

# The Evolution of International Victimology and its Current Status in the World Today

La evolución de la Victimología Internacional y su situación  
actual en el mundo de hoy

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«Study the past if you would define the future.»  
«*Estudia el pasado si quieres definir el futuro.*»

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## abstract

Over the last seventy eight years, the creation of the victimology concepts, the growth of victims' rights laws, the expansion of victim assistance programs, the deepening and spreading of victim focused education and training, and the sophistication of victimological research has created a dynamic synergy that has changed the way victims are treated in a large proportion of the nations, rallying around the principles of the UN Declaration of Basic Principles of Justice for Victims of Crime and Abuse of Power. Victimology today is the product of dynamic cultural changes. The evolution of victimology is immersed in traditional roots, which involved beliefs, values, languages, laws, research, organizations, events, institutions, and, above all, pioneers, as the main influences that formed the early concepts of the victim, the new discipline of victimology, the dynamic movement of victims' rights, and the innovative practices of victim assistance. All these parts matured into the victimology we have today. Victimology continues to be the sustaining resource for the full implementation of the all the victim related United Nations' instruments, victims' rights laws, and victim assistance programs. One day soon there will be an UN instrument that will address prevention, rights and remedies to restore all victims.

## resumen

Durante los últimos setenta ocho años, la creación de los conceptos victimológica, el crecimiento de las leyes de los derechos de las víctimas, la expansión de los programas de asistencia a las víctimas, la profundización y difusión de educación y la entrenamiento enfocada a la víctima, y la sofisticación de la investigación centrado a la victimología que ha creado una dinámica sinérgica que ha cambiado la forma en que las víctimas son tratadas en una gran proporción de las Naciones Unidas en torno a la Declaración de Principios Fundamentales de Justicia para las Víctimas de Delitos

y del Abuso de Poder. Victimología hoy es el producto de los cambios culturales dinámicos. La evolución de la victimología se sumerge en las raíces tradicionales, que implicaban creencias, valores, lenguas, leyes, investigación, organizaciones, eventos, instituciones y, sobre todo, los pioneros, como las principales influencias que se formaron los primeros conceptos de la víctima, el nuevo la disciplina de la victimología, el movimiento dinámico de los derechos de las víctimas, y las prácticas innovadoras de asistencia a las víctimas. Todas estas piezas maduradas en la victimología tenemos hoy. Victimología sigue siendo el recurso de sostenimiento para la plena aplicación de los instrumentos en relación a las víctimas de las Naciones Unidas, leyes de los derechos, y los programas de asistencia a las víctimas. Un día, pronto habrá un instrumento de la ONU que se ocupará de prevención, derechos y recursos para restaurar todas las víctimas.

## Introduction

Victimology today is the product of approximately 78 years of dynamic cultural change. The challenge with this manuscript is to identify those cultural roots, which involved beliefs, values, languages, norms, rules, organizations, institutions, and pioneers as the main influences that formed the early concepts of the victim, the new discipline of victimology, the dynamic movement of victims' rights, and the innovative practices of victim assistance that evolved into the mature victimology we have today.

### The Beliefs that Preceded Victimology

Belief systems that become organized into religions gave rise to the early ideas of sacrifice and directly influenced our modern concepts of victim. One of the earliest mentioned examples of what can be considered the «first crime victim» was in the Old Testament with the killing of Able by his brother Cain (Manzanera, 2003 p. 5; Bible, Genesis 4:4-12; Dussich, 2008). Although, over the ages the crime of murder has been associated with the expression «The Mark of Cain,» no such similar recognition for victims, as the «Mark of Able,» has been used. The ironic notoriety of Cain and the virtual shunning of Able represent the reality of how victims have been mostly ignored throughout biblical and legal history through the process of social labeling (van Dijk, 2006). Many of the various perceptions of how victims are treated today can be found in the early Hebrew and Christian Testaments: as an innocent victim (*qua* sacrificial offering to God from the perspective at the time of those writings) and with Able murdered by Cain (as one intentionally injured from the perspective of con-

temporary writings) (Bible, Genesis 4:4-12); victim blaming in Job (Bible, Job 2:11); expression of compassion by John for the mother of Jesus (Bible, John, 19: 26-27); for compensation to raped women (Bible, Deuteronomy, 22:28-29); to pay for an injured person's loss through restitution (Bible, Exodus 22: 1 & 7); the helping hand with love and kindness of the good Samaritan (Bible, Luke 10:25-37); and, even using restorative practices (Bible, Luke 19:1-10). In sum there are many religious references about persons intentionally injured or killed (either as an offering to God or as a wrong doing for personal benefit). These references were and still are significant influences to those cultures which have used these references as normative guidelines which have become laws in many different societies throughout the world.

It is important to also mention that in Islamic societies references to victims are also found throughout the Koran (*Quar'an*). Islamic law (*Shari'a*), is practiced differently in various countries. One country, Saudi Arabia, is an example where Islamic law is widespread. A basic premise with *Shari'a* is that it considers conflicts as actions against individuals and not against the state. This condition makes the legal system more victim oriented. Many crimes are dealt with through personal arbitration and may never be reported to the police. Even with serious crimes such as murder, the *Quar'an* allows and encourages retaliation and compensation (restitution) outside the legal system without formal participation of the courts. Since it encourages the victim to forgive the offender in conjunction with restitution (*diyya*) it has the effect of removing and animosity between the victim and offender. These *diyya* practices are strictly controlled by rules. In those instances where the offender is not known, payment (compensation) to the victim will be made by the state treasury (Reichel, 2002).

Predating most ancient written law was the law of retaliation, referred to as *lex talionis*. Thus those injured were expected to take revenge against the aggressor. In some primitive cultures retaliation could be avoided if the offender would return the property stolen or compensation was made to the injured party. One of the oldest written laws is considered to be the Codes of Hammurabi of ancient Babylonia from 1728 – 1686 BC which allowed certain categories of victims to receive compensation either paid by certain offenders or by the state (Painado, 1982). Much later in 450 BC the early codification of Roman Law called the Twelve Tables required compensation for victims as a way to prevent private retaliation against the offender (Margadant, 1965). The principles of these laws were carried into the Middle Ages referred to as the Golden Age of the victims with the use of *composition* (compensation) seen in the Germanic common laws (Schafer, 1970). The Positive School of Criminology supported the idea of compensation (Lombroso, 1876; Garófalo, 1885; Ferri, 1892).

## The Values of Victimology

In large part our values are based on religious beliefs. Values are another important element of culture and involve judgments of what is good or bad and desirable or undesirable. Those values that promote social order by defending the group's interests rather than private interests are rewarded by the group. A culture's values shape its mores and formal norms ultimately becoming written laws (Broom and Selznick, 1958). When beliefs teach that injuring innocent persons is not in the best interests of the group, then practices are developed to protect those who are vulnerable and help those who are harmed. When these practices are accepted and societies are structured to support these responses so that they are orderly and long lasting, institutions are formed. The wishes of the society are carried out by such institutions as: families, schools, religions, governments, businesses, etc. The earliest responses to conflicts were retaliatory and hence institutions that formally responded to conflicts emerged and were considered to be appropriate and necessary for the protection of society but not to the victim Beccaria, 1764; Mondolfo, 1960; Beloof, 1999). When a person or persons were injured or killed, the value of life was violated and those involved took on different roles: offenders, victims, witnesses, mediators and by-standers. The behaviors of these roles were determined by the institutions in concert with society's rules and laws. As governments emerged to fulfill their perceived needs, different laws evolved accommodated those needs. Over time, the role of victims changed from sacrificial, to retaliatory, to retributive, to administrative, and now in some nations increasingly to restorative.

## The Language of Victimology

The earliest meanings of the word victim in the Hebrew (*korban*), Muslim (*udhiya*) and Christian (victim) texts rather than someone who suffered at the hands of an offender was instead someone intended as a sacrifice «human, divine, animal, or inanimate» (Viano, 1976). The first use of the English word «victim» in 1497 was taken from the Latin word «*victima*» as applied to living beings killed as religious sacrifices (Drapkin, 1980; Oxford Dictionary, 1983 as cited in Wemmers, 2009). The Latin word «*victima*» was also used to mean a sacrifice and was applied to the innocent Jesus in the seminal textbook *Institutio Christianae religionis* for the Protestant faith in 1536 written in Latin, by the French theologian John Calvin. This became the foundation of the Protestant religion and was Calvin's *magnum opus* for the Protestant Reformation and influenced most of the European countries throughout the middle sixteenth century. It was soon translated into French, Italian, English,

German, Greek, Dutch, and others (Wikipedia, 2015). It seems that the first time the word «victim» appeared in English to mean a human person was in 1736 «as an honorary name for Jesus Christ, the Crucified, in a translation of the New Testament. Christ was called the *expiatory victim*: the person who through his victimhood redeemed mankind» (van Dijk, 2008, p. 17). After its early appearance in Latin, the word *victima* appeared in Old European with *vih*, *wéoh*, *wíg*; in Old High German with *wih*, *wíhi*; in Old Norse with *vé*; in Gothic with *weihs*; and, in Sanskrit with *vinak ti* (Webster's, 1971: Dussich, 2006a); Today the work for victim in these European modern languages still retains the original meaning of offering, as in Dutch *slachtoffer*; in German *Opfer* (Wemmers, 2009); in Norwegian and Danish *offer*; and in Swedish *offret*. Although these words contain the meaning of offering, today they no longer refer only to sacrifices; they refer to all types of persons who suffer – including crime victims.

