

**JURI 4816 E Crime and public policy (Mon 7pm CC 203)**  
**Activity for Oct. 16**

**Restorative Justice**

**Watch the following videos:**

- Restorative Justice: Why Do We Need it? <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8N3LihLvfa0> (3')
  
- A Restorative Justice Meeting (Short Version) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dcTHYKX2Lfi> (8.44')

**Read the following case and answer the questions below.** There is a summary of Restorative Justice principles and procedures on the course website, which may help you with this activity.

Two kids from the community harass an older couple (Mr. & Mrs. Polinski) over a long period of time. The couple is afraid to tell the police because they are older and do not speak English very well. On Halloween evening the two boys (Barry & John) go to the Polinskis' house to trick or treat, but the older couple (being from Poland and unfamiliar with the custom) did not come to the door. The boys got angry at the couple for not answering the door and threw rocks at the house to get their attention. Barry's rock went on the roof but John's went through the window. The boy's admitted to their act. For the most part, the boys are good kids and liked in the community, but are unfamiliar with the history of the elderly couple and believe they are just mean. The Polinskis want to know why they are being targeted? They are afraid and upset about the smashed window. Mrs. Polinski is a diabetic and Mr. Polinski suffers from a heart condition. They do not want to call the police but are convinced by their daughter and a friend to call. Barry's sister (Tamara) is not happy with his brother Barry and his friend. Their parents don't care and don't want to be involved. Tamara is Barry's disciplinarian. She believes they should be punished for their disrespectful behavior.

1. You are hired to give opinion on what to do with this case.
2. Would you advise that the kids be formally charged or referred to Restorative Justice? Other? Why?
3. Suppose your opinion is to refer to RJ. You have to help the mediator prepare for mediation. What are the main issues that Barry and John can raise and argue? What are their reasons for their behavior?
4. What are the main issues that the Polinskis may raise? What are their feelings?
5. Can you outline the content of a possible reparation plan?