

RJ casework with survivors of sexualized violence:
Practitioner competencies
November 18 & 19, 2023

Training Description:

In Canada and elsewhere, interest is increasing in the possible use of restorative justice in cases of sexualized violence (SV).

This training serves as an introduction to important competencies and ideas that are key to working ethically and effectively with survivors of sexualized violence. Supported by vast research and 20 years of experience in SV cases, co-trainers Dr. Alana Abramson and Alan Edwards will link theory and research to practice, emphasizing the competencies and skills that constitute best practice.

Some of the areas we will explore include:

- Why is sexualized violence different from most other harms? What unique risks are present in these cases?
- In restorative justice, what does the fundamental principle of victim-centredness mean, and how is it practiced?
- The spectrum of victim/survivor participation in restorative justice.
- What skills correspond to trauma-informed RJ practice in case development and facilitating restorative dialogue?
- What are victim/survivors of sexualized violence who have participated in RJ telling us about what they found beneficial in the RJ process?

We hope that this course will serve as a way for practitioners to discover what specific areas they need to learn more about before beginning RJ/SV work.

Note: This training is a companion course to “Inviting Responsibility: RJ casework with those who have committed sexualized violence”, which is being offered in-person as a Pre-Conference Training at the Alberta Restorative Justice Association (ARJA) annual conference in Calgary, AB. The ARJA Pre-Conference dates are November 21-22, and the conference dates are November 23-24.