# Including victims' voices in the criminal justice process

## Restorative Approaches Conference: A revolution in justice?

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#### A once in a generation opportunity

Guaranteed help when victims need it

The right to know what is happening in your case

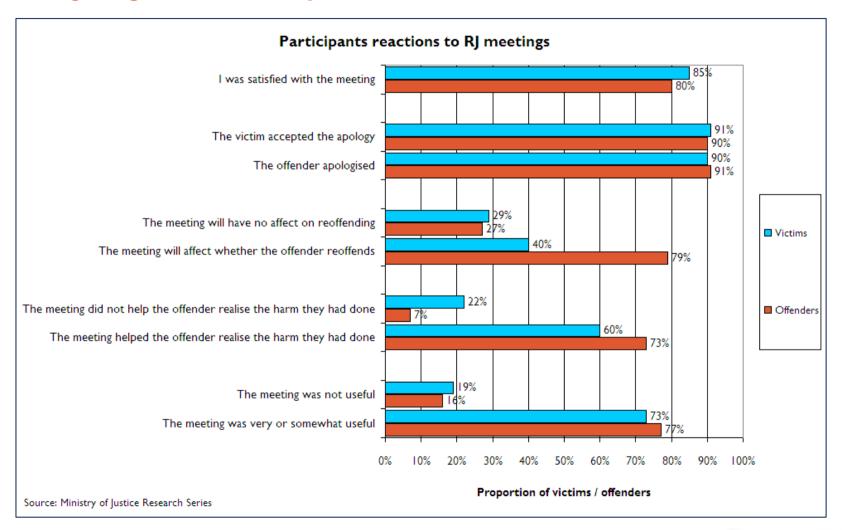
A fair deal for witnesses

The right to an explanation, apology and payback

Punishment that stops crime happening again



## Offering restorative justice more widely would result in very high levels of public satisfaction





#### Victims views on Restorative Justice vary hugely...

"For minor crimes, maybe, but I think if you're looking at rape or child abuse or anything like that, I think it would be too traumatic, I don't think that would work."

"It is a good idea to find out why they [offenders] actually did it and then they can understand how much it hurt, what you've been through." "It has been very helpful to be able to sit across the table and look the prisoner in the eye and for him to say 'sorry.' Being able to meet the offender has the double benefit for me in not only gauging the level of his remorse but also hearing from him the circumstances of the accident"

"...the Restorative
Justice Project I found to
be very helpful and
worthwhile, and so too
did members of the
family. The prisoner also
I'm sure benefitted for
being able to express
remorse, there being no
other way for him to do
so."





### The cost savings of restorative justice though reduced reconviction would be at least £185m to the CJS

Number of offenders	Number of RJ interventions (40% take up)	Net cashable CJS savings over 2 years	of which Police	of which Prisons	of which Legal Aid	Net cashable NHS savings	Non cashable net savings
75,000	29,000	£185m	£65m	£56m	£14m	£55m	£741m

- These savings result solely from reduced reconvictions
- They assume no economies of scale in delivery
- They assume a low take-up rate of 40%



#### Thank you

