

Mediation and Reconciliation in the Context of War, Prison and Political Aggression (Sponsored by VOMA)

Acts of aggression carried out on a political scale often result in cultural conflicts such as those in Northern Ireland, the label of terrorism and its victims such as the September 11 attacks in the United States, and the individual trauma of human beings living through war. Restorative dialogue and the principles of restorative justice have value and application in all of these situations. This one day training will explore the principles VOMA espouses related to conflicts of this nature and build a foundation of basic skills needed to use the processes of mediation and restorative dialogue on personal, community, and political levels, in the context of war, prison and political aggression.

Participants will:

- Become familiar with VOMA and the basic principles of restorative justice
- Explore the application of mediation processes and RJ principles in the contexts of political aggression and war
- Practice basic skills related to the process and practice of restorative dialogue on personal, community and political levels.

Cost:

\$100.00 - includes meals on Thursday and lodging for Wednesday evening

Time/Location:

Thursday August 5th 2004. 8:30am to 4:30pm
Occidental College, Los Angeles, California

Trainers:

David Gustafson

Fraser Region community Justice Initiatives Association (Canada)

Martin McAnallen

Probation Board for Northern Ireland (Northern Ireland)

(for bios see overleaf)

Bios:

Dave Gustafson is Co-Director of Fraser Region Community Justice Initiatives Association in Langley, B.C. which specializes in training, program development, and victim offender mediation. His work in mediation ranges from minor crimes to the most serious offences in the Canadian criminal code. He is also working on his doctoral thesis about the clinical implications of facilitated therapeutic encounter between trauma survivors and those responsible for the harms.

Martin McAnallen has worked on the resettlement of long term and life sentence paramilitary prisoners through probation services in Northern Ireland. Since 1994, Martin has been working to promote understanding of the philosophy and practice of Restorative Justice within the Northern Ireland Criminal Justice System. His special focus has been in the area of Victim Offender Mediation and particularly Family Group Conferencing with young offenders.