Literature, as another important disseminator of culture, contains many of the seeds that mentioned the words and concepts of victims as sacrifices especially in Roman and Greek tragedies, and later as sufferers of diseases, crime, exploitation, mental illness and circumstances in such well known works by Shakespeare especially in *Hamlet*, *Othello*, *King Lear* and *Macbeth* (Barnet et al., 1998); Daniel Defoe, in his book *A Journal of the Plague Year* where he recounts experiences of being a victim of the plague; Kahlil Gibran (1923 in *The Prophet* with his often quoted phrase «Yea, the guilty is oftentimes the victim of the injured;» Franz Werfel (1922) on the theme of victim blaming in his book *Nicht der Mörder: de Ermordete ist schuldig* (Not the murderer; the murdered one is guilty); Thomas de Quincey ( ) with his *On Murder Considered as One of the Fine Arts*, and his preoccupation of the theme in many of his works on a murder or violation of a female victim; the Marquis de Sade preoccupied with 18<sup>th</sup> century perverse libertine exploitation of women and the poor (Bloch 1901); and Aldous Huxley (1932) who wrote about mental illness and victims and introduced the notion of a «victim–friend» in his book *The Brave New World*; and, Miguel de Cervantes as a victim of circumstances from his two periods of imprisonment reflected in his metaphorical novel *Don Quixote* mimicking his own struggles with the illusions of power and grandeur.

The evolution of the concept of victim, to the word victim, to many related words, to the writing of articles and books, to seminars and symposia on victimology, to an international movement, to multiple victimology theories, to extensive victim centered research, to laws and to practices to enhance victims' rights have changed the way modern societies understand victims and respond to them. Fewer people suffer and the human condition has been improved. However, the challenge continues.

## People Creating and Sharing

### The Pioneers of Victimology

Social movements concerning victim issues have grown because of people searching for solutions. These people had dreams about how specific reforms could be realized. These dreams were shared and became the core of seminal events as platforms that brought these pioneers with similar ideas together. The key elements that gave strength to these ideas were the power, logic and passion of their words, their personalities and their persistence.

Emilio Viano, in his tribute to seven pioneers of victimology, in the second issue of his new journal *Victimology: An International Journal*, published in the summer of 1976, stated: «those who broke new ground and developed new concepts, new approaches and even a new terminology» «are universally recognized as founders and innovators in the field» – (in alphabetical order): **Israel Drapkin** (hosted the First International Symposium on Victimology in Jerusalem, Israel 1973 and co-edited its 5 volume proceedings with Emilio Viano); **Ezzat A. Fattah** (taught one of the first full-fledged victimology courses at a university 1965 and completed one of the first victimological doctoral dissertations in Canada) (Viano, 1976); **Sara Margery Fry** (promoted restitution and compensation and created a viable scheme for the government to pay for victim expenses)(Viano, 1976); **Koichi Miazawa** (published the first victimology textbook in Japan, was the 3<sup>rd</sup> president of the WSV and hosted of the 4<sup>th</sup> International Symposium on Victimology), **Stephen Schafer** (authored the first English book on restitution, *Restitution to Victims of Crime* in 1960 and the first English textbook on victimology *The Victim and His Criminal* in 1968, and hosted the 2<sup>nd</sup> International Symposium on Victimology 1976), and **Hans von Hentig** writing from the US, the German born law professor authored a significant article on the relationship between victim and perpetrator «Remarks on the Interaction of Perpetrator and his Victim» in the *Journal of Criminal Law and Criminology* in 1940 and wrote a chapter about victims in his criminology text, *The Criminal and His Victim* 1948.

**Beniamin Mendelsohn**, collected data on victims in his study of the criminal personality to improve his defense methods which he published in 1937 in the *Revue de Droit Pénal et de Criminologie*, in Brussels, then wrote his first article which focused on victims in his article on rape in 1940; and, most importantly he published his seminal article «Une nouvelle branche de la science bio-psycho-sociale: Victimologie in *The American Law Review*, 13(4) in 1947 which presented his grand plan for a new discipline «Victimology.» Those who knew Mendelsohn remembered his passion for his work. From time to time he would relate how his own personal experience with religious discrim-

ination fueled his motives (Šeparovi , 1985). His focus on the breadth of victimology eventually expanded beyond specific injuries and damages from crime to include the study of all forms of injury and damage: disasters, accidents, wars, discrimination and other events which cause injury. This broader perspective he called «general victimology» (Rock, 1994, p. xvii). These innovations were realized over the next seven and a half decades. By virtue of the magnitude of Mendelsohn's vision, the extensiveness of his writings and the enormous energy he expended in promoting his ideas for this new discipline, he has truly earned the title, «Father of Victimology.»

To this list of first generation victimology pioneers, I would like to add: **Hans J. Schneider** (hosted the Third International Symposium on Victimology in 1979, where he launched the World Society of Victimology in which he served as its founding and first president from 1979 to 1985, and authored the first German language textbook on victimology 1975), **Willem H. Nagel** (was one of the first in the Netherlands to conduct research about victims and introduced victimology to his country with the publishing of an article Victimology in the *Journal of Criminal Justice* in 1959), and **Henri Ellenberger** (one of the pioneers in psychiatry to study and write about victimology in Canada especially the psychological dynamics between offender and victim where he discussed his concept of «victimogenesis» the vulnerability of persons whose risk of becoming a victim was significant with certain persons (1954).

All of the above first-generation pioneers made significant early contributions in the face of very limited prior information about victimology (sparse research, mostly no books or articles, and few conferences) and added their creativity and insights to the furtherance of victimology. In addition they each participated in discussions with other like-minded scholars, suggested innovative theorems, developed new research ideas and ways to ultimately improve the status of victims, suggested improved methods of research, proposed how help victims recover, offered ways to prevent their re-victimization and ways to prevent vulnerable persons from being victimized in the first instance. The vehicles they used to disseminate these ideas were mainly through personal contacts among colleagues and students, publications, teachings and the hosting of conferences focused on victim issues. They served as the first resource base, a human fountain-head, from which most of the seminal information about the new science of victims grew.

The field of victimology would not have evolved further had it not been for the second generation of pioneers, those who were the students and progeny of the above pioneers. These were a larger number of scholars and practitioners who had direct contact with the first generation of pioneers and kept the momentum of the movement going and helped implement many of Mendelsohn's recommendations. These pioneers, by virtue of the volume

of their contribution and their intensity of their commitment were able to bring victimology to a level of maturity so that new laws were made, new programs were established and major contributions to the literature were made around the globe: (in alphabetical order) Lolita Aniyar; Antonio Beristain; Susan Brownmiller; Anne Wolbert Burgess; Dunan Chappell; Kumaravelu Chocklingam; Sara Ben David; Jan J. M. van Dijk; John P. J. Dussich; John Freedman; Paul C. Friday; Mario T. Gaboury; James Garofalo; Burt Gallaway; Gilbert Geis; Arif Gosita; Michael R. Gottfredson; Marc Groenhuijsen; Michael J. Hindelang; Joe Hudson; Matti Joutsen; Dean Kilpatrick; Gerd F. Kirchhoff; Richard D. Knudten; Helmut Kury; Leroy Lamborn; Sima F. Landau; Maria de la Luz Lima; Luis R. Manzanera; Hilda Marchiori; Irene Melup; Hidemichi Morosawa; Elias Neuman; Annette Pearson; Erin Pizzey; Helen Reeves; Xin Ren; Leslie Sebba; Zvonimir P. Šeparovi ; Wesley Skogan; Aglaia Tsitoura; Thomas Underwood; Emilio C. Viano; Steve Walker; Irvin Waller; Jo-Anne Wemmers; Marvin Wolfgang; Akira Yamagami; Marlene Young; and, Eduard Zingenhagen. Most of these second generation pioneers are still contributing to our field by their teaching and mentoring of the next generation of victimology scholars and victim assistance practitioners who are larger in number and who are now taking victimology to new levels of sophistication.

#### Dynamic Victimological Events

(to place victimology in a chronological context – see the Appendix)

The comings together of mostly scholars and practitioners who had similar interests that they wanted to talk about were indeed special events. These were unique opportunities where they could share their thoughts about the paradigms within victimology, seek support for their intellectual risks and where they could come away with some satisfaction they had achieved a modicum of success with their investments of time and energy. These events allowed the participants to speak and hypothesize without the burden of explaining elementary concepts and thus were able to dwell at the upper echelons of interactions about these new victimological topics. These gatherings provided special parsimony of discourse that facilitated access to new insights and emphasized compatibilities and stimulated future directions. From these meetings emerged a fermentation which launched a kind of victimology fervor that was infective for both theorists and practitioners. Not only was it tremendously interesting from a scientific point of view, it was also compelling from a humanistic perspective. One might even say there was a sense of heightened morality, perhaps nobility or a calling that attracted many neophytes to this new field. These sentiments created a synergy among the participants who attended these victimology events. Some events focused on theory; some on research, some on law,



some on practice and some events even tried to address all of these topics at once, like the international symposia which are still held triennially.

The aftermath of two World Wars, the holocaust, the subsequent establishment of the United Nations in 1945 and the creation of the *Universal Declaration of Human Rights* in 1948, touched the conscience of the world community to the extent of resolving that all mankind should be free from fear. For criminologists this sentiment broadened so as to include concern not just for rights of criminals but also for potential and actual victims (Redo, 2012, p. 56). Within the development of criminology, the concern for victims' rights came much later than the concern for offenders' rights. Unfortunately for victimologists, there has always been a pervasive «blind-spot» for the topic of victims in many unexpected places. In the USA, the first edition of the America's premier law dictionary, the word «victim» did not appear (Black, 1891); in one of the earliest textbook on criminology by Edwin Sutherland, although the first two editions had a small chapter on victims of crime, in all subsequent editions it was permanently removed (Sutherland, 1924), in the *Encyclopedia of Sociology* – 1974, and even the US Department of Justice admitted that up to that time (1981) the public and the criminal justice system focused mostly on offenders and that little mention had been made to victims (Rock, 1994, p. xvii). In well know references dealing with the law and crime in the UK like *Harrap's Dictionary of Law and Society* – 1979, *Penguin Dictionary of Sociology* – 1988, the Oxford University Press' *A Concise Dictionary of Law* - 1990, the *A Blackwell Dictionary of Twentieth-Century Social Thought* – 1993, and *The Social Science Encyclopedia* – 1989, not a single reference had the word victim in them (Rock, 1994, p. xvii). Of course there were some rare exceptions and today that is much less the case. However, other non-English speaking counties also have experienced the formal neglect of concern for victims in their legislative process (de la Cuesta, Vidosa & Jorge Mesas, 1998). Yet, even at the United Nations, in spite of the significant emergence of the field of victimology in the 20<sup>th</sup> Century, the negligence of concern for victims has lagged well behind the concern for criminal offenders even within their activities, instruments and literature to this day (Redo, 2012, p. 57). Yet it was the persistence of the pioneers to meet and talk that has moved our discipline forward.

