



*Doing Justice,
Seeking Peace Building Community Together!*

Korea Peacebuilding Institute (KOPI)

Korea Peacebuilding Institute (KOPI) is an educational organization focusing on restorative justice that offers both lectures and practical workshops on restorative justice, in an effort to make world a better and safer place.

KOPI holds workshops on the themes of restorative justice practice training, conflict mediator training, and restorative discipline practices to apply the restorative justice paradigm in schools. KOPI promotes new programs and publishes resources to help spread restorative justice in families, schools, the judicial system, and in local communities. At an international level, KOPI is closely linked to NARPI (Northeast Asia Regional Peacebuilding Institute) and provides an annual course on Restorative Justice at the NARPI Summer Peacebuilding Training each year. KOPI is also a strong partner of the Northeast Asia Youth Peace Camp and helps with both direction and implementation for this annual program for middle and high school students.

KOPI established Korea Association of Restorative Justice (KARJ) to spread the restorative justice paradigm more in Korean society, and to build more peaceful communities. The Association serves as a channel of gathering, studying, and network-building for people and organizations who are interested in Restorative Justice.

*When people get hurt,
healing the hurt is the just solution.*



History of Korea Peacebuilding Institute (KOPI)

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| 2001 | Peace Education department of Korea Anabaptist Center (KAC) founded | 2014 | Korea Association of Restorative Justice (KARJ), as a non-profit foundation established
Restorative Discipline adopted as policy by the Gyeonggi Provincial Office of Education
Business agreement with Bucheon-si, Bucheon Office of Education |
| 2002 | Conflict Transformation and Restorative Justice training program started | 2015 | 1st Restorative Justice Conference
1st Bucheon Youth Peace Film Festival
Gyeongnam Provincial Office of Education established the Restorative Discipline Institute to support local trainings
Office moved to PeaceBuilding, a newly built community building
PeaceBuilding Publishing Company established
Published Restorative Discipline: How to Lead Restorative Classes |
| 2006 | Northeast Asia Regional Peacebuilding Institute (NARPI), partner organization to KOPI, conceptualized in proposal | 2016 | Mediator's Training for Victim-Offender Mediation held at The Supreme Prosecutor's Office
Continuation of the Restorative City Project initiatives
2nd Bucheon Youth Peace Film Festival |
| 2007 | Victim-Offender Mediation Pilot Project initiated, in collaboration with the Korean Institute of Criminology | | |
| 2009 | Northeast Asia Youth Peace Camp started | | |
| 2010 | Consulting and facilitation provided for the Victim-Offender Reconciliation Program at the Juvenile Court under the Seoul Family Court | | |
| 2011 | Restorative discipline workshop for teachers started | | |
| 2012 | Moved to from Seoul to Deokso, Namyangju
Separated from Korea Anabaptist Center (KAC) and established the independent organization Korea Peacebuilding Institute (KOPI) | | |
| 2013 | Restorative Discipline Workshops provided for the Gyeonggi Provincial Office of Education, Jeonbuk Provincial Education Training Institute, and the Seoul Education Training Institute | | |

Restorative Justice

A traditional concept of justice is, “When somebody breaks a rule, respond with a punishment that is appropriate for the offense.” This paradigm of justice is called retributive justice, and it has been a common way to solve problems for a long time. But it has some limitations in solving problems. Since it focuses mainly on punishing criminals in an effort to build justice, the victims are ignored and this weakens the community. In this kind of system, offenders often worry more about being punished than about the victims’ wellbeing, and, as a result, may attempt to minimize their crimes or even make legal claims of “not guilty.”

Comparison of Justice Paradigms

Type	Retributive Justice	Restorative Justice
Type	To punish the offender	To restore the harms
Method	Forced responsibility	Voluntary responsibility
Agent	the agency enacting the punishment	The people directly involved; the community

In the paradigm of restorative justice it is understood that “damaging others and breaking relationships in a community is wrong, and those who commit an offense need to restore their fault with responsible reaction.” It focuses on justice as the restoration of victims, as well as the restoration of broken relationship within the community. Meeting, communicating and joining the process among people who are directly involved in the case is very important. Restorative justice is a paradigm of justice based on restoring damage, taking active responsibility, and working together with the people in a community who are involved.

Five Elements That Restorative Justice Aims to Restore



Restorative justice has been understood and developed as an alternative to the existing judicial system. After the United Nations promoted Restorative Justice to member countries, it has been applied in many different ways around the world. More recently, restorative justice has spread to everyday life applications in homes, schools, and organizations. Schools are incorporating restorative discipline as their primary model of discipline. Also, efforts to build healthy communities through restorative approaches and conflict transformation are increasing in local communities, organizations, universities, etc. Restorative City Projects are emerging in different parts of the world as an administrative effort to build a safe and peaceful community in entire cities.

Basic Concept and Practice of KOPI's Restorative Justice Workshops

Restorative justice provides a lifestyle philosophy on how to relate with others and a basic concept on how to build healthy and peaceful communities. To achieve this philosophy in real life, it is helpful to first hear the basic restorative justice framework through lecture, and then to move on to more practice-focused trainings. KOPI's restorative justice workshops are organized in a holistic step-by-step approach.

