


*IIRP World Conference
Kortrijk, Belgium, 15-17 May 2019*



“THERE IS NO OTHER CHOICE ...”


Reshaping local communities through restorative practices with the **PREVENTION PYRAMID**

*"Out beyond ideas of wrongdoing
and rightdoing, there is a field.
I'll meet you there."*

Rumi (Persian poet, 13th century)

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1. INTRODUCTION

2. CONFLICTS, CRIME: A LOSS OF FREEDOM

3. FREEDOM AND JUSTICE

4. THE PREVENTION PYRAMID AND REDRESS

5. CONNECTED COMMUNITIES AND FREEDOM IN RELATIONS

6. EXERCISE

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INTRODUCTION

- background:
 - . *Phd of Criminology, KU Leuven (2005), research since 1994*
 - . *European Master in Mediation, IUKB, Sion, Suisse (1999-2010)*
 - . *Master en Médiation, Université du Luxembourg (2002- ...)*
- prevention pyramid: framework for restorative communities:
 - *wide spread scientific model*
 - *more than solving conflicts*
 - *culture of encounter -> freedom in human relationships?*
- existential approach: the deeper dimension of life

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FROM 'DAILY' TO 'EXISTENTIAL'


"The only thoughts I have, are of Nicholas, Ian and you." * *"I just want to tell you that I really love you, always."* * "Call me, please as soon as you are in the office. I need to know that you're okay." * *"Honey, I want to tell you how much I love you. I'm worried. I don't want to lose you, now that I have you back. You mean everything to me. You have my whole heart and my whole life. I love you so much."* * "I know you're in a new relationship and you do not care about me. But in case something happens, know that I love you, baby. I miss you. Goodbye." * *"Are you okay?"* * "Where are you?" * "CALL ME NOW!" ...

Wikileaks, [573.000 sms](#) sent within the 24 hours around the 09 11 attacks in the United States

- * The majority of us functions at a daily, functional level
- * In extreme circumstances we "descend" to the existential level

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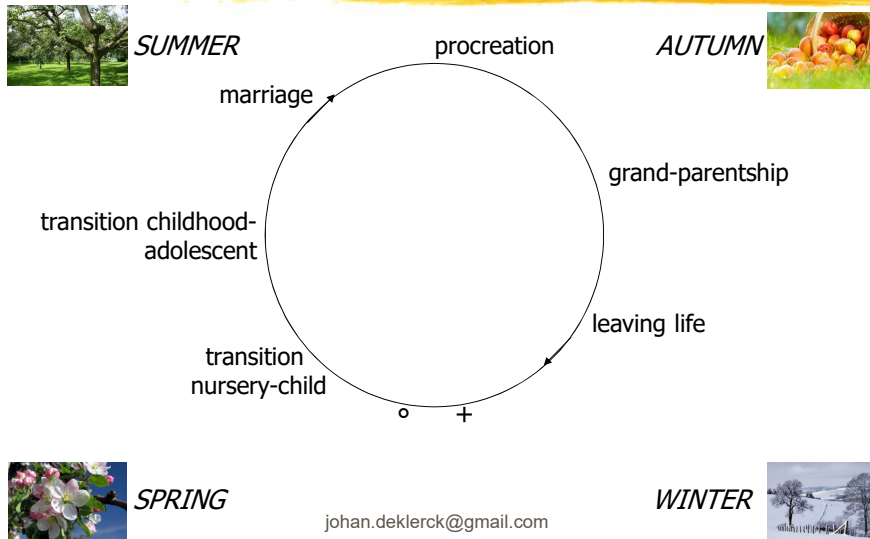
EXERCISE



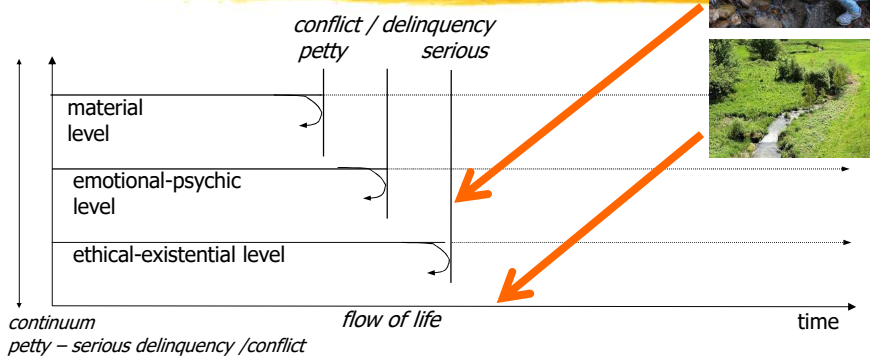
"What in your personal life held you hostage emotionally and prevented you from focusing partly or completely on your work, your studies last month?"

