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# Reconstructing Restorative Justice Philosophy



Edited by Theo Gavrielides, Independent Academic Research Studies (IARS), UK  
and Vasso Artinopoulou, Panteion University of Social and Political Sciences, Greece

*'Gavrielides and Artinopoulou propose a reconstructed philosophy of restorative justice that is much more expansive and inclusive, much less either/or, than the usual approach. For the restorative justice movement to progress, they argue, we first must reconcile the internal tensions identified by the authors in this volume: conceptual, philosophical, political, personal. Their proposed reconstructed philosophy helps point a direction but in addition, they also suggest some rules for moving in this direction, asking those of us working in and advocating for restorative justice to redirect some of our energies. The methodology the editors adopted for this volume is also significant. Instead of limiting contributions to empirical analysis, they encouraged authors to write freely from a variety of sources and perspectives. As the library recall notice says, this book is long overdue.'*

Howard Zehr, Eastern Mennonite University, USA

*'No one will be able to read this book without wishing they were there for the journey that gave it birth. Rich outcomes are enabled by richness of process. This book succeeds in drawing us into the journey of its travelers and is a grand exercise in critical retrieval, revival and renewal of those teachings, ancient and recent. There is a great, enduring core of restorative justice teachings that has an increasingly global quality about it. This fine collection helps us renew and reconstruct the core of restorative justice teachings at their holistic philosophical foundations while also helping us to look at them with wider historical and cultural lenses. As the Epilogue reminds us, restorative justice lives and evolves in the hands of this generation of travelers on our planet. Our obligation, the Epilogue sums up, is not to be the kind of philosophers whose aim is to define restorative justice more carefully, because if we "define water too narrowly", we prevent people from seeing its other properties.'*

John Braithwaite, Australian National University, Australia

This book takes bold steps in forming much-needed philosophical foundations for restorative justice through deconstructing and reconstructing various models of thinking. It challenges current debates through the consideration and integration of various disciplines such as law, criminology, philosophy and human rights into restorative justice theory, resulting in the development of new and stimulating arguments. With international contributions from various disciplines and through the use of value based research methods, the book deconstructs existing concepts and suggests a new conceptual model for restorative justice. This unique book will be of interest to academics, researchers, policy-makers and practitioners.

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**CONTENTS:** Foreword, John Braithwaite; Preface, Howard Zehr;  
**Part I** Reconsidering Restorative Justice: Prolegomena: Restorative justice philosophy through a value-based methodology, Theo Gavrielides and Vasso Artinopoulou; Aristotle on restorative justice: where the restorative justice and human rights movements meet (κοινοί τόποι), Vasso Artinopoulou and Theo Gavrielides; The teachings of restorative justice, Gerry Johnstone; Problematizing restorative justice: a Foucauldian perspective, Giuseppe Maglione; Gatekeeping in restorative justice and related research, Anne Hayden.  
**Part II** Case Studies in Contemporary Society: The nexus between rights and restorative justice: using a case example of an organization 'C' - the right - or moral and spiritual claim - to recognition, Robert E. Mackay; Global justice, restorative justice and universal peace in the reality of international politics and state power, Christodoulos K. Yiallourides and Mersilia Anastasiadou; Institutionalizing restorative justice: paradoxes of power, restoration, and rights, Mara Schifff; Relationality in justice and repair: implications for restorative justice, Susan Sharpe; Rights and restoration in Canada: reflections on practice, law and theory, Brenda Morrison; Conflict resolution theory and practice: challenges that lie ahead, Maria Hadjipavlou.  
**Part III** Back to Basics for Restorative Justice: Returning conflict and justice to aboriginal peoples: restorative justice reconsidered, Judah Oudshoorn; Realizing the potential of restorative justice, Evelyn Zellerer; The African concept of Ubuntu and restorative justice, Marelize Schoeman; Restorative pain: a new vision of punishment, Theo Gavrielides; Epilogue: Reconstructing Restorative Justice Philosophy, Theo Gavrielides and Vasso Artinopoulou; Index.

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