Many precursors to the formal fora of today were the individual university lectures, separate local sessions, national meetings within larger events on broader topics. Thus, victimology was discussed at criminology events from time to time. Slowly the concepts and terms about victims, their relationship to criminals and the criminal justice system, and they became part of the broader criminological dialectic.

It appears that the first conference on victimology was organized for the Dutch-Flemish Society of Criminology in 1958 by Professor Paul Cornil of

Brussels. The four notable keynote speakers were: Professor Willen Nagel from Leiden; Professor Willy Callewaert from Ghent; and Professor Willem Noach from Utrecht. Several papers from this event were subsequently published in the *Revue de droit penal et de criminologie* in 1959 (Wemmers, 2009).

Perhaps the first national symposium to be held in Japan on the topic of victimology was titled *The Problems of Victimology*, and held at the Tokyo Medical and Dental University, November 14, 1959. This event was organized by Professor Dr. Shufu Yoshimasu, Faculty of Medicine, and Professor Dr. Tanemotsu Furuhashi, President of the Japanese Academy of Criminology. Proceedings were published in the *Japanese Journal of Legal Medicine and Criminology* Tokyo, Vol 25, No. 6/ 1959. The keynote speakers were: Professor Tanemotsu Furuhashi; Associate Professor Osamu Nakata; Dr. K. Hirose; Chief of Crime Prevention Section, Tokyo Police T. Onojima and Professor Shufu Yoshimasu (Mendelsohn, 1976; Fujimoto, 1982).

Clearly the most significant and impactful event in the field of victimology was the First Symposium on Victimology held in Jerusalem in 1973 organized by Israel Drapkin. As a reference to its criminological parentage, it is important to note that it was at the Sixth International Congress in Madrid of 1970 that the idea for this first victimology symposium was proposed (Marchiori, 2001). This gathering of victimology pioneers supported and stimulated each other, provided new solutions for the problems being addressed. This unique forum dramatically moved the body of new ideas forward with the publishing of the one-plus-five volume proceedings coedited by Israel Drapkin and Emilio Viano.

Two year after the First Symposium in Israel a most unique gathering of about fifty scholars (attended mostly by «First and Second Generation Pioneers» and practitioners) organized by Emilio Viano called the International Study Institute on Victimology and funded by the Scientific Affairs Committee of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization and the US National Science Foundation. It was held in the small isolated lake-side village of Bellagio, Italy from July 1 to 12 in 1977. After twelve days of intense and constructive discussions about this new discipline, mostly which emanated from the first symposium and its six volume proceedings, conducted between individuals, in small gatherings (some indoor and some outdoor), plenary sessions, and single lectures at all times of the day and evenings and during all the meals, new friendships and lifelong collaborations were formed and greatly enhanced the synergy and exchange of ideas over the next forty years. Under the gentle leadership of Emilio Viano, this small group of participants were given an incredible opportunity to meet, talk and bond into a working consensus based community joining together in a true *gemeinschaft* team pulling together to help shape the future challenges in this new arena. Since then it has been fondly referred to by its participants as the «Bellagio Family.»

The launching of a new journal in 1976 (*Victimology: An International Journal*) was edited by Emilio Viano. These above proceedings and the journal not only gave victimology a major resource to mark the formal beginning of an organized victimology but also served to further disseminate new ideas, thereby greatly increasing the legitimacy of victimology and broadening its awareness to the public and to itself. Two other international symposia were also significant: the Second and the Fifth. At the Second Symposium the World Society of Victimology was formed; and, at the Fifth Symposium a major part of the program was dedicated to the UN draft Declaration of Basic Principles of Justice for Victims of Crime and Abuse of Power which was on the agenda of the Seventh UN Congress on Crime Prevention and the Treatment of Offenders. This symposium served as a preparatory venue for the discussions needed at the Milan UN Congress on Crime to immediately follow the symposium.

One of the more unique, dynamic and reoccurring of victimology events are the Post Graduate Victimology Courses which started in Dubrovnik, Croatia in 1984 and is still being held each May. Other regular and semi-regular regional courses under similar rubrics have been launched in Asia; Central America, South America, Africa, and in conjunction with each of the triennial symposia of the World Society of Victimology. These courses usually accommodate about 50 graduate students, practitioners and teachers interested in learning about victimology. All the victimologists come with their own resources and no honorarium. The cost to the participants is usually only enough to allow the courses to «break even» so these events are self-sustaining. Over the years, especially the course in Dubrovnik, the same victimologists come and create a quasi-professional forum for themselves with the students as the audience. From these courses long-lasting friendship have evolved and have served the field as yet another opportunity to disseminate valuable information about new research findings and about innovations in praxis. In some regards the bonding is similar to the sentiments which arose with the «Bellagio Family.»

One of the most constant, obvious and as yet unmentioned, environs for disseminating victimology information has been the university. Most, but not all, of those who call themselves victimologists teach fulltime at universities. The others are mostly practitioners directly involved with providing victim assistance to mostly crime victims. The group of universities which serve as hosts to victimology programs and courses, have been growing. Some of the ones that have stood out in the past were: Hebrew University, Israel; Bar Ilan University, Israel; Northeastern University, American University, Fresno Pacific University, USA; USA; Florida State University, USA; Washburn University, USA; California State University, Fresno, USA; Medical University of South Carolina, USA; University of Pennsylvania, USA; Tokiwa University, Japan; Keio University, Japan, Fachhochschule Niederrhein, Germany; Münster University, Germany;

University of Madras, India; Simon Fraser University, Canada; University of Ottawa, Canada; University of Montreal, Canada; University of New Haven, USA; Sam Houston State University, USA; University of Indonesia, Indonesia; National Law University at Delhi, and India; University of Madras, India; Pontificia Universidad Javeriana, Colombia;

Many modern movements are now taking advantage of new technologies to motivate larger numbers of people around the globe. A common recent theme with successful movements has depended on adapting to innovative communication trends. Of special note is the use of Facebook, Skype, emails, Twitter, and others. Many victim advocacy organizations are now using the social media (computer mediated tools that are Internet-based) to facilitate collective and social action to form new organizations to address much needed reforms in such areas as prevention of femicide and the treatment of these victims; and, addressing the problem of human trafficking victimization and services for its victims. Today many countries today have regular victimological and victim assistance conferences, seminars and symposia (see the Appendix).

## The Four Pillars of Victimology

### Theory

The purpose of a theory is to explain an activity so that it can be understood. A theory is a group of statements that defines a phenomenon using facts and hypotheses which suggest causality between variables and which determine the limits and the nature of the phenomenon. It provides a framework which gives a focus to the activities being observed and offers definitions which identify how and why the variables behave. That framework puts the activities being observed within the context of the universe of knowledge. Some of the information used to explain these phenomena are called facts because they have survived the rigors of previous studies and seem to be credible. Other types of information found in theories are hypotheses, the scholarly guesses that are yet to be tested and that are part of all theories. Both facts and hypotheses invite challenges to be disproven. And that has been the case with victimology. However, these invitations have started meekly with minor propositions, typologies and theorems.

One of the earliest categorizations for victims was made by Benjamin Mendelsohn (1940) to help understand rape victims from a defense attorney's perspective. These were: 1. Adult witnesses; 2. Minor boys between the ages of 16 and majority; 3. Minors below 15 years of age do not take the oath and are heard only as informers; 4. The statements of young girls under the age of 15

when giving evidence should be received with greater caution than those of minor boys of the same age; 5. The depositions of girls under 16 years should be taken with still more reserve in questions of assaults against decency; 6. Depositions of the group of minor girls; 7. Minors with pathological constitutions (as cited in Rock, 1994 p 4). While these were not meant to serve as theoretical categories, they rather served as practical ways to deal with rape witnesses and victims in the preparation of a legal defense, they are instructive to help understand how Mendelsohn started his later work, first with all crime victims, and later with his extended theory for all types of victims (see below).

Benjamin Mendelsohn (1956) in the very early phase of his work proposed the term «penal couple» which focused on crime victims. He then created a scheme for six types of crime victims based on their degree of shared guilt with the offender which was useful to him as a defense attorney. These were: «the ‘completely innocent victim,’ (the ‘ideal victim’); the ‘victim with minor guilt’ (‘victim due to his ignorance’); the ‘victim as guilty as the offender’ (‘voluntary victim’); the ‘victim more guilty than the offender’ (‘provoker victim’ and ‘imprudent victim’); the ‘most guilty victim’ and the ‘victim who is guilty alone’ (‘aggressive victim’); and, the ‘simulating victim’ and the ‘imaginary victim’.»(Mendelsohn, 1956 as cited in Schafer, 1977 p 36).

Hans von Hentig (1948) proposed a more extensive list of 13 victim types which focused on biological, psychological and social factors that rendered victims vulnerable, which he called crime-precipitating victims. These were: the young, the female, the old, the mentally defective, the immigrants, minorities, dull normals, the depressed, the acquisitive, the wanton, the lonesome and heartbroken, tormentors, and the blocked.

One of the more tentative propositions came from a Spanish criminologist Luis Jiménez de Asúa who proposed only two classifications of victims: *indifferent* and *determined* (1961). Although simplistic, these propositions were noted by two significant Argentinian victimologists as worthy of discussion (Neuman, 1984; Marchiori, 2001). Another early example of a simple categorization among victims was offered by Ezzat Fattah (1967) based on five degrees of participation: non-participating victim; latent victim; provocative victim; participating victim; and false victim.

Thorsten Sellin and Marvin Wolfgang (1964) also made an early contribution to victimological theory with a 5-part victim taxonomy which focused on situational issues. After some later refinements by Wolfgang, these were: primary victimizations (personal or individual victims), secondary victimizations (impersonal target), tertiary victimizations (the public or the administration of the society as victim), mutual victimizations (victims who are themselves offenders), and «no victimization» (no immediate recognizable victim).

