

Moving Beyond Sides: The Power and Potential of a New Public Safety Policy Paradigm is a concept paper designed to foster dialogue and movement toward proactive collaboration between crime survivor advocates and criminal justice reform advocates who have a shared stake in creating a system focused on the policies best equipped to create safe and healthy communities. The paper was written by Partnership for Safety and Justice (**PSJ**), a statewide advocacy organization based in Oregon.

Here's what some national experts are saying about *Moving Beyond Sides*:

"This paper is a vital resource for advocates, policy makers, and community leaders concerned with public safety and criminal justice policy change. It confronts the false choice between meeting the needs of crime victims and reforming sentencing and corrections policies. In fact, as this terrific paper makes clear, meeting the supports and protection needs of people harmed by crime should be integral to meaningful criminal justice reforms that are cost-effective, successful, evidence-based and help those arrested, prosecuted and incarcerated to make permanent exits from the criminal justice system."

– **Timothy Silard, President, Rosenberg Foundation**

"There's a growing consensus that the current criminal justice system costs too much, isn't fair, and doesn't work. But creating a movement to create a real alternative has always faltered on the very dichotomy that PSJ confronts head on: that of a divide between "justice reform advocates" and "victim advocates." This paper avoids trite, "can't we all just get along" exhortations, offering instead a realistic array of areas of mutual benefit that can be a starting point for a new paradigm."

– **Tracy Velázquez, Executive Director, Justice Policy Institute**

"We all agree that public safety is job one. Yet effective approaches to public safety are the result of collaboration. This paper gently beckons organizations to examine what they do and why they do it and whether some of those things might actually prevent collaboration. And taking an integrated approach, this paper gives hope that collaboration can enhance the outcomes we are all seeking."

– **Will Marling, Executive Director, National Organization for Victim Assistance**

"PSJ has been a pioneer in bringing together the voices of crime survivors and offenders to fight for common ground solutions to criminal justice problems. *Moving Beyond Sides* puts what they've learned into clear focus for other organizations. I hope this paper can spark a new conversation among criminal justice reformers around the country."

– **Shari Silberstein, Executive Director, Equal Justice USA**

"*Moving Beyond Sides* comes at a time when it's critical that we do something different with our public safety dollars. Survivors of crime deserve resources, and many of their advocates support dramatic reform based on practices that truly reduce the incidence of crime while also helping survivors heal. Partnership for Safety and Justice is at the forefront of this dialogue, and *Moving Beyond Sides* is an important read for anyone who cares about public safety."

– **Rebecca Nickels, Executive Director, Portland Women's Crisis Line**

“This paper provides criminal justice professionals and victim advocates with a whole lot to think about, to talk about and undoubtedly to argue about. Hopefully the result of that process will be a better and more effective use of limited resources to secure both public safety and victim justice.”

– **Steve Derene, Executive Director of the National Association of VOCA Assistance Administrators**

"This report is an important step in our journey to build a justice system dedicated to restoring all the lives harmed by violence and crime."

– **Bob Robison, Retired Victim Services Manager, Oregon**

“We have long been overdue for a careful and thoughtful examination of how our collective desire for public safety has unfortunately served as a platform of polarization – a platform which buys us only ineffective and expensive policies, serving no one well. Reading *Moving Beyond Sides* is a critical first step for all of us who are concerned about criminal justice reform – regardless of which ‘side’ of the crime equation we have traditionally identified.”

– **Sarah Bryer, Director, National Juvenile Justice Network**

“*Moving Beyond Sides* offers important insights about the need for improve partnerships and communications among *all* criminal justice professionals and volunteers. It offers critical perspectives about crime victims’ key needs and concerns, and the diversity of both survivors and their respective interests. I am confident that this important document will provide the impetus for greatly needed discussions about how collectively, we can improve victims’ rights and services in America.”

– **Anne Seymour, National Victim Advocate, Washington, DC**

“This paper is part of an emerging and urgent national dialogue examining ways to create a criminal justice system in which the greatest number of victims experience safety and justice as a result of their decision to engage law enforcement. This paper is a call to meet the needs of victims who are not traditionally reached by the system by developing a more humane, and varied, response to harm.”

– **Danielle Sered, Director, Common Justice, New York**

"*Moving Beyond Sides* encourages all of us to examine our assumptions about criminal justice, engage in difficult soul-searching, and recommit ourselves to finding a better way. It's a sound, thoughtful, plea for saner policies and should be read by people of all ideological perspectives."

– **Susan Herman, Author of *Parallel Justice for Victims of Crime***