Probation officers were the first to introduce and promote Restorative Justice (RJ) in the Israeli criminal justice system. Initially accepted by a few ‘revolutionary’ youth court judges, it was quickly adopted in adult courts.

While RJ has its roots in the New Zealand Maori’s approach to conflict resolution, it also has much in common with the old Arab peace making tradition, the Sulcha.

This presentation is based on a study of 424 adult offenders who were deemed suitable to participate in a RJ process during the period 2004-2013. Only 88 offenders completed the RJ process, namely, were party to a conference with ‘their’ victims and jointly signed a settlement agreement that was presented in court. The study found that there was no relationship between the type and seriousness of the crime committed and the RJ process and its outcomes.