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LIFE AS A CYCLE



THE FLOW OF LIFE



1. petty:

- . flow of life blocked on the material level;
- . emotional and existential levels continue

2. serious:

- . flow of life blocked on the material and emotional level;
- . existential level continues

3. very serious:

- . flow of life totally blocked on the material, emotional and existential level;
- . chaos and disorder

THE FLOW OF LIFE

LOSS OF **FREEDOM**:

- . "hostage taking", mental prison (blockage in the flow of life)
- . freedom as one of the highest human qualities (freedom for love)
- . blockage in our flow of life: existential integration in our narrative identity?

CONSEQUENCES:

- . dialectics between victim- and offenderhood
- . pain that doesn't digest, dissolve, "compost", continues rambling
- . this can be conscious / unconscious
- . leads to the "right to destructiveness" (I. Böszörményi-Nagy)
- . field of application: micro, meso, macro

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RIGHT TO DESTRUCTIVENESS (I. Böszörményi-Nagy) (1)

- * concept of systemic family therapy (I. Böszörményi-Nagy)
- * relationship and loyalty between parents and children are central
- * existential right to love, warmth, affection, protection, ...
- * not fulfilled? -> right to destructiveness
- * goal: the zero-account of a painful past
- * right to destructiveness towards parents, significant thirds:
adolescence as "judge"

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RIGHT TO DESTRUCTIVENESS (I. Bözörményi-Nagy) (2)

* is a *normal* basismechanism in human interaction:

- . *unfriendly* -> *me too*
- . *aggression in traffic* -> *me too*
- . *to much work* -> *theft of goods of the enterprise*
- . *to expensive* -> *escape payment*

* from 'subtle' (e.g. unfriendly) to 'totally' (e.g. problematic divorce)

* a daily, permanent and uninterrupted process

* expression: chain, bottle up, escalation (P. Patfoort, 2008)

* breaking open: pain digestion, human encounter

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DON'T FORGET:

- Conflicts, crime, trauma always mean a loss of FREEDOM: inner and relational
- Restoring relationships (mediation, RP, ...) is restoring FREEDOM
- Restorative communities: freedom in relations
 - *no need for right tot destructiveness*
 - *deeper encounter and flow between each other*
- Integral and positive approach

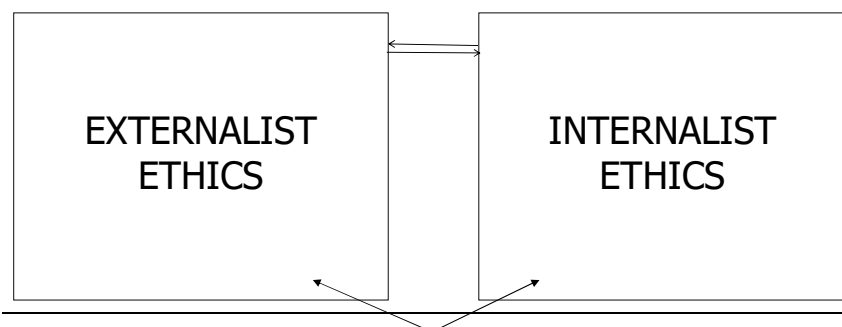
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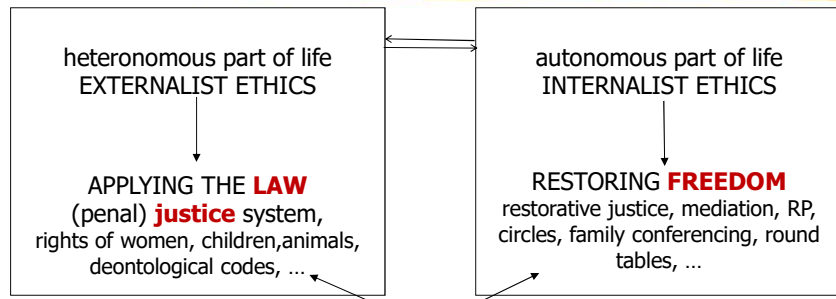
ONE EXISTENTIAL ETHICS, TWO EXPRESSIONS



self regulating ethical power
EXISTENTIAL ETHICAL ROOTS

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A DOUBLE ANSWER TO CONFLICTS / CRIME



self regulating ethical force
EXISTENTIAL ETHICS

* *complementary relationship: different outcomes*

* *subsidiarity: first 'freedom'*

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EXISTENTIAL ETHICS?

