

# INNOVATIVE JUSTICE

REINTEGRATION DONE DIFFERENTLY, MAKING A DIFFERENCE

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# INNOVATIVE JUSTICE

## International research with Prof. Rob White using strengths-based mixed methods

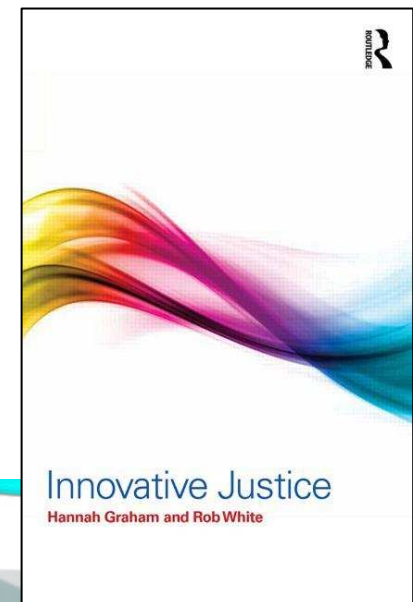
(including Appreciative Inquiry, interviews, ethnography, photography, secondary data analysis of evaluation research, organisational and media content, literature searches, online research).

**Scope:** case vignettes from UK, US, South America, Europe, Middle East, Asia-Pacific, Australia. Settings include prisons, probation, the courtroom, victim services, NGO's, and the community.

**Knowledge Exchange:** media, social media (Twitter: @Innovative\_Just), academic and practitioner events, university teaching materials, informing policy, arts collaborations.

**Website:** co-produced with a journalism academic, graphic artist and participants. [www.innovativejustice.com/home/](http://www.innovativejustice.com/home/) (launch in August 2014)

**Book and Publications:** *Innovative Justice* (July 2014, Routledge) by Hannah Graham and Rob White, plus various forthcoming articles and chapters.



# INTELLECTUAL ORIGINS: THEORISING INNOVATIVE JUSTICE


**Three areas of scholarship act as lenses which frame this research:**

**The Desistance Paradigm:** how and why people stop offending, opportunities for positive change; changing policies & practices to better support people to change.

**Restorative Justice:** orienting the intent of 'justice' towards working together to repair harm and, where possible, fostering redemptive opportunities, citizenship and giving.

**Social Innovation:** social entrepreneurship and community development, pioneering socially just ideas and co-producing more creative and responsive approaches.