Restorative School

Rapid social changes bring challenges to families and schools on how to nurture and discipline children. When problem behaviors lead to violence, it becomes an important social issue. Restorative discipline is not just about how to teach and fix young people's behavior but it is a new educational paradigm applying restorative justice in the class, building trust between the classmates and teachers, creating a respectful culture, and ultimately forming a safe and peaceful educational community based on active responsibility taking. To achieve this goal, a holistic approach of restorative justice, with step-by-step application, is necessary.

Workshops for Restorative Schools

Restorative Discipline Workshop (RD1→RD2→RD3)

Organizing a Restorative School Guide Book Workshop

Teacher Healing Program

Youth Peace Program (Peer Mediation, Youth Peace Camp)

Partner Organizations for Restorative Schools

Elementary, middle and high schools all over Korea, Offices of Education all over the country, Incheon Early Childhood Educational Promotion Center, Hallym University, Sungkonghoe University

Restorative Organizations

The goal of restorative organizations is to see problems in a community from the perspective of restorative justice and maximize the possibilities in them, leading to the growth of a more organic organization or community. There are always conflicts and problems in every organization whether it is a company, NGO, or religious group. Restorative justice accepts the conflict and transforms it into a chance to strengthen the relationships, identities and membership of the group. For this, the members of the community need to respect each other and promise to continue circle processes. After resolutions are set up and the individuals make efforts to accomplish them, the community can be a safer and more peaceful place. The vision of restorative organizations can be accomplished when every member of the organization, including the leadership group, agrees to this value and direction. Pre-education and training is required in order for this kind of effort to be successful.

Workshops for Restorative Organizations

Healthy Organization Workshop

Conflict Transformation and Horizontal Leadership Workshop

Circle Facilitation Training

Conflict Mediator Training

Partner Organizations with Our Restorative Organizations

The Press Arbitration Commission, Samsung Seoul Hospital, Busan City Hall, Happy Future Education Forum, World Vision Korea, The Hope Institute, Korea Victim Support Center, Seoul Foundation of Women & Family

Restorative Cities

A restorative city is a city or a village which accepts the value of restorative justice and practice in many areas, for the safety and peacebuilding of their local society. The city hall, local education office, local court, local police agency, youth-related organizations and others, cooperate together to establish a local restorative justice center. The local restorative center is then in charge of improving restorative justice appreciation education and training facilitators and mediators who can lead the restorative justice program. The goal of a restorative city is to build an infrastructure to strengthen the culture and structure for peacebuilding between local youth and neighbors around them, beginning with families, schools, judicial agencies, and the local community.

Workshops for Restorative Cities

Restorative Justice Local Center Establishment

Local Conflict Mediator Training

Restorative Justice Peace School (After-school program for students/parents)

Youth Peace Film Festival

Partner Organizations with Restorative Cities

Seoul/Incheon/Gyeonggi Local Childcare Centers, Gwangju Toechon Village, Gunpo Icoop Livelihood Cooperative Association, Gunpo Daeyami Village, Bucheon Yeokgok Village, Songnae-dong Village, Ansan 0416 Fun Village School and local churches, Gwangjin Cooperative Social Economical Network

Restorative Justice Systems

In general, justice systems are seen to create justice by giving right and just punishment to the offender. This understanding is from the concept of retributive justice, correcting the offense with a punishment equal to the offense. Restorative justice systems focus on the damage the crime made and the responsible changes necessary to restore the damage and the broken relationship the crime caused, instead of on forced punishment. Restorative justice systems define crime not as 'breaking the law', but as causing damage to individuals and community (society). So restorative justice systems aim, in the end, to restore all damaged relationships, bringing peace to the whole community. Therefore the people directly involved are encouraged to join the problem solving process, especially the community's victim-focused effort, which supports victims and helps offenders to take responsibility, which is very necessary in preventing recurrence.

Workshops for Restorative Justice Systems

Restorative Justice Conversation Gathering

Victim, Offender Mediation Process

Study of Restorative Correction

Study of Youth Misbehavior Prevention

Partner Organizations for Restorative Justice Systems

Juvenile Department of the Seoul Family Court, Seoul Youth Detention Center, Legal Research and Training Institute, Police Training Institute, Seoul South Orison, Bucheon Youth Legislation Counseling center, Gangwon Local Police Agency.

International Programs

Restorative Justice Learning Tour

Each year in January, KOPI gathers people who are interested in restorative justice to join a two-week learning tour to practicing RJ organizations abroad. Participants can learn how to apply RJ in their own communities from the many fieldwork examples in the tour.

Northeast Asia Regional Peacebuilding Institute (NARPI)

NARPI has been a strong partner organization of KOPI since its inception. Participants from Northeast Asia learn how to build a peaceful regional community, make connections with peacemakers from different countries, and share their experiences in peacebuilding. NARPI holds its Summer Peacebuilding Training each year in August, in rotating locations around the region. (www.narpi.net)

Northeast Asia Youth Peace Camp

Every summer, youth from Korea, Japan, and China cross historical and cultural boundaries to become friends and dream together toward a peaceful future for Northeast Asia. The location of the camp each year rotates between Korea, Japan and China.



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