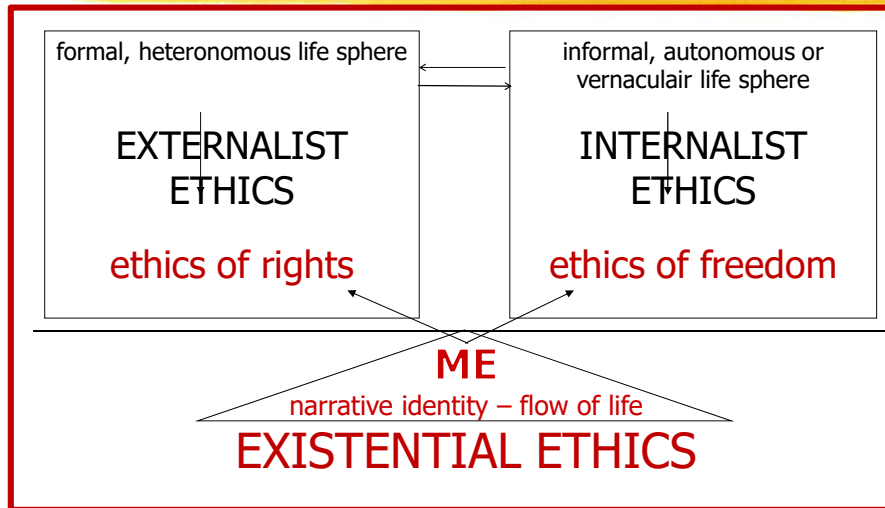
- > MEDIATION AND RJ: restoring freedom
- > common source: **EXISTENTIAL ETHICS**

commercial:

"sometimes it takes more than medication"

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ETHICS AND NARRATIVE IDENTITY



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REDRESS: A DOUBLE ANSWER

- restoring material, emotional and existential **freedom** : flow of life and human relations
- doing **justice**, applying the **law**: norms of society, punishment,

thus:

- there are always two answers
- they are complementary
- they cannot replace each other
- common **source**: **existential ethics**

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A DOUBLE ANSWER TO CONFLICT / CRIME

| | CLASSICAL APPROACH JUSTICE | MEDIATION/RESTORATIVE JUSTICE FREEDOM |
|--------------------|---|--|
| <i>DELINQUENCY</i> | OFFENDER ORIENTED DEFINITION OF DISTANCE | RELATIONAL, CONTEXTUAL DEFINITION OF PROXIMITY |
| <i>ETHICS</i> | EXTERNALISTIC ETHICS ABSTRACT ETHICS OBJECTIVE ETHICS | INTERNALISTIC ETHICS PROCESS TYPE ETHICS SUBJECTIVE ETHICS |
| <i>APPROACH</i> | APPLYING RULES AND RIGHTS EXTERNAL ETHICAL REFERENCE | REPAIR AND ENLARGE FREEDOM INTERNAL ETHICAL REFERENCE |
| <i>JUSTICE</i> | JUDGEMENT/CLASSICAL JUSTICE SYSTEM | MEDIATION PROCESS/ RESTORATIVE JUSTICE |
| <i>SOCIETY</i> | INSTITUTIONS | INFORMAL NETWORKS |

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FUNDAMENTAL REDRESS or: growing in existential freedom

*REDRESS, ... expresses itself in a growing **freedom** on a material, psychic and existential level, which can be reduced as a consequence of the delinquent act in a different degree within the different parties involved.*

*FUNDAMENTAL REDRESS, ... means that as many elements as possible, which have lead to the delinquent act, such as experiences of victimisation of the offender, aggression provoking attitudes of the victim, and/or criminogenetic factors in the **environment**, are taken into account, in order to contribute to a deeper, existential redress, which means to be connected (again) and fully with ones flow of life.*