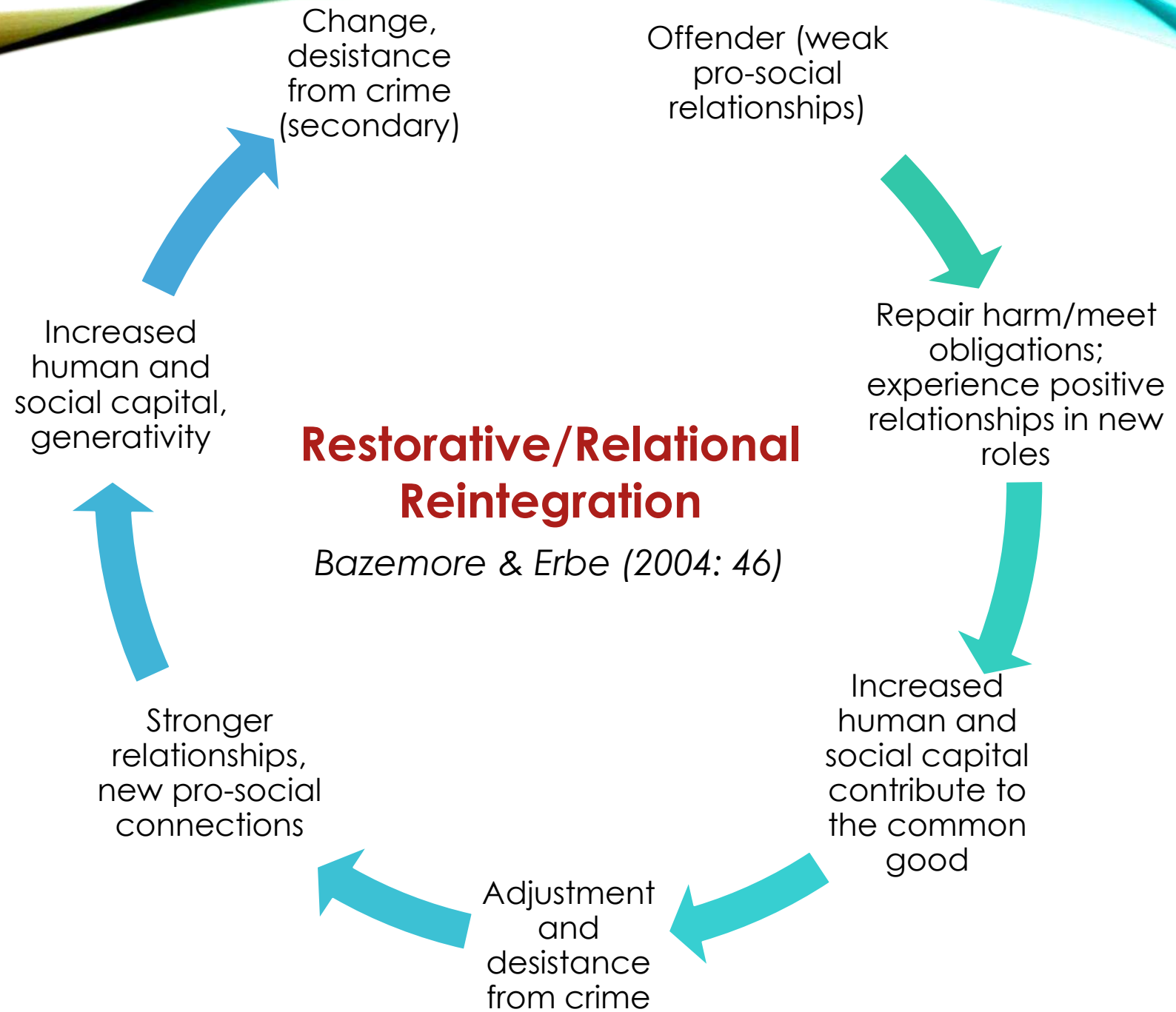
See Maruna (2001, 2006), McNeill (2006, 2012, 2014),  
Farrall (2002), Walgrave (2008), Pennacchia (2013),  
Weaver (2011, 2013a, 2013b).



## Characteristics of Restorative Reintegration:

*Maruna (2006)*

- Community-led;
- Reparation-based in useful, visible roles;
- Symbolically rich reconciliation;
- Eventual de-labelling, forgiveness, clean slate.





# Appreciative Inquiry (AI) and Strengths-Based Methods and Questions

**Tell us about the initiative: its genesis, stakeholders, scope, partnerships, governance.**

**Strengths: How and why does this make a difference? How is it innovative?**

- What are the key strengths? Who contributes to this and who benefits?
- Tell us about some 'best experiences' and 'good news stories' you are proud of.
- What factors, relationships or processes were involved in realising these?

**Language and labels: What do you call the people involved?**

**Describe the ethos, values and culture(s) that underscore this initiative.**

**What is done with knowledge gained in this initiative, and by whom?**

- Developing human capital, education and accredited qualifications for participants.
- Evaluation research, documentation, experience *and* evidence-informed practices.
- Sharing good news stories and positive impact, media and awareness raising.

**What do you hope for? What is your dream? How are you working towards this?**



## SNAPSHOTS OF INNOVATION – CLUSTERS OF CASE VIGNETTES

- Creative Offender Rehabilitation
- Skills for Change
- Engaging Offenders with Communities
- Greening Justice
- Animals and Therapeutic Justice
- Beyond Fear & Loathing: Countering Extremism

## **Pioneering ideas and creative approaches to support people in processes of reintegration, desistance and positive change:**

**Entrepreneurship skills training: pursuing legitimate business ideas and opportunities;**

**Fashion and sewing initiatives: Cooperativa Alice haute couture fashion design;**

**Sports initiatives: prisoners as community sports umpires, the Prisoners Tour de France;**

**Emergency relief and natural disaster recovery: during or after bushfires, floods;**

**Greening justice initiatives: eco-prisons, fish farming, environmental restoration;**

**Family initiatives: Kids days in prison, Storybook Dads, reading and parenting skills;**

**The arts and criminal justice: music and songwriting, Jail Guitar Doors, drama and performing arts, prison poetry or philosophy clubs, photography and fine arts;**