Benjamin Mendelsohn (1969) after the decision to widen the parameters of his earlier limited crime victimology to «an extended victimology,» he proposed five categories of victims which fit his new paradigm. These were: 1. victims of work accidents; 2. victims of traffic accidents; 3. «Delinquent» children, starting as victims of their families, and ending up as law-breakers; 4. The victims of the Nazis, also victims of genocide in general; 5. Victims of other law-breakers (especially victims of abuse of lust and victims of blackmail). Along with these victim categories, his extended version of his victimology contained numerous propositions especially dealing with his concept «victimity» which refers to victim suffering [independent of its source] (Hoffman, 1992, p 92).

Stephan Schafer (1977) linking his updated book with von Hentig's typologies, created a 7-category typology emphasizing precipitation and functional responsibility. These were: unrelated victims, provocative victims, precipitative victims, biologically weak victims, socially weak victims, self-victimizing victims, and political victims. One dominant feature of Schafer's view of the victim, is embodied in his words, «The norm-delineated functional role of the victim is to do nothing to provoke others from attempting to injure his ability to play his role. At the same time, it expects him actively to prevent such attempts. This is the victim's functional responsibility (p.161).

Michael Hindelang, Michael Gottfredson and James Garofalo (1978) proposed a theory of personal criminal victimization based on their research findings and focused on the concept of lifestyle. While this theoretical contribution to victimology is valuable, it is aimed at a specific category of victim, personal crime. Considering the risk that comes with being exposed to certain lifestyle patterns, it is possible to not only predict this type of victimization, but the information can be used to help prevent these patterns from occurring. These early contributions have since evolved and have given rise to other related research and theories.

Lawrence Cohen and Marcus Felson (1979) after extensive research argued that structural fluctuations in «routine activities» effect the rates of direct predatory crimes when the following conditions are present: motivated offenders, suitable targets, and the absence of guardians. While these findings are only applicable to crime victimization and not do not explain how an offender becomes *motivated*, or when and why a target (victim) is *suitable*, and why there is an absence of a *capable* guardian, this information is a powerful tool that recommends how society can alter the convergence of these conditions and reduce this type of crime. As with the work with Hindelang, Gottfredson and Garofalo mentioned above, a significant evolution of related theories and research have appeared with similar titles in the following decades.

Marlene Young (1982) adapted a general environments contribute to victimization viewpoint closely linked in orientation to the General Victimol-

ogy of Mendelsohn. She developed a five category typology which are: the biophysical victim – who suffer injustices because of physical characteristics, the natural surrounding victim – who suffers from natural disasters, victims of environmental interface – who suffer from air, water, noise, and soil pollution, victims of the social milieu – who suffer from social victimization from political, economic and cultural assaults, and, the technological victim – who suffer from mechanical and cybernetic operations like computer billing error, car accidents, or wiretap misuse.

Elias Neuman (1984) using a crime victimological perspective proposed a classification of victims that was modern and dynamic. Victims were divided into four main categories: individuals, families, collectives, and victims of the society or of the social system.

John Dussich (1985a; 1985b; 1988) also created a theoretical model linked to the perspectives of Mendelsohn's General Victimology called the Social Coping Model which was presented at the Fifth International Symposium on Victimology in 1985 in Zagreb. The seminar research for this model was completed in 1983 in Hannover, Germany at the Lower-Saxony Criminological Research Institute and published in 1985. This model was expanded and renamed Psycho-Social Coping Model: A Theoretical Model For Understanding General Victimization and Facilitating Recovery and presented at the American Society of Criminology's 58<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting, Los Angeles, CA, November 2nd (Dussich, 2006b). This last version is a grand theory to explain all forms of human victimization. It uses behavioral versus legal concepts and its purpose is to be explanatory and utilitarian. Its primary concepts are personal resource management and psycho-social coping strategies. Six taxonomies are organized into three levels of coping: *prior* to victimization, *during* victimization and *after* victimization. For each of these three levels two opposing taxonomies address conditions which can *facilitate recovery* from victimization; and, which can *increase vulnerability* to victimization. This theoretical model has been used as the foundation for research projects in Spain, USA, India, and, Japan; and, it has been applied to the delivery of victim services to facilitate recovery in a number of disasters, the after-math of a war and with victims of crimes in a number of countries (Colombia, China, El Salvador, Japan and Bosnia).

Richard Knudten (1992) proposed «A Dynamic Theory of Victimization» which is a comprehensive theory that covers the entire area of human mistreatment. His theory is made up of «forty-four interlinked propositions» which are categorized into five major areas of victimology: criminal/penal, political, economic, familial, and medical.

Another list of twelve categories which focused on similar categories as Mendelsohn's early victim guilt typology but also added general victimolo-

gy concepts was offered by Ofer Zur (1994). These are: the ideal victim; victims like children, those who were targets of random shootings, unexpected natural disasters, and who were unconscious; adults who were in the wrong place at the wrong time; persons attacked waking on a dark street; people who engaged in risky behavior; those who contracted sexually transmitted diseases from prostitutes, or those who enticed the perpetrator, or were willing to participate in dangerous games; one who provoked the commission of a crime; an abusive husband killed by his abused wife, those who join cults who then become brainwashed and harmed; one injured while committing a crime; a perpetrator killed by another in self-defense or a competent person who committed suicide; one whose false accusation may have been volitional or involitional; and, those who made false allegations of assault and delusional individuals.

While the above theoretical contributions to victimology area not exhaustive, they do represent those that are known to this author. In almost each case, the theoretical content was an extension of previous attempts of prior contributions. Again the evolutionary process can be seen as the theories grow in breadth and depth. Each one has made a contribution and each has also been tested in attempts to disprove them. As is usual with the testing of theoretical model, some parts are made more credible and other less credible. This is as it should be.

#### Victimological Research

In its most simple form, research is *getting information about something*. However, academia expects more elaboration. Thus, research is also, *an orderly method of gathering, examining, and interpreting information to increase the understanding about an activity that interests us*. So we have moved from the simple 300 item questionnaire used by Benjamin Mendelsohn (1937) to understand the criminal and all those involved in the crime, including the victim, so as to better prepare himself for being a more effective defense attorney some 78 years ago in the small country of Rumania to the vast international victimization surveys conducted by a multinational team of social scientists. This effort of advanced victimological research was started in 1989 and was made up of three leading victimologists: Jan van Dijk, from the Dutch Ministry of Justice, Pat Mayhew, from the British Home Office, and Martin Killias, from the Lausanne University in Switzerland (1993). This project became known as the International Crime Victim Survey (ICVS) and has involved 70 countries with key data collection from five separate time periods: 1989, 1992, 1996, 2000, and 2004/5 (van Dijk, Kesteren & Smit, 2008).



As the simple questionnaire used by Mendelsohn helped the narrow concept of the victim to evolve within his career; so have the thousands of research projects that bridged the period of 78 years stimulated the discipline of victimology to evolve into the multidimensional sophisticated ever growing field it is today. Research in victimology has been mostly involved in three basic areas of endeavor: survey research; causal research and evaluative research. Each of these have played a major role in answering the multitude of complicated questions that have been asked by scholars, lawyers, victim service practitioners, legislators, police, judges, bureaucrats, victims and the general public (1958).

Since it was the questionnaire that seems to have set our new discipline in motion, let us consider how it has been used with victims. The technology for using the questionnaire was mostly the result of measuring populations of people called a *census*. This concept originated in Rome as a way to count young males who were eligible and able for military duty. However, the needs for victimology were focused on ways to count the number of victims in existence, first in the US and then in other developed countries and finally across the globe. As the «crime wave» that started in the early 1960s stirred alarm among the citizens of most developed nations, measuring crime accurately was a challenge for the police based methods of counting crimes and criminals but paid little attention to counting victims. The credibility of these annual police reports, because they did not measure victims, were not enough to provide a complete view of the crime problem. It was especially disturbing to realize that a large number of victims who suffered from victimization were not reporting those crimes. But, we could not know how many victims were not reporting or what their characteristics were. Because they were hidden and unknown the statistics on these non-reporting victims were referred to as the «dark figure» of crime. Starting in the 1960s, first the US began conducting crime victimization surveys, then by 1984 other countries like The Netherlands, Australia, Great Britain, Scandinavian countries, Spain, Germany, Israel, Mexico, Colombia, Belgium, and Canada also started using regular crime victimization surveys (Skogan, 1984). The actual numbers of non-reporting victims were a surprise: these surveys generally showed that roughly 50% of crime victims had not reported their victimizations (Langton et al., 2012). Mostly the above countries continue to measure victimization from the population, are keeping abreast of the number of victims who report and who do not, are learning the details about why some victims report and other do not, and are learning more about the characteristics of crime victims. The findings from victimization surveys have greatly improved the information about repeat victimizations and thus have had a major impact on victimization prevention strategies. It has also served to justify the establishing of victim assistance programs through feasibility studies aimed at servicing specific victims. The survey method has evolved significantly and

its sophistication has greatly improved the accuracy of information collected allowing it to have such credibility that its findings can be used to for decision making, public policy changes, and improve interventions and crime prevention strategies (Killias, 1993). One of the areas of victimology which has not been well developed is victimization prevention with three dimensions: primary – focused on the community at large; secondary – which focuses on those who are the most vulnerable; and tertiary – which is focused on those who have already been victimized with the intent to prevent their re-victimization (Tamarit Sumalla, 2006). Future areas of victimological endeavor will surely include research and program innovation in this relatively open area of victimology.

The next significant research area that merits attention is causal research. This area of study is especially focused on cause and effect questions about the impact of adversity on victims of all types (crime, disasters, wars, human rights violations, and others, in particular the resulting trauma from these victimizations, variables that exacerbate or mitigate the trauma, and methods to facilitate victim recovery). A significant amount of this type of research is conducted with the disciplines of psychology and sociology. Of special note is the US based National Crime Victim Research and Treatment Center in Charleston, South Carolina, which although it started with a crime victim focus, it has expanded its research to other types of victims, viz.: disasters, traffic accidents, wars, etc.. Two of the major forms of this type research have focused on understanding the impact suffered by victims such as the extent of injury, stress levels, crisis, trauma; and, methods, techniques, interventions, and therapies used to help victims cope with their suffering and to help move victims to a state of recovery. The evolution of this type of research can be seen in the volume of books, journals and articles being published. A cursory count of journals that publish articles on trauma from all sources of stress and injury is at least 130 in all languages world-wide.

