



## 19<sup>TH</sup> WORLD CONFERENCE

Hotel Bethlehem

Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, USA.

## Restorative Works

SHARE. TEACH. ENGAGE

October 26–28, 2015

# The Relevance of Restorative Practices to Implementation of the Convention On The Rights Of The Child

\*\*\*\*\*

Hazel Thompson-Ahye &  
Krystle Terese Fayola Ahye

Republic of Trinidad and Tobago

8888888888888888\*\*\*\*\*

## CONVENTION ON THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD

- ▶ Adopted: U.N. Gen. Assembly Nov. 20, 1989
- ▶ universal legal standards for protection and promotion of children's rights;
- ▶ sets out the civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights of children;
- ▶ most widely & rapidly ratified international human rights treaty (195 states)
- ▶ Governments must take all available measures to ensure children's rights are respected, protected and fulfilled.

# RESTORATIVE PRACTICES

## Definition:

A social science discipline that

- ▶ studies how to build social capital,
- ▶ and achieve social discipline
- ▶ through participatory learning and decision-making. (Wachtel 2013)
- ▶ derived from restorative justice.
- ▶ Restorative practices can be proactive or reactive.

# RESTORATIVE PRACTICES

- ▶ **Proactive** –
- ▶ use of informal and formal processes which precede wrongdoing to build relationships and a sense of community
- ▶ to prevent conflict and wrongdoing;
- ▶ **Reactive** –
- ▶ formal and informal responses to crime & other wrongdoing(restorative justice)

# RESTORATIVE JUSTICE

- ▶ **Restorative justice** –
- ▶ a process to involve, to the extent possible, those who have a stake in a specific offence, and to collectively identify and address harms, needs, and obligations, in order to heal and put things as right as possible.” (Zehr 2002)

# RESTORATIVE PRACTICES CONTINUUM

**Affective statements**– express your feelings



**Affective questions**–invite reflection– how behaviour affects other people



**Small impromptu conference**– unplanned meeting to deal with immediate problem



**Group or circle**– larger group discussion using restorative questions



**Formal conference**– structured meeting with facilitator, parties directly involved, and their supporters



# GUIDING PRINCIPLES

## The Umbrella Principles of the CRC



*Article 2 - non-discrimination*

*Article 3 - best interests of the child*

*Article 6 - right to life, survival and development*

*Article 12 - respect for the child's views*