

2021 WORLD CONGRESS ON JUSTICE WITH CHILDREN

15-20 November 2021

“Ensuring access to justice for all children: towards non-discriminatory and inclusive child justice systems”

Workshop Programme

Unlocking Potential: the “Child First Offender Second” Approach, Preventing Youth Offending Behavior, and Innovative Restorative Justice Practices

Date	Thursday, 18th November 2021		
Timing	11:00 - 12:30 Geneva	18:00 - 19:30 Singapore	19:00 - 20:30 Tokyo
Organiser	Razwana Begum Bt Abdul Rahim, Head of Public Safety and Security Programme		
Institution	Singapore University of Social Sciences		
Type of Workshop	Panel Discussion		
General Topics	Tackling violence within child justice systems and ensuring child friendly approaches for child victims, offenders, and witnesses		
Region	Asia		
Language	English		

Abstract

Based on the Child First Offender Second (CFOS) model, this panel discussion will provide an overview of children and young people in conflict with the law in Singapore, Australia, and India, probing into the different measures adopted by these countries in safeguarding children and young people against violence in the administration of justice. The panelists will also discuss the challenges in moving towards the “child first” principle, particularly in working with families and the larger community to address youth offending behaviors, and they will provide some suggestions to prevent children and young people from being caught up in the criminal justice web. In addition, the panelists will share efforts to promote diversionary measures and some innovative strategies and restorative justice practices adopted in the three countries.

Key take-aways of the session

- Consider messages placed to protect children and young people in conflict with the law.
- Reflect on the model “Child First, Offender Second” and its application in the real world.
- Identify key principles and values of restorative justice in working with children and young people in conflict with the law.

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Speakers

- **Moderator: Lin Si Shi, Olivine**

Lecturer, Singapore University of Social Sciences

Olivine Lin holds a LLB from King's College London, a MA in Criminology from Keele University, and a Graduate Diploma in Singapore Law from National University of Singapore. She was called to the Singapore Bar in 2012 and served as an Assistant Public Prosecutor at the Attorney-General's Chambers between 2005 - 2011, before leaving for the private sector. She joined SUSS in 2016, where she developed and continues to teach the Criminal Law, Procedure and Evidence, and Constitutional and Administrative Law courses. Her areas of interest include domestic violence, women and children in the criminal justice system, special needs offenders, and community-based rehabilitation programmes.

- **Panelists**

1. **Razwana Begum Bt Abdul Rahim**

Head of Public Safety and Security Programme, Singapore University of Social Sciences

Razwana Begum Bt Abdul Rahim holds a PhD in business ethics and restorative justice from Monash University, Australia, as well as post-graduate qualifications in social work, criminology, and counselling. Prior to joining the university, Razwana spent 18 years with the Ministry of Social and Family Development, where she worked directly with children, individuals, and families in contact with the criminal justice and protection systems.

2. **Masahiro Suzuki**

Lecturer in Criminology, Central Queensland University

Dr. Masahiro Suzuki is a lecturer at Central Queensland University, Australia. He is interested in restorative justice, desistance, youth offending, comparative criminology, and juvenile justice. His papers have received a High Commendation for the Australian and New Zealand Society of Criminology's PhD Paper Prize in 2018, a Graduate Student Article Award from the Asian Criminological Society in 2019, and a Young Scholar Award from the Japanese Association of Sociological Criminology in 2021. He is also a winner of the research paper competition sponsored by the International Society of Criminology and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime.

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3. **Leonard Keith Ng**

Counsellor/Consultant Lutheran Community Care Services (LCCS), Singapore

Leonard Keith Ng is a restorative practitioner who believes in the importance of positive relationships within the community. He advocates for the need to have vulnerable conversations and the importance of engagement between individuals. Leonard focuses on the concept of restoration of the individual and widening the circle of support to the people he works with.

4. **Arti Mohan**

Restorative Justice Programme Officer, Counsel to Secure Justice, India

Arti Mohan is a former lawyer working on designing and implementing a restorative practices pilot in New Delhi, India. Arti is involved in restorative justice related research and training.

5. **Charlotte Yang**

Undergraduate student (Public Safety and Security Programme)

Charlotte Yang is an undergraduate pursuing a degree in Public Safety and Security. With a passion for serving the youths, she is keen to do more to help, guide, and empower youths to succeed. Now an advocate for restorative practices, Charlotte jointly created Project ReKnew; a community engagement project that explores ways to connect voices and build Respectful Relationships within her campus.