The last category of research that has evolved with victimology has been linked to the evaluation of victim service programs. One of the critical aspects of victim services is confirming the validity of interventions and the overall efficacy of how victims are treated by programs which claim their services are beneficial to victims in the short term and in the long run. The critical question that is at the core of a victim assistance center is: Does it work? Are they better off for having been provided these services, did it not make any difference or are victims worse off for having received these services. The answers to these important questions can only be obtained by conducting program evaluations that are empirical and systematic. These evaluations are being demanded by funding sources, watchdog advocacy groups, and government agencies. They should also be welcomed by the individual programs as well. There is a moral imperative that dictates the principle of accountability be paramount. Thus,

these evaluations (program performance measurements: process measures and outcome measures) are best conducted by outside evaluation experts to avoid bias and to assure objectivity and sophistication.

The overall importance of these three overarching and interrelated areas of victimological research has been inextricably linked to the successful evolution of this discipline. The successful growth and sophistication of innovations has been dependent on the willingness and courage of programs and theorists to find about victims and how to best treat them. This could not have been accomplished without these research advances which have accompanied the evolution of victimology at every step.

### Crime Victim Laws - Then and Now

A law is something that is written with the expectation of compliance and which identifies a sanction for noncompliance. Primitive preliterate societies did not have laws because they did not have the written word, but they did have understandings as to what was right and wrong and which governed their tribes. Most of these societies had three principles which all members agreed to, which were intended to right the wrongs, calm the conflict and restore the community: «acts that injured others were considered private wrongs, the injured party was entitled to take action against the wrongdoer, and, this action usually amounted to in-kind retaliation» (Wallace, 1998, p.3). As societies evolved writing and reading emerged and these principles became written and thus laws were begun. During the time when these laws required that compensation for loss or damage caused by a crime be awarded to the victim, and because the victim assumed a dominant role in the legal procedures, Stephen Schafer considered this period «The Golden Age of the Victim» (1968, p.7.) The earliest known written codes is the Code of King Ur-Nammu from the twenty-first century BCE written in the Sumerian language. In spite of its age, it provides for compensation to victims of bodily injury, something not provided in the Code of Hammurabi of ancient Babylonia some three centuries later (Kramer, 1988 pp.52-55). So it would appear that the idea of providing formal recompense to victims is approximately 42 centuries old and it is likely that the practice is even older. On these points our cultures seemed to have declined rather than evolved. Perhaps our new challenge is to take these principles a bit further than did King Ur-Nammu of Sumer.

To protect persons with rights they must be written and acknowledged by the courts. So it is for victims' rights, «there must also be mechanisms that ensure that the practitioners (the police, the prosecutors, the judges and others) understand the intent of the laws, and are prepared and willing to put them

faithfully into practice.» (Joutsen, 1998, p 23). It is interesting that in one of the most ancient laws from about 2000 BCE, the Code of Hammurabi, citizens of Babylon had to accept three obligations: an assertion of the power of the state; protection of the weaker from the stronger; and *restoration of equity between the offender and the victim*. Using today's terms, one might observe that the third obligation of this code contained the basic essence of what we would today call victims' rights (Gordon, 1957; Wallace, 1998).

Two documents can be considered as international progenitors to our modern day victims' rights: the *Magna Carta* signed by King John of England in 1215 to establish the first national constitution to protect citizens from the abuses of unfair government practices with rights; and, the United Nations' *Universal Declaration of Basic Human Rights*, adopted three years after the end of World War II on December 10, 1948 to never again allow human suffering from war and genocide. The first sentence of its Preamble states: «*Whereas recognition of the inherent dignity and of the equal and inalienable rights of all members of the human family is the foundation of freedom, justice and peace in the world.*»

Both the UN charter itself, and this Declaration, were conceived as roadmaps that would lead to all persons being protected by rights. With these two major documents as foundations against fear, suffering, tyranny and abuses of power, and for individual rights, the United Nations with the collaboration of many nations, experts, inter-governmental agencies and non-governmental organizations, including the World Society of Victimology, began a long process started on 1 December 1950 with the passage of UN Resolution 415 (V) to take up the functions of the International Penal and Penitentiary Commission which five years later initiated the quinquennial congresses on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders and created an *Ad Hoc* Advisory Committee of Experts, which was later renamed on 21 May 1971 with ECOSOC resolution 1584 (L), as the Committee on Crime Prevention and Control (CCPC). At the fourth session of the CCPC in 1976, some members requested an agenda item on «'Gilded criminality': offences and offenders beyond the reach of the law» which would focus on «abuses of economic and political power that victimized large numbers of people.» Subsequently this theme was further developed in the agendas of the Sixth and Seventh Congresses on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders. It was at the Seventh Congress in Milan, Italy that a World Society of Victimology delegation of about 30 victimologists, led by LeRoy Lamborn and Irvin Waller fresh from the WSV's Fifth Symposium (just finished in Zagreb, Croatia the week prior – August 18-23) was in attendance. Many of them were able to engage key delegates of the congress to support the Declaration. Following these discussions, the UN Secretary General Javier Pèrez de Cuèllar, prepared a draft of the ***Declaration of Basic Principles of Justice for Victims of Crime and Abuse of Power*** which the

Seventh Congress submitted to the General Assembly in New York and three months later it was adopted on 29 November 1985 (United Nations Audiovisual Library of International Law, 2012).

On June 28, 1985, using very similar principles as the Declaration of Basic Principles of Justice for Victims of Crime and Abuse of Power, the Council of Europe's Committee of Ministers adopted the Recommendation no. R (85) 11 on the Position of the Victim in the Framework of Criminal Law and Procedure. This document was «echoed and expanded on in other international documents of a similar nature» (Groenhuijsen and Letschert, 2012 p. 4). Some of the early progeny of this «soft law» document are twenty-two countries from three legal systems (the civil law, common law and Nordic legal families) that have implemented the Recommendation no. R(85)11: Austria, Belgium, Cyprus, Denmark, England and Wales, France, Germany, Greece, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Scotland, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland (Zurich) and Turkey (Hoegen & Brienen, 2003).

On 17 July 1998, under the aegis of the United Nations General Assembly a special five-week diplomatic conference was formed in Rome. After extensive discussions the Rome Statute was adopted to create the legal basis for establishing a permanent International Criminal Court (ICC) conceived as being responsible for prosecuting «four core international crimes: genocide, crimes against humanity, war crimes and the crime of aggression;» it also created the Trust Fund for Victims. This fund advocates for the victims of those being prosecuted by the Court by providing resources for their physical, material or psychological needs. This treaty came into force on July 1, 2002 (International Criminal Court, 2015). The most remarkable feature of this treaty is that it serves as a worldwide model to prosecute some of the most heinous crimes' since the end of World War II which heretofore were outside the limits of most national legal jurisdictions. Another attractive feature is that the ICC has procedures which are acceptable to both common law and civil law systems. For victimologists the most attractive characteristic is found in its Article 68 – *Protection of the victims and witnesses and their participation in the proceedings;* which «offers a more universal model of how the legal system can respect legitimate victims' rights without prejudice to a fair trial for the accused» (Groenhuijsen and Letschert, 2012 p.11).

Today there are bold manifestations of the United Nations victims' rights' Declaration of Basic Principles of Justice for Victims of Crime and Abuse of Power and other related instruments, victimology organizations at the international and national levels, multiple victimology research institutes in different countries, a half a dozen journals that focus on victim issues, literally thousands of laws supporting victims' rights the earth over, most large cities in the world

providing victim services. Out of 196 nations in the world, 175 offer victim compensation, victimology courses are being taught in universities around the world and it is estimated that approximately 400 books have been published related to victimology in many different languages. It is not an exaggeration to say that as a discipline victimology has arrived; while still in its youth, it continues to grow in many dimensions recognizing the needs of an expanding range of victims in a complex world. With regard to the legal evolution of the role of the victim in the criminal process, «It probably represents the single greatest 'revolution' in criminal procedure in twenty years» (Beloof, 1999, p. xxv).

**In spite of the many victims' rights that have been created, of special concern in many countries is the lack of enforceable rights.** The problem of enforcement is not unique. In Europe in 2000, Hoegen and Brienen had found that not one of the 22 European countries they studied fully implemented the victims' rights contained in the Recommendation (85) 11 of the Council of Europe (2000). A major problem with victims' rights today is that in most places they are not being enforced (Sullivan, 1998; Beloof, 1999). That is, there are no sanctions if authorities fail to respect victims' rights and no rewards if the authorities comply with victims' rights.

While the international rights documents mentioned above have primarily focused broadly on crime and abuse of power victims' rights, the many other specific victims' rights documents are not mentioned here. Some are for: child victims; victims of terrorism; victims of domestic violence; victims of human trafficking; victims of human rights violations; identity theft victims; traffic accident victims; cruise ship victims; torture victims; etc. Each type of these victims' rights documents, is either already in existence, is currently being developed, or is being considered. Eventually, they all seem to evolve in similar ways as have been shown above with documents which cover multiple type victims. They developed with specific causal threads of activities which included collaborative efforts with: enthusiastic activists, committed organizations, devoted lawyers, and dedicated researchers. These efforts have been fused into a synergy of action ultimately leading to refined victims' rights instruments which attempt to serve the needs of all victims throughout international society.

