Why me? is a national charity that promotes and delivers Restorative Justice.

Why me? began with a crime. Will Riley, an Islington business man, was burgled and assaulted by Peter Woolf. Will met Peter in prison through Restorative Justice. The crime had affected him greatly, making him afraid every time he opened his door.

Following the meeting, Will better understood what happened and was glad to have explained how much harm Peter had done to him. Having previously committed over 20,000 crimes, Peter never offended again after meeting Will. Seeing the damage he had done encouraged Peter to change his life.

The two remained good friends and Will set up Why me? with Peter’s help, to fight for more people to have the opportunity to access Restorative Justice.

Find your local service

Find out more

www.why-me.org
info@why-me.org
@whymeUK

Why me? are a charity who rely on donations to continue our work. To support us, please donate via the link on our website: www.why-me.org

To keep up to date with our latest news, subscribe to our newsletter.
What is Restorative Justice?

Have you been affected by crime or conflict? Do you still think about it? Do you have unanswered questions? Is there more that you need to say?

Restorative Justice is a way for someone who has been harmed by a crime to communicate with the person who caused the harm.

The meeting only goes ahead with both people’s consent and is mediated by a trained facilitator. The facilitator will speak to both people a number of times in advance and help them to understand what they hope to get out of the process.

Who is Restorative Justice for?

At Why me? we believe that everyone who has been affected by crime should be told about Restorative Justice and given information on how they can access it, regardless of the type of crime they experienced.

The only criteria are that both people, or groups of people, consent to the process and that a trained facilitator agrees that it is safe to go ahead.

What does Restorative Justice look like?

There are two main types of Restorative Justice, direct and indirect.

Direct Restorative Justice would involve a face to face meeting between the person that was harmed and the person who caused the harm. A facilitator would be present in the room at all times.

Indirect Restorative Justice means that the dialogue takes place through letters, videos or a shuttle process.

Restorative Justice is flexible around the needs of the person who was harmed. Some people find that an initial conversation with a facilitator is all that they need.

What are the benefits of Restorative Justice...

For the person who was harmed?

They can ask any unanswered questions they may have about the crime

They can explain the impact that the crime had on their life

They can encourage the person who committed the crime to avoid future offending

For the person who caused the harm?

They can hear the consequences of their actions

They have the opportunity to make amends for the harm that they caused

Encourages them to change their behaviour and avoid future offending