

**DEPARTMENT OF CRIMINOLOGY (UGC – SAP)
UNIVERSITY OF MADRAS
CHENNAI 600 005**

**ORGANIZES A TWO DAYS CONFERENCE ON
“RESTORATIVE JUSTICE: PRACTICES, ISSUES AND CHALLENGES”**

16TH AND 17TH MARCH 2012

The Department of Criminology, University of Madras, Chennai is organizing a two days national conference on “Restorative Justice” under the UGC – SAP programme. Restorative justice is widely used as one of the best alternatives around the world to deal with the crime informally. In Restorative justice, the victim, the offender and the affected members of the community are directly involved in responding to the crime and to find out the best possible solution. It is considered as a powerful way of addressing not only the material loss and physical injuries caused by crime but also the social and psychological impact.

Restorative justice is different from the contemporary, formalized Criminal Justice in several ways. First, it views criminal acts more comprehensively -- rather than defining crime as simply lawbreaking, it recognizes that offenders harm victims, communities and even themselves. Second, it involves more parties in responding to crime -- rather than giving key roles only to government and the offender; it includes victims and communities as well. Finally, it measures success differently -- rather than measuring how much punishment is inflicted, it measures how much harm is repaired or prevented.

The policies and programmes within the ambit of restorative justice vary from country to country. Some of the popular models are Victim-offender Reconciliation Programs in US and Canada, Victim-offender Mediation programmes in England Australia and Family/community Group conferencing in New Zealand. In India, under the umbrella of Alternate Dispute Resolution, a number of programmes are organized by the departments of Judiciary and also the NGOs and significant among them are mediation, arbitration, conflict-resolution, Lok Adalat and Nyaya Panchayat. Sometimes the nomenclature of these programmes may vary from state to state depending on the cultural practices. The structure of the programmes is designed informally and sometimes partially informal.

Who can participate and present paper:

The Department invites academicians in the field of Criminology, Criminal Justice, Law, Sociology and Social Work, research scholars in the above mentioned field, professionals and NGOs involved in the practices of Alternate Dispute Resolution and other methods of Community Justice and professionals from Criminal Justice Agencies like police, judiciary and prison to participate and present papers on the various issues, practices and challenges of Restorative justice.

The abstract (150 words) and full papers should be send through email to the organizing secretary, Dr.R. Thilagaraj at his e-mail : rthilagaraj@gmail.com. The abstracts should reach before 31st of January 2012 and the full paper should reach on or before 15th February 2012. Papers received will be reviewed by a peer review committee and selected paper alone will be permitted to present in the conference.

Registration: There is no registration fee for participating in the conference. The participants will be provided with working lunches on both the days, tea and resource materials. Accommodation charges should be taken care by the delegates and the organizers would help arranging it in a nominal fee at World University Service Centre (WUS), Youth hostels, University Guest House and other hotels.

Those who are interested can register on or before February 15th, 2012. Since the conference is for limited audience, first come first will be confirmed their registration.

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**Two days National Conference on “Restorative Justice:
Practices, Issues and Challenges”
16th and 17th of March, 2012**

**Venue: University of Madras,
Chennai 600 005.**

REGISTRATION FORM

Name:

Mailing Address:

Profession:

University/Institute/Organization:

E-mail:

Phone no:

Title of the paper:

To be sent to

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