#### The Practice of Victim Responding

In the following years after the First Symposium on Victimology, many academicians, activists and legal reformers unleashed an information explosion of groundbreaking proportions with innovative applications and pioneering laws to help insure support for programs serving a broad base of victims' needs. From the near vacuum of earlier information, books, articles, dissertations, official

reports, films, and public presentations emerged in the 1970s to a welcomed plethora of texts on specific victims, victimology textbooks and research reports that gave identity and substance to a variety of new programs dealing with a diversity of victim types. Most of these victims, especially within the area of street crimes, have been well studied; however, a wider spectrum of victims are being identified as victims of: the criminal justice system, identity theft, hate crimes, fear of crime, elder abuse cybercrimes, disasters, cruise ship violence, teacher abuse, refugee situations, prison violence, serial murders, handicapped abuse, terrorists, male rape, LGBT abuse, epidemics, human trafficking, insurance fraud, genocide, child soldier kidnaping, homelessness, femicide, marginalization of indigenous persons, female & male genital mutilation, diseases, etc. At this point the question that begs to be asked is, at what point do we stop identifying victims based on the *source of the injuring force*? The compelling conclusion that has evolved is to recognize the relevance of identifying victims based on the *degree and type of their injury* which ironically takes us back to Mendelsohn's prophetic concept of «victimity.» It is the one concept that reflects all victims' experiences. Today, communities, legislators, victimologists and victim service providers are struggling with a major paradigm shift away from the narrow «just crime victims only» view, to the more realistic, more moral and more humane view that all injured persons deserve to be treated equally completely and fairly regardless of what or whom caused the injury.

The mantra of most victim service providers the world over is usually about *helping victims with information, compassion and skill so that their suffering can be reduced and their recovery facilitated.* Victim assistance is not about finding convenient administrative solutions that fit the needs of the criminal justice system, it is about having as many tools as possible so that each victim can be offered a tailored humane response that best fits her/his needs. One of the first areas addressed is generally referred to as *reparations* (also indemnifications) which means money or materials used to satisfy a wrong. These can be state *compensation*, offender *restitution*, civil *damages*, or *insurance* money. Usually compensation (*composition*) is paid to the victim by the state as a last resort for their out-of-pocket expenses due to their victimization (Schafer, 1960). The first nation that set up a compensation scheme was New Zealand in 1963, then came England in 1964 and then was the US state of California in 1965. In the US in 1984 the Victim of Crimes Act provided the wherewithal for all states, Puerto Rico, Guam, Washington DC and the Virgin Islands, to receive significant supplemental funds so that crime victim compensation was available for the entire United States of America and its territories. Across the world as of 2005, among 198 countries there were only 36 that have crime victim compensation (OVC, 2005). Some international examples where nations have created compensation schemes can be found in Spain (Arzamendi, 1992), in France (Ministère de la

Justice, 2004) in South Korea (Kyun-min, 2014) and Australia (Finestone, 1996). Another form of reparation is restitution, usually defined as money, materials or services given to the victim by the offender to help defray the cost of the injury he/she caused. In some cases it can be informal - initiated between victim and offender without the involvement of the criminal justice system; or formal - when the judge uses it as part of the criminal sentence. Two major problems with restitution in most jurisdictions are: most offenders have inadequate funds and almost no private property; and, weak enforcement to monitor these restitution orders by the courts. Another option for the victim is to use the civil courts. In civil court the victim makes the key decisions rather than the prosecutor; the elements of proof are easier to achieve (the preponderance of the evidence) rather than those found in a criminal trial (beyond a reasonable doubt); and, the settlement amounts are usually much larger. Another option for some victims is insurance which is paid by private insurance companies. However, the dilemma is that most criminals don't have private insurance. Usually a victim who has insurance is easily paid as long as a formal report has been made to the police. Although the claim amounts are fixed, they are usually more than with restitution, but less than those resulting from civil settlements. With these four opportunities for some method of reparation, the victim's financial needs can be addressed. Another victim service challenge has to do with the structural rigidity of the criminal justice system in making decisions about how to manage the conflicts that are not criminal in nature but are also brought to the criminal justice system to solve. Some of this rigidity has to do with maintaining the authority of the state and little to do with finding humane solutions for victims (Vidoso, 2000). Thus, a significant part of the challenge of delivering adequate victim services includes the willingness to change outdated attitudes and practices.

One of the more recent responses to crime victimization requiring change is the use of mediation within the context of restorative justice. While restorative justice proponents tout this new model of dealing with conflicts as a process that includes both victim and offender equally, in reality most restorative justice programs help the offender more and the victim less. However, in spite of this unequal treatment, taking a more comprehensive restoration into consideration rather than only traditional justice or individual recovery, can be a major improvement over how victims are treated in most of the assistance programs today. With restorative justice the principle idea is to heal the victim, the offender and the community so that things are put as «right as possible» to a satisfactory state (Zehr, 2002 p.37). The key tool in restorative justice that offers a way to resolve the conflict between victim and offender is mediation (Vidoso, 2003). It is the most widely used method within the restorative justice approach referred to as victim-offender mediation. One of the most important appli-



cations of mediation is found in the European Union Council's Framework Decision on the Standing of Victims in Criminal Proceedings of March 15, 2001 (Chankova, 2010; Groenhuijsen and Letschert, 2012 p. 297). Victim-offender mediation uses «a relationship driven social work approach known as case development» (Dussich, 2010, p. 71-72). Although this approach requires much preparation of the victim and the offender separately prior to the actual meeting and takes extensive work during the mediation session, it does hold much more promise than recovery procedures with the victim alone because it recognizes the realities of how conflicts arise and how they can continue if not addresses.

In the US many of the early victim advocates were ex-victims, some had become survivors yet some were still struggling as they tried to help other victims. Most were volunteers donating their time, passion, skills and sometimes even their money. Most of these early programs were dedicated to rape victims and victims of domestic violence. As more ex-victims qua volunteers matured and more information became available (some from trial and error, some from dynamic conferences with other victim advocates and some from research), the quality of their work, the types of victims served and the number of programs began to surge. For example the more common personnel found in victim assistance offices in Spain include lawyers, psychologists, social workers, and criminologists who are willing to treat all types of crime victims (Vidosa, 2000; 2001). With regard to location, victim assistance programs in the US are mostly with prosecutors and are referred to as Victim/Witness Programs. This label emphasizes the importance of victims as witnesses and less as injured persons; programs not located in a prosecutor's office are usually more focused on helping the victim cope with her/his injury and help them recover sooner. In victim assistance programs in other countries, especially in Latin America, the approach is more clinical and legal; thus the staff is mostly made up of forensic psychologists, victim lawyers and clerks. There are also many different types of models in other countries, which prefer to locate within the police agency which gives them immediate access to victims and allows for an earlier intervention with greater positive impact than programs that begin their services weeks and months after the victimization, e.g. the prosecutor based programs. To some degree the character of services provided is influenced by the hosting agency, such that, the police may want their victims to be compliant with their investigations, the prosecutors will expect their victims to be ready to serve as cooperative witnesses and religious organizations may expect their victims to participate in their religious activities. Ideally the types of services should be tailored to the needs of each victim regardless of the hosting agency. The variety of models is vast, as a result of this still being a new process which uses a lot of trial and error; yet, in spite of their differences, most do work toward improv-

ing the treatment of victims. Looking at the well-developed European victim assistance scene, especially after 1985 with attempts to implement the rights of the Recommendation (85) 11 of the Council of Europe on the Position of the Victim in the Framework of Criminal Law and Procedure, it seems like it is a difficult yet continuing struggle to accomplish these noble intents.

## Conclusions and Challenges

Over the last seventy eight years, the creation of the victimology concepts, the growth of victim rights laws, the expansion of victim assistance programs, the deepening and spreading of victim focused education and training, and the sophistication of victimological research has created a dynamic synergy that has changed the way victims are treated in a large proportion of the nations rallying around the principles of the UN Declaration of Basic Principles of Justice for Victims of Crime and Abuse of Power. Few disciplines have grown so fast in such a short period of time. However, growth speed is not an important objective of victimology. A more important objective is to improve the knowledge about victims to the extent that victim prevention would become so efficient that victimization would become an oddity, and for those few people who would become victimized, especially for non-human causes, in the aftermath they would suffer less and recover sooner than now because of the highly sophisticated professional responses that would be established, and the likelihood of being re-victimized would become negligible.

As I imagine the challenges for victimology (theory and praxis) in the near future, what comes to mind are: 1. to maximize victimization *prevention programs* with the existing empirical information that now exists, especially coming from the repeat victimization studies, and applying psychosocial strategies that target vulnerable groups using data that comes from victimization profiles; 2. immediately pass victim advocacy professionalization *certification laws* so that all persons who work with victims (from crimes or other stark misfortunes) would only be treated by licensed professionals based on required levels of education, viably managed internships, national or state licensure, kept upgraded with mandatory annual refresher continuing education courses and triennial relicensing exams; 3. *license all victim service programs* with existing national standards by requiring only licensed professionals to work with victims and yearly third-party evaluations to be used as part of a triennial program licensing; 4. create program *funding from general revenue* sources so that program managers focus 100% on the quality of services rather than on generating funds for the next year; 5. strengthen victims' rights laws so victims are *ensured of legal standing* in the courts and then create an enforcement mechanism to hold those in the criminal justice system accountable; 6. launch a major United Nations

campaign to *convert the Declaration to a Convention* within the next three years; 7. encourage researchers to focus on victim intervention techniques which are now essentially being taken for granted; and, 8. pass laws that require all police officers, prosecutors and judges to have a *basic victimology course* as it applies to their profession in their training prior to becoming licensed. Considering what has been done thus far, it seems reasonable that these goals are within the reach of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.

Victimology continues to be the sustaining resource for the full implementation of the all the victim related United Nations' instruments victims' rights laws and victim assistance programs. With the science of victims nourishing our brave hope for the future we can dream that one day soon there will be a UN convention on behalf of all types of victims. That it will address prevention, rights and remedies to restore all those who suffer needlessly. Victimology, after all, is not an end unto itself; it is a means to changing how society can reduce the unnecessary pain and suffering of future generations. The world still has hundreds of thousands of persons who are victimized, who are placed in bondage, who suffer pointlessly and who need to recover from their pain. More must be done. Victimology can show the way.

**«Those who do not move, do not notice their chains.»**

*Rosa Luxemburg*

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## Appendix

### Key Victimology Dates

**1924** The League of Nations adopted the Geneva Declaration, a document that recognized and affirmed for the first time the existence of children's rights and the responsibility of adults towards children.