**Animals and justice: training assistance dogs or 'pups on parole', 'penitentiaries';**

**Artisan food and cooking: bakeries, prison micro-breweries, Dining Behind Bars;**

**Community engagement/service: Yellow Ribbon Project, reducing hate crime, 'giving back' initiatives with or for people with disabilities, prison braille programs.**



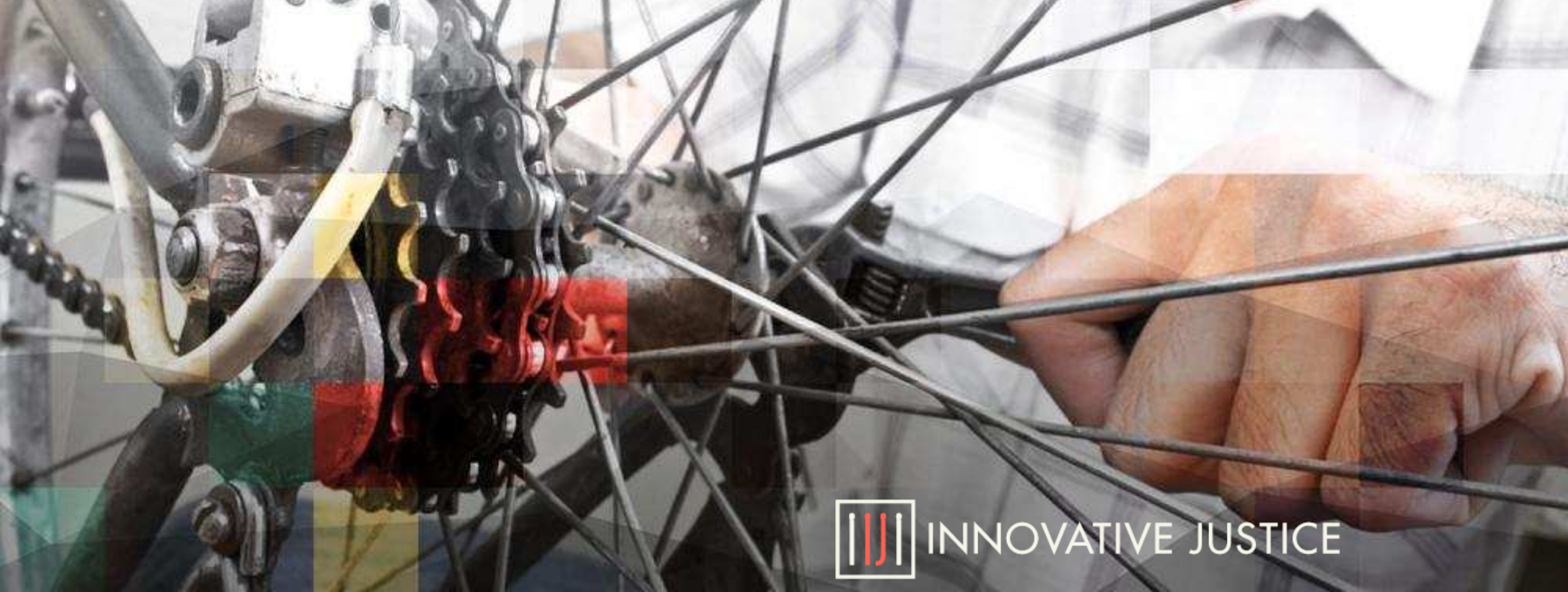


THE SUSTAINABILITY IN PRISONS PROJECT (SPP), UNITED STATES

**Connecting Prisons with Nature**

**[www.sustainabilityinprisons.org](http://www.sustainabilityinprisons.org)**





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"I most value the cross-cultural exchanges that are vital to everyday operations of SPP. Most folks focus on the benefits this brings to inmates, and these are striking. It is thrilling to consider what education, meaning, challenge, and validation can do for inmates who may have had little access to positive things in life leading up to incarceration. It is deeply satisfying to see inmates light up with pride as they describe their work, sharing technical details with the grace of a public information officer. It is wonderful to learn about science and sustainability from them, hearing concepts I know well, but framed in ways I never considered." ~ Joslyn Rose Trivett, in Graham and White (2014: 66)



