was mention of the need for more research in relation to male victims/survivors and a contribution on the need for better psychotherapy being available to young people. Broadly the comments were supportive of keeping 'an open mind' which we can take as keeping on this discussion and learning about restorative justice and sexual violence.

**The question I would like the SUII RJ events to address is . . .**

This section made space for respondents to influence planning across the dialogues and especially the work to prepare for the deliberative conference / summit in the autumn. The writers who got this far are clearly engaged with asking questions about the practicalities of providing an RJ service in terms of training, costs, resourcing, learning, and the responsibility for the provision of such services. All these questions are ones that are key to going forward: we should engage with these in the deliberative summit at the end of the programme.

**Answers (each participant has a unique reference number)**

**I came today because . . .**

[1] Interested in RJ as an approach

[2] As a survivor I wanted to know if it was possible to have a successful outcome for a victim/survivor

[3] I am interested in social research

[4] I was intrigued - slightly alarmed!

[5] I could not imagine how restorative J could ever work with sexual violence.

[6] I work with people who commit sexual offences as a criminal justice social worker and I am interested to hear the debates in respect of the role of RJ.

[7] I already deliver RJ to sex offenders (PFScotland)

[8] I have experience working as a mediator / RJ facilitator

[9] I have an interest in RJ

[10] I wanted to know if RJ could contribute to vindication of victims and change behaviour/attitude of offenders

[11] Interested in RJ development

[12] My undergraduate dissertation revolved around RJ and youth offending, I am a strong believer in the benefits of RJ

[13] of my interest in social work and RJ from university (LLB)

[14] to find out how RJ might work in sexual violence

[15] I am a prospective PhD student with interests in sexual offending/ sexual violence

[16] of my interest in RJ and its potential use in sexual offending

[17] we are looking to set up an RJ service in Edinburgh and I'm very interested in how RJ might work with sexual violence

[18] I am passionate about restorative practices and I found the particular focus on sexual violence interesting

[19] newly involved in cjsw and received an email re these conferences

[20] I wondered what role CAMHS might have to prevent the cycle of gender based violence continuing

[21] email sent at work to social workers

**What I want say is . . .**

[1]Interesting lectures and discussion

[2] I think it is possible but needs sensitive handling

[3] NHS services and even Rape Crisis can miminise offences by no recording trauma . . .

[4] That it may well help some victims and indeed perpetrators

[5] It is a very interesting debate, it is definitely worth considering and exploring further

[6] Very interesting debate about a very sensitive, controversial and important issue

[7] Very much needed

[8] From my experience (14 years) person responsible less likely to reoffend when they know how their behaviour affects person harmed.

[9] Specific input on young people

[11] Watching with interest

[12] I think RJ is very important and I am hopeful that this will become an integral part of the criminal justice system in Scotland

[13] a huge thank you for hosting such an interesting and informative presentation!

[14] very interesting speakers and debates

[15] as a qualified social worker, I would like to see wider use of RJ in CJ social work

[16] I found this event really interesting - especially perspective of Rape Crisis Scotland which seems very against RJ, despite saying otherwise!

[17] this has been extremely thought provoking and highlights the positives as well as the 'risks' of RJ and sexual violence

[18] excellent, informative and balanced contributions

[19] I found this really informative! Working in a new areas of social work I am struck by the lack of victim consultation in processes

[21] social work lacks resources, time, money to pursue necessary research and training

**What I want to suggest is . . .**

[2] More research is needed for male survivors / victims

[3] . . .not properly treating if system becomes sympathetic to victims of coercive control and sexual violence

[4] That we all keep on open mind

[5] More discussion, fight against the mainstream media to put the discussion on mainstream platform

[6] that RJ remains completely separate from the CJS and voluntary

[7] Everyone should have the option of RJ

[8] RJ is made available to victims /survivors regardless of involvement in CJ system or sentence for person responsible

[9] People involved in process speaking?

[10] Is it possible to incorporate insights into the education system in order to try and change attitudes?

[13] nothing to suggest - great mix of speakers and coverage - would love to see more

[14] more time for questions

[15] more information on the processes/safeguards etc for perpetrators in RJ

[16] a quick break halfway through life the first event and mics for the panel

[17] Scotland continues to explore RJ for all offences - we are behind the rest of UK. Europe and internationally!

[18] Keep up the momentum and ensure policymakers and politicians engage with the discussion

[19] more change (?) on how we involve victims in criminal justice policy

[20] probably better psychotherapy supervision when we see young (usually) men in their teens beginning to intimidate female peers (and often struggling with their own identity and sense of integration)

**The question I would like the SUII RJ events to address is . . .**

[2] How much does it cost? Per each RJ conference is it cost effective?

[3] That RJ never becomes a cost cutting exercise - reoffending - does it prevent? Does criminal justice process ? victims

[4] Training in facilitators is really critical given complexities and dangers of this process (COPFS)

[6] Who would be responsible for facilitating RJ in Scotland?

[8] Why is funding not made available to fully utilise RJ in Scotland?

[12] Difference between RJ conference and mediation - what are the benefits of each of these?

[14] How can RJ interact with sex offenders treatment and is RJ better before or after treatment?

[17] All of these dialogues are great, but where will it lead - will we have RJ in Scotland?

[18] what needs to be done to ensure restorative justice approaches are embedded across all parts of the Scottish justice system, youth and adults

[19] how will you ensure RJ is resourced / implemented and facilitated appropriately in the future?

[21] how we can share good practice and learn from areas using RJ? How can this be made feasible and accessible to practitioners working in the field?