Definition: Deklerck, diss. doct. criminology, KU Leuven, 2005, IV, 241-242

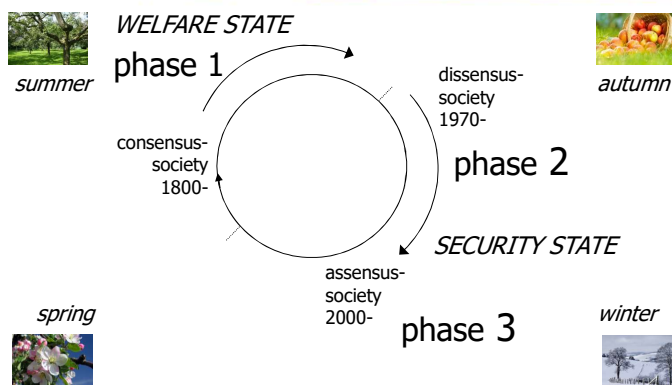
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A SOCIETY IN DISTINTEGRATION from a welfare state to a security state



- * *welfare state: (striving for) welfare as a dominant theme*
- * *security state: (striving for) security as a dominant theme*

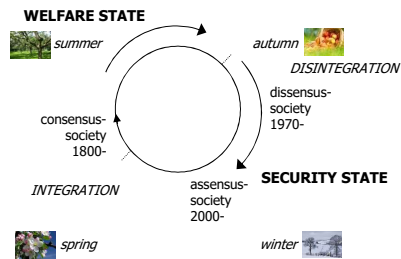
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A SOCIETY IN DISTINTEGRATION from a welfare state to a security state

* *welfare state:*

(striving for) welfare as a dominant theme:

- . growth and expansion
- . integration as dynamics ('spring-summer')
- . climax: golden sixties
- . future as desire



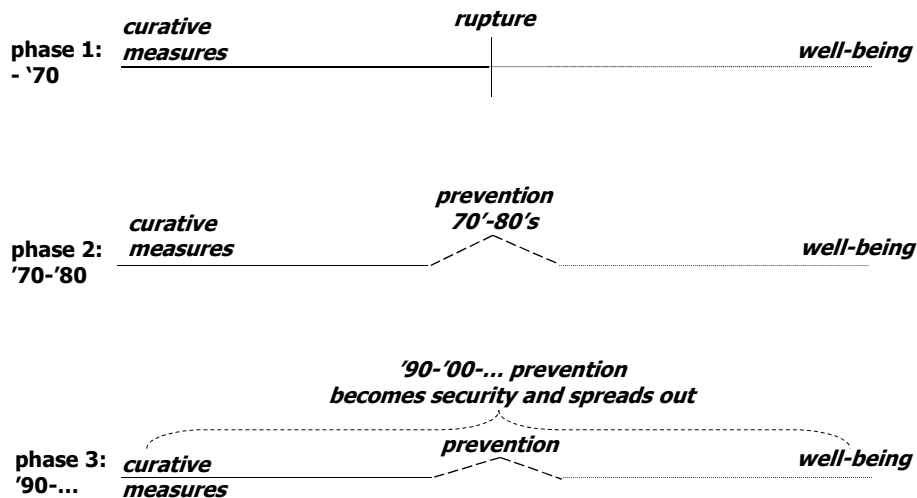
* *security state:*

(striving for) security as a dominant theme:

- . recession and decrease
- . disintegration as dynamics ('autumn-winter')
- . crises as a continuous thread (and not as an exception)
- . future as a threat

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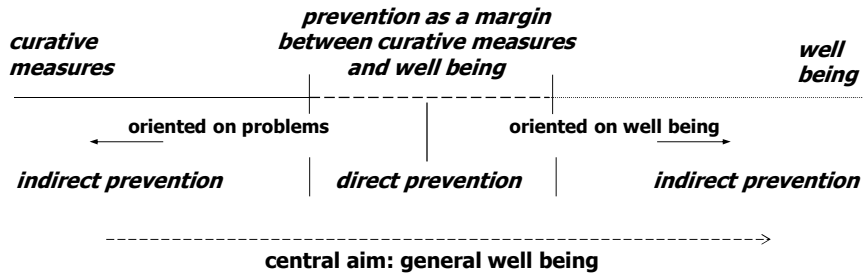
PREVENTION AND SECURITY a short history (schematically)



