Social support for RJ? Or RJ to build social support?

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STRUCTURE

1. FRAME (SWOT)
   For strengthening social support
   What needs to be kept in mind?

2. AN EXAMPLE

3. FILM (15’)

What needs to be kept in mind while working towards strengthening social support for RJ?

**SWOT ANALYSIS OF THE POLICY TENDENCIES (IN HUNGARY/IN CEE?)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>STRENGTHS</th>
<th>OPPORTUNITIES</th>
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<tr>
<td>WEAKNESSES</td>
<td>THREATS</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
STRENGTHS 1.: 9 needs

- legislation
- institutional building
- pilot projects
- exchange networking
- financial & informational resources
- research
- promotion/communication
- training
- standards & guidelines
STRENGTHS 2.: Institutional evolution

T: Theoreticians
NGO: NGO-s
STRENGTHS 3.: RJ on all levels

- Culture of conflict-resolution
  (in family, school, communities)
- RJ as diversion
  e.g. VOM
- Punishment + restoration
- In-capacitation

Based on Braithwaite (2002) and Walgrave (2008)
WEAKNESSES 1.: Democratic transition

**Figure 1: The process of democratic transition**

**Socialist model**
- strong informality
- largely used discretion
- weak due process
- weak legal safeguards

**Democratic system I.**
- principle of legality
- rule of law
- strong legal safeguards
- strong formalisation
- rigidity

**Democratic system II.**
- principle of legality, rule of law, strong legal safeguards;
- participatory principle
- community-based measures
- informal processes
- active citizens in the procedures

CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPE  \[\rightarrow\]  WESTERN EUROPE
WEAKNESSES 2.

PUNISHMENT

= FACING THE CONSEQUENCES
WEAKNESSES 3.

TRUST

VS.

COMPETITION between

individuals

organisations

sectors

professions/disciplines
WEAKNESSES 4.

LACK OF COMMUNITY

(caring attitude, bonding, common vision/goals, future-orientation, etc.)
OPPORTUNITIES 1.

RJ as a **mean** to

build community bonds,

strengthen active participation/citizenship
OPPORTUNITIES 2.

1. Gates for integrating some elements of RJ into the SP and CJS system (openness to alternatives?)

2. Implementing RJ as a complex institution into the CJS
OPPORTUNITIES 3.

Traditional cultures of community-based conflict resolution

(eg. the *Romani Kris* in Roma communities)
THREATS

- punitive reaction (both in social policy and criminal justice policy) towards “deviant” behaviour towards exclusion, radicalisation, growing gap between social groups

- political populism – “easy” answers – sensational media

- lack of understanding of the RJ principles and processes discomfort in applying RJ risk-minimising back to the routines & avoidance of RJ in the judiciary

- lack of recognition of RJ principles that have been “lost in transition” during the institutionalisation process (eg. offender-orientation, dominance of material compensation)

- “lawyearisation” lack of informal processes, community involvement, civil control in the CJ procedures
CONCLUSION of the SWOT

- Emphasising the strengths
- Recognising and handling the weaknesses
- Having a vision about the opportunities
- Being aware of threats

STRENGTHENING SOCIAL SUPPORT FOR RJ
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SUMMARY: What do we expect from a client?</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• security</td>
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<tr>
<td>• self-esteem</td>
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<tr>
<td>• responsibility-taking;</td>
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<tr>
<td>• honesty</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• articulation of own needs</td>
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<tr>
<td>• trust</td>
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<tr>
<td>• taking care of others</td>
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<tr>
<td>• recognising, listening, and understanding the other side</td>
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<td>• cooperation, partnership</td>
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**Do we represent these principles in our daily work with each other?**
AN EXAMPLE on the role of community building: COMMUNITY MEDIATION IN A HUNGARIAN VILLAGE

DIAGNOSIS

COMMUNITY BUILDING

MEDIATION

Interdependence

REFERRALS

STRENGTHENED BONDS
THANK YOU
FOR YOUR ATTENTION!

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The presentation can be downloaded from:
www.fellegi.hu/files/Fellegi_Leuven_4June2009.ppt

The film can be seen at:
http://vagyunkmiis.foresee.hu/