# Co-Production and 'Coalitions of the Willing':

**Prison Community Gardens and  
Food Networks in Tasmania**

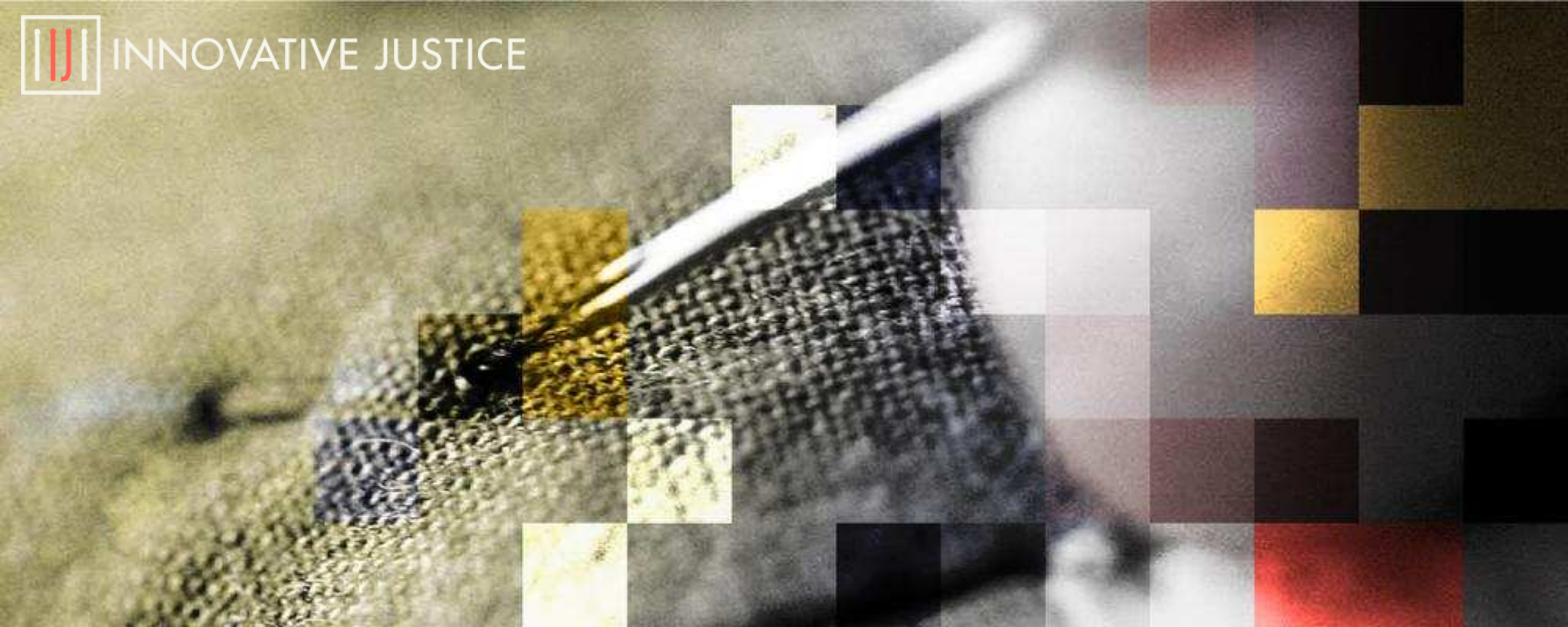
**Capital and Communities  
Forged around Shared Interests  
and Common Ground**





“It gives me a chance to give back to society. It’s a way of getting me name out there in good ways, not as the mongrel people might’ve seen me as. I never used to garden a lot, I learned a little from my father. But now, this is what I do.” ~ John





HAND MADE WITH PRIDE, AUSTRALIA

FINE CELL WORK, UNITED KINGDOM

[www.finecellwork.co.uk](http://www.finecellwork.co.uk)



- No one model, initiative or approach supports desistance or enables individual and institutional change.
- Initiatives build social capital and human capital, both are needed in reintegration and desistance;
- Generativity: the choice to give (and receive) as the difference between punishment and rehabilitation.
- Morals & Emotions: doing good/making good (Maruna, 2001), feeling good, hope, becoming different.
- Fit-for-purpose partnerships, co-production as strengths & protective factors to help initiatives last.
- Practitioner leadership, 'intrapreneurship' and quiet revolutions from the inside, and 'pracademia'.





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AUSTRALIA



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