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THE LANDSCAPE OF PREVENTION

TURNING 90° CLOCKWISE = THE PREVENTION PYRAMID

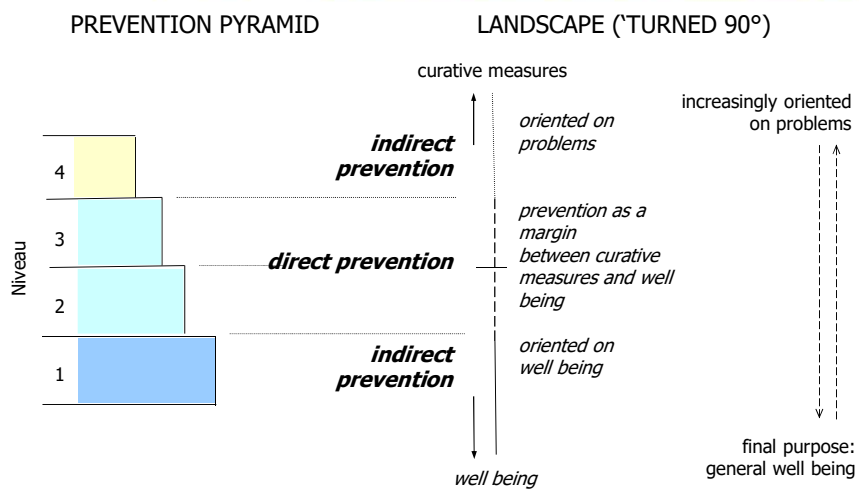


- *the prevention pyramid covers and structures the whole field of prevention*
- *turn the prevention landscape 90° so that it is 'vertical' with 'curation' above and 'well being' below = structure of the pyramid*

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THE PREVENTION PYRAMID

TURNING THE LANDSCAPE 90° CLOCKWISE



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A CULTURE OF MEDIATION AND ENCOUNTER

the prevention pyramid

* Bringing order:

- . *order in the huge and complex field of prevention*
- . *order in the problems, order in the answers*

* Enlarging:

- a larger perspective on conflict towards a general culture of encounter*

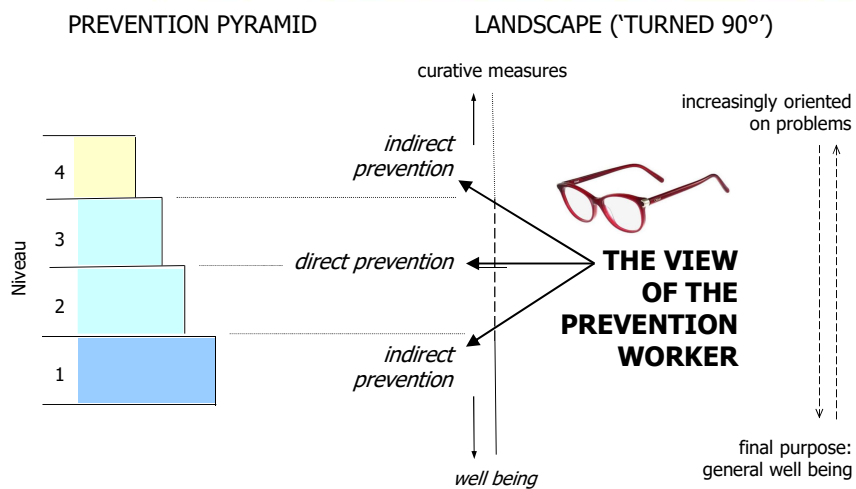
* Orientation:

- general well being, the general quality of life in society, positive orientation: a culture of mediation and encounter*

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THE PREVENTION PYRAMID


TURNING THE LANDSCAPE 90° CLOCKWISE



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THE PERSPECTIVE OF THE PREVENTION WORKER putting on the prevention glasses, or not

⌘ Prevention is is "*what is called so*": the PREVENTION GLASSES

| | BASIC QUALITY | PREVENTION  |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|--|
| . <i>bicycle light</i> | <i>see in the dark,</i> | <i>accident prevention</i> |
| . <i>sleep on time</i> | <i>sleeping is healthy</i> | prevent overfatigue |
| . <i>take care of a child</i> | <i>we love it</i> | <i>prevent illnesses</i> |
| . <i>care of vulnerables</i> | <i>basic care in our society</i> | <i>prevent problem escalation</i> |
| . <i>outside light</i> | <i>nice for visitors</i> | <i>deter burglars</i> |

⌘ When do we *call* something preventative?

- relative concept, not an absolute concept
- facts, situations, persons, ... in relation to ... $\begin{cases} +: \text{basic quality} \\ -: \text{risk, danger} \end{cases}$

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THE PREVENTION PYRAMID

Basic tension: problem orientation – well being

- **basic tension:**
 - becomes visible in more extreme situations
 - is present everywhere e.g.:
 - . *inner conflict*
 - . *partner relation*
 - . *team*
 - tendency to polarization is a fundamental mechanism
- the pyramid is constructed on this tension:
from "or-or" to "and-and-and"

PROBLEM
increasingly
problem oriented

