

# THE OBSERVER



Monthly Publication

Volume 2 | Publication 12

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*Reporting Accurate and Objective Information Based on Facts, not Agenda-Setting Theories*

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## **Youth Without A Future**

The [Yin and Yang](#) of Youth and Adults

Part II

[Part I](#)

[Taoist philosophy](#) emphasizes *balance* which is defined in the western world as “*Yin and Yang*” and not to be confused with good and evil. According to the Balance & Restorative Justice Model “[BARJ](#)” quote: “*provides a framework for systemic reform and offers hope for preserving and revitalizing the juvenile justice system.*” unquote. Because culture, traditions and access to local resources are decisive factors in juvenile justice. However, the BARJ Model is not a guaranteed tool. This model accentuates three ingredients: 1) the offender must rectify their behavior to the victim and the community; 2) the offender must also increase their competency in society; and 3) the public must be protected using the resources of the community in a supportive role to avoid recititious behavior by the offender. However, the [BARJ Model \[pg. 5\]](#) has proven to be effective with promoting youth accountability. “[BARJ](#)”

Once the juvenile offender accepts the responsibility of her/his actions, then restoration is a requirement. This will involve the offender and the victims while using the community as a support system. It's imperative that a community have active involvement to achieve future crime control. Some of the principles of [Restorative Justice](#) evolve around the facts that all people have value and that crime is injurious not only to the victims, but the community, also. The community is considered the support base to secure crime control. The victim's input is key when deciding restoration.

By understanding the impact of their actions, accepting the responsibility, expressing remorse and actively repairing the damage, their competencies will become more developed and the offender will have a better chance of integrating into the community. Although face-to-face meetings with victims can be quite painful for both the victim and the offender, it offers a sense of growth and personalizes the crime.

Increasing offender competencies is also a requirement when implementing the BARJ Model. According to the [Harvard Competency Dictionary](#), competencies are “*things*” that an individual must demonstrate to be effective in a job, role, function, task or duty. Behavior, motivation and knowledge and skills are also included.

The [Yin and Yang](#) of youth and adults must work in tandem for positive results to ensure our juvenile justice system is balanced.

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[Federal Advisory Committee on Juvenile Justice - Annual Report 2009](#)  
[Text of H.R. 2289: Juvenile Justice Accountability and Improvement Act of 2009](#)  
[State Distribution of Youth Offenders Serving Juvenile Life Without Parole \(JLWOP\)](#)

## Prior Publications:

Volume 1	Volume 2
<a href="#">Facts, Time and Karma</a>	
<a href="#">Human Trafficking - Stop it Now!</a>	
<a href="#">Human Trafficking - Statelessness</a>	
<a href="#">Human Trafficking-Who Are The Traffickers</a>	
<a href="#">Human Trafficking - Crime Against Humanity</a>	<a href="#">Youth Without a Future - JLWOP</a>
<a href="#">Media Fact and Fiction</a>	
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<a href="#">And Things Are Not What They Seem</a>	
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