Edwin Sutherlands' Chapter III, «The Victims of Crime» appeared in his 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> editions of his textbook *Criminology*. In subsequent editions this chapter was removed.

**1930** The first book ever written completely dedicated to crime victims was titled *La protección de la víctima del delito* and authored by José R. Hernández Figueroa, Diego Vicente Tejera and Francisco Fernández Plá. From Havana, Cuba.

**1937** Benjamin Mendelsohn wrote about his method to improve his understanding of the personality of criminal by collecting data also about the victim; and, he lectured in Rumania about these findings; and he published his results in the Belgium journal *Revue de Droit Penal et de Criminologie, Bruxelles*.

**1940** Benjamin Mendelsohn published his first article with his main focus on the victim in his article: «Rape in criminology,» in the Italian journal, *Giustizia Penale*. Rome.

**1940** Hans von Hentig published his first article on the interactions between the offender and the victim in the *Journal of Criminal Law and Criminology* and he authored a chapter on The Contribution of the Victim to the Genesis of Crime in his book *The Criminal and his Victim*. It is ironic that he never used the word «victimology» in any of his published writings about victims.

**1945** The United Nations was established October 24.

**1946** Benjamin Mendelsohn circulated his work «New bio-psycho-social horizons: victimology,» among psychiatrists in Bucharest, Rumania.

**1947** Benjamin Mendelsohn gave his famous, speech at the Colzea State Hospital in Bucharest, Rumania about his new science, «Victimology.»

**1948** The Universal Declaration of Human Rights was adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations in New York City on 10 December.

Fredrick Wertham, an American psychiatrist, mentions the need for a science of «victimology» in his book on violence which is the first mention of that word in an English text.

Hans von Hentig, published his criminology book, *The Criminal and his Victim* with the last chapter (XII) devoted to «The Contributions of the Victim to the Genesis of Crime.»

- 1953** Margery Fry brought a victim compensation scheme before the Howard League of Penal Reform which was not accepted.
- 1955** First UN Congress on the Prevention of Crime and Treatment of Offenders - Geneva, Switzerland **August 22 - September 3.**
- 1956** Margery Fry announced on the British Broadcasting House radio her compensation scheme.
- 1957** Margery Fry published an article, «Justice for Victims» on victim compensation in the London newspaper *The Observer*.
- 1958** Benjamin Mendelsohn published his expanded explanation of victimology «La Victimologie» in the French journal *Revue Francaise de Psychanalyse*.
- Marvin Wolfgang conducted his major study on homicide victims from whence his term «victim precipitation» emerged.
- 1959** The United Nations General Assembly adopted the Declaration of the Rights of the Child on **November 20.** This marked the first major international consensus on the fundamental principles of children's rights.
- 1960** Second UN Congress on the Prevention of Crime and Treatment of Offenders - London, England **August 8 - 19.**
- Stephen Schafer published the first book on the subject of restitution titled *Restitution to the Victim*. He also includes significant information on compensation.
- 1961** One of the first victimology texts in Argentina is published by Spanish criminologist Luis Jiménez de Asúa titled: *Victimología* in Estudios de derecho penal y criminología, which contained a simplistic but controversial legal categorization of victims.
- 1963** New Zealand passed the 1st victim compensation law in the world which went into effect on January 1 of 1964.
- 1965** Third UN Congress on the Prevention of Crime and Treatment of Offenders - Stockholm, Sweden **August 9 - 18**
- Koichi Miyazawa publishes the first Japanese textbook on victimology titled *Basic Theory of Victimology* which was a product of his doctoral dissertation.
- Kan-Mei Chang introduces victimology to Taiwan with his article «The Contributions of Victimology» after studying in Japan at the To-

kyo Medical and Dental University under Professor Shufu Yoshimasu (2003).

California was the 1st US state to pass a victim compensation law.

**1966** Japan enacts its Criminal Indemnity Law

The US government conducted its first crime victimization survey to learn about unreported victimizations and it was discovered that there might be ten times as much crime as was being reported to the police (Geis, 1990, pp. 251-268).

**1967** Canada creates a Criminal Compensation Injuries Act as does Cuba and Switzerland.

Walter C. Reckless publishes his book *The Crime Problem* Fourth Edition, and for the first time adds an entire chapter (7) titled «Focus on the Victim» where he discusses the works of B. Mendelson, H. Ellelnberger, H. von Hentig, W. Nagel, M. Fry and S. Schafer.

**1968** Stephen Schafer published the first victimology textbook in English, *The Victim and His Criminal*.

**1969** Lola Aniyar de Castro authors the first victimology textbook in Venezuela titled *La Victimología*.

**1970** Fourth UN Congress on the Prevention of Crime and Treatment of Offenders - Kyoto, Japan **August 17 - 26**

First victimization survey done in Finland by the National Research Institute of Legal Policy.

**1972** The first three victim assistance programs are created: Aid for Victims of Crime in St. Louis, Missouri - Bay Area Women Against Rape in Berkeley, California - Rape Crisis Center in Washington, D.C.

**1973** The First International Symposium on Victimology hosted by Israel Drapkin, in Jerusalem. Israel.

First victim survey conducted in The Netherlands by the Dutch Ministry of Justice.

**1974** First victim advocate program started in Fort Lauderdale, Florida.

The U.S. Congress passes the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act which establishes the National Center on Child Abuse and Neglect (NCCAN). The new Center creates an information clearinghouse and provides technical assistance and model programs.

The First National Meeting of Victim Advocates met in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida with support from the US Law Enforcement Assistance Administration initiated and coordinated by John Dussich.

**1975** Fifth UN Congress on the Prevention of Crime and Treatment of Offenders – Geneva, Switzerland **September 1 - 12**

Hans Joachim Schneider authored the first German language textbook on victimology.

The first «Victims' Rights Week» was organized by the Philadelphia District Attorney.

The International Study Institute on Victimology held in Bellagio, Italy coordinated by Emilio Viano and attended by many of the pioneers in victimology at that time.

**1976** First scholarly journal for victimology is published by Emilio Viano, *Victimology: An International Journal*, in Washington D.C., USA.

At the fourth session of the UN's Committee on Crime Prevention and Control, some members requested an agenda item on «'Gilded criminality': offences and offenders beyond the reach of the law» which would focus on «abuses of economic and political power that victimized large numbers of people.» This ultimately led to the adoption of the Declaration of Basic Principles of Justice for Victims of Crime and Abuse of Power by the General Assembly in 1985.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> National Conference on Victim Assistance in Fresno is held and at the initiative of John Dussich citizen activists united to form the National Organization for Victim Assistance (NOVA) California. Dussich served as the first Executive Director until 1980.

In Fresno County, California, Chief Probation Officer James Rowland creates the *first victim impact statement* to provide the judiciary with an objective inventory of victim injuries and losses prior to sentencing.

Second International Symposium on Victimology held in Boston, MA organized by Stephen Schafer and his colleagues and students. One month prior to this symposium Stephen Shafer passed away.

First scholarly journal for victimology is published by Emilio Viano, *Victimology: An International Journal*.

**1978** Parents of the Murdered Children (POMC), a US self-help support group, is founded in Cincinnati, Ohio.

**1979** Third International Symposium on Victimology in Munster, Germany organized by Hans Schneider. At this event the **World Society of Victimology** was founded with Hans Schneider as president, John Dussich as secretary general, Sarah Ben David as treasurer and the other founding members were: Israel Drapkin, Gerd Kirchhoff, Irvin Waller, Koichi Mizawa and Zvonimir Šeparović.

The Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, adopted by the UN General Assembly, often described as an international bill of rights for women.

Frank G. Carrington, considered, by many in the US to be «the father of the victims' rights movement,» founded the Crime Victims' Legal Advocacy Institute, Inc., to promote the rights of crime victims in the civil and criminal justice systems. The nonprofit organization was named VALOR, the Victims' Assistance Legal Organization, Inc., in 1981.

- 1980** Sixth UN Congress on the Prevention of Crime and Treatment of Offenders – Caracas, Venezuela **August 25 – September 5.**

Japan enacts legislation for victim compensation titled the Crime Victim Benefits Payment Act which came into force the following year (Ota, 2003).

Lech Falandysz, Polish criminologist/victimologist publishes the first victimology book in Poland titled *Wiktymologia* (Victimology),

- 1981** Ronald Reagan becomes the first US President to proclaim «Crime Victims' Rights Week» in April.

- 1982** The Fourth International Symposium on Victimology is held in Tokyo/Kyoto, Japan organized by Koichi Miazawa.

In a Rose Garden ceremony, US President Reagan appoints the 1<sup>st</sup> Task Force on Victims of Crime, which holds public hearings in six cities across the nation to create a greatly needed national focus on the needs of crime victims. The **President's Task Force on Victims of Crime. Final Report** offers 68 recommendations that become the framework for the advancement of new programs and policies in the US.

- 1983** The European Convention on the Compensation of Victims of Violent Crime was established in 1983 and entered into force in 1988.

The first victim advocate certificate program is launched at CSU Fresno offering standardized victim assistance training for practitioners.

The International Association of Chiefs of Police Board of Governors adopts a Crime Victims' Bill of Rights and establishes a victims' rights committee to bring about renewed emphasis on the needs of crime victims by law enforcement officials nationwide.

- 1984** The passage of the US Victims Of Crime Act establishes the Crime Victims' Fund, made up of federal criminal fines, penalties and bond forfeitures, to support state victim compensation and local victim services. The Office for Victims of Crime (OVC), then the U.S. Department of Justice is created within the Office of Justice Programs to implement

recommendations from the President's Task Force on Victims of Crime plus the Crime Victims' Fund.

The International Postgraduate Course on Victimology in Dubrovnik, Croatia was established by Zvonimir P. Šeparović, Gerd Ferdinand Kirchhoff and Paul C. Friday.

President Reagan signs the Justice Assistance Act, which establishes a financial assistance program for state and local government and funds 200 new victim service programs.

California State University, Fresno, initiates the first Victim Services Certificate Program offered for academic credit by a university.

Elias Neuman, a social-existencial critic and scholar from Buenos Aires, Argentina publishes his first of a three volume series titled *Victimología: El rol de la víctima en los delitos convencionales y no convencionales* – 1984; *Victimología y Control Social. Las víctimas del sistema pena* - 1994; and, *Victimología supranacional. El acoso a la soberanía* – 1995.

**1985** The Council of Europe Recommendation on the Position of the Victim in the Framework of Criminal Law and Procedures was adopted on **June 28** by the Committee of Ministers.

The Fifth International Symposium on Victimology is held in Zagreb, Croatia, Yugoslavia, organized by Zvonimir P. Šeparović **August 18-23**. This gave rise to the major discussions in support of the *UN Declaration of Basic Principles of Justice for Victims of Crime and Abuse of Power*. From this symposium a large number of participants traveled to the Seventh UN Congress on Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders in Milan, Italy to take part in the discussions which later that same year led to the passage of the Declaration at the New York UN Headquarters on **November 29<sup>th</sup>**.

Seventh UN Congress on the Prevention of Crime and Treatment of Offenders - Milan, Italy, **August 26 – September 6**

The first Office for Aid to Victims of Offences in Spain is opened in Valencia on **April 16** (de la Cuesta, Vidosa & Jorge Mesas, 1998 p. 72).

The United Nations General Assembly passes *The Declaration of Basic Principles of Justice for Victims of Crime and Abuse of Power*, on **November 29<sup>th</sup>** supported and nurtured by the World Society of Victimology and in collaboration with other NGOs.

**1986** The US Office for Victims of Crime awards the first grants to support state victim compensation and assistance programs in all states and territories.



The Center of Assistance to Victims of Crime was opened in Córdoba, Argentina supported by the Ministry of Government (Marchiori, 2000).

The American journal *Violence and Victims* is launched.

**1987** The US Victims' Constitutional Amendment Network (VCAN) and Steering Committee is formed at a meeting hosted by the National Victim Center.

**1988** The Sixth International Symposium on Victimology is held in Jerusalem, Israel organized by Sara Ben David in August.

The *Journal of Traumatic Stress* is launched in the USA.

Korea enacts legislation for victim compensation (Ota, 2003).

VOCA amendments legislatively establish the Office for Victims of Crime, elevate the position of Director by making Senate confirmation necessary for appointment, and induce state compensation programs to cover victims of homicide and drunk driving.

**1989** The United Nations adopted the Convention on the Rights of the Child on **November 20** and went into effect **September 2, 1990**.

The International Review of Victimology established by the World Society of Victimology under the leadership of John Freeman.

**1990** Eighth UN Congress on the Prevention of Crime and Treatment of Offenders - Havana, Cuba **August 27- September 7**.

The Japanese Society of Victimology was founded on **November 17** at Keio University, Tokyo.

The Croatian Society of Victimology was founded in Zagreb.

**1991** The Seventh International Symposium on Victimology was held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil and organized by Ester Kosovski August 25-31.

U.S. Representative Ilena Ros-Lehtinen (R-FL) files the first Congressional Joint Resolution to place victims' rights in the U.S. Constitution. The Violence Against Women Act of 1991 is considered by the U. S. Congress.

California State University, Fresno, approves the first Bachelor's Degree Program in Victimology in the nation.

The U. S. Attorney General issues new comprehensive guidelines that establishes procedures for the federal criminal justice system to respond to the needs of crime victims.

The' first International Conference on Campus Sexual Assault is held in Orlando, Florida.

**1992** *Rape in America: A Report to the Nation,*' clarifies the scope and devastating effect of rape in the United States, including the fact that 683,000 women are raped annually.

The Korean Association of Victimology is established by Kun-Sik Min which subsequently established the *Korean Journal of Victimology* in that same year.

The Indian Society of Victimology is founded to advocate the cause of victims of crime in India.

**1994** The Eight International Symposium on Victimology was held in Adelaide, Australia and organized by Christopher Sumner August 21-26 with the support of the Australian Institute of Criminology .

The American Correctional Association Victims Committee publishes the landmark *Report and Recommendations on Victims of Juvenile Crime*, which offers guidelines for improving victims' rights and services when the offender is a juvenile.

President Clinton signs a comprehensive package of federal victims' rights legislation as part of the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act. The Act includes: Violence Against Women Act, which authorizes more than \$1 billion in funding for programs to combat violence against women.

**1995** Ninth UN Congress on the Prevention of Crime and Treatment of Offenders, Conference Title: «Crime» – Cairo, Egypt **April 28 - May 5.**

The Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action is approved in September at the Fourth World Conference on Women.

The South African Truth and Reconciliation Commission was created in July under the «Promotion of National Unity and Reconciliation Act» and began its discussions in December. The final report was presented in December of 1998 (Leman-Langlois, 2000, p.150).

The first class graduates from the US National Victim Assistance Academy in Washington, D.C. Supported by the Office for Victims of Crime, the university-based Academy provides an academically credited 45-hour curriculum on victimology, victims' rights, and other topics.

**1996** Federal Victims' Rights Constitutional Amendments are introduced in both houses of Congress with bipartisan support. Both presidential candidates and the Attorney General endorse the concept of a Victims' Rights Constitutional Amendment.

OVC launches a number of international crime victim initiatives including working to foster worldwide implementation of a United Na-

tions Declaration on victims' rights and working to better assist Americans who are victimized abroad.

**1997** The Ninth International Symposium on Victimology was held in Amsterdam, The Netherlands and organized by Jan van Dijk.

The World Society of Victimology starts its 1st newsletter *The Victimologist* in August.

**1998** The Statute of Rome, the treaty that established the International Criminal Court, was adopted on July 17 and entered into force July 1, 2002.

Taiwan passed and promulgated their Crime Victim Protection Act on **May 27**.

**1999** In response to attempts at facilitating the implementation of the UN Declaration of Basic Principles of Justice for Crime and Abuse of Power, two publications were created: the *Handbook on Justice for Victims*, and the *Guide for Policy Makers*.

**2000** The Tenth International Symposium on Victimology was held in Montreal, Canada and organized by Irvin Waller.

Tenth UN Congress on the Prevention of Crime and Treatment of Offenders, Conference Title: «Crime and Justice: Meeting the Challenges of the Twenty-first Century» - Vienna, Austria **April 10 - 17**.

UN General Assembly adopted and opened for signature, ratification and accession the *Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime* on 15 November (Groenhuijsen & Letschert, 2012).

**2001** The Thai government's National Assembly passed the Crime Victim Compensation and Restitution for the Accused Act in November (Watanavanich, 2003) .

**2002** The International Criminal Court of the Rome Statute with *Victims' Rights Provisions* entered into force on 1 July.

The *Journal International de Victimologie* is launched in October.

At its 37<sup>th</sup> plenary meeting, ECOSOC adopted the *Basic Principles on the Use of Restorative Justice Programmes in Criminal Matters* on July 24 (Groenhuijsen & Letschert, 2012)

With the assistance of the US Federal government all 50 states, plus the District of Columbia, US Virgin Islands, Puerto Rico and Guam establish crime victim compensation programs.

**2003** The American Society of Victimology was launched in Kansas City, Kansas by holding its first annual national symposium in January at the Kansas City Community College. Founded by Mario Gaboury, Steven Walker, John Dussich, Christine Edmonds, Thomas Underwood and Dan Peterson.

The Tokiwa International Victimology Institute was launched at the Tokiwa University, in Mito, Japan. At the invitation of Hidemichi Morosawa, John Dussich is appointed as its director.

The Eleventh International Symposium on Victimology was held in Stellenbosch, South Africa organized by Rica Snyman.

**2004** The Spanish Society of Victimology is founded with its statutes recognizing a broadly defined concept of victims to include wars, armed conflicts and both natural and accidental catastrophes (Tamarit Sumalla, 2006).

The journal *International Perspectives in Victimology* launched by John Dussich at the Tokiwa International Institute of Victimology, in Mito, Japan.

The Spanish language international journal *Victimología* is launched by Hilda Marchiori in Cordoba, Argentina.

The International Victimology Institute Tilburg (INTERVICT) was launched at the Tilburg University, in Tilburg, The Netherlands. Marc Groenhuijsen was appointed as its director.

**2005** Eleventh UN Congress on the Prevention of Crime and Treatment of Offenders, Theme: «Synergies and responses: strategic alliances in crime prevention and criminal justice,» Bangkok, Thailand **April 8 -25**.

ECOSOC adopts its Resolution 2005/20 *Guidelines on Justice in Matters involving Child Victims and Witnesses of Crime* on 22 July.

*The Basic Principles and Guidelines on the Right to a Remedy and Reparation for Victims of Gross Violations of International Human Rights Law and Serious violations of International Humanitarian Law* was adopted on 16 December.

**2006** The Twelfth International Symposium on Victimology was held in Orlando, Florida, USA organized by Marlene Young.

The journal *Victims and Offenders* is launched and edited by Albert R. Roberts from Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey

**2009** The Thirteenth International Symposium on Victimology was held in Mito, Japan organized by John Dussich.

- 2010** Twelfth UN Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, Theme: «*Comprehensive strategies for global challenges: crime prevention and criminal justice systems and their development in a changing world,*» Salvador, Brazil **April 12 - 19.**
- 2012** The Fourteenth International Symposium on Victimology was held in The Hague, The Netherlands organized by Marc Groenhuijsen.
- 2015** Thirteenth UN Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, Theme: «Integrating crime prevention and criminal justice into the wider United Nations agenda to address social and economic challenges and to promote the rule of law at the national and international levels, and public participation» Doha, Qatar **April 12 - 19.**

**Sources:** Adapted and modified from material compiled by the National Victim Center with the support and assistance of the Department of Justice Office for Victims of Crime; Victims' Assistance Legal Organization, Inc. (VALOR); the many national, state and local victim service providers who offered documentation of their key victims' rights landmark activities; from Harvey Wallace, *Victimology*. 1998, Allyn & Bacon; and, John Dussich, 2006a; Compilation of International Victims' Rights Instruments Third (Revised) Edition Marc Groenhuijsen and Rianne Letchert (Eds.) INTERVICT Wolf Legal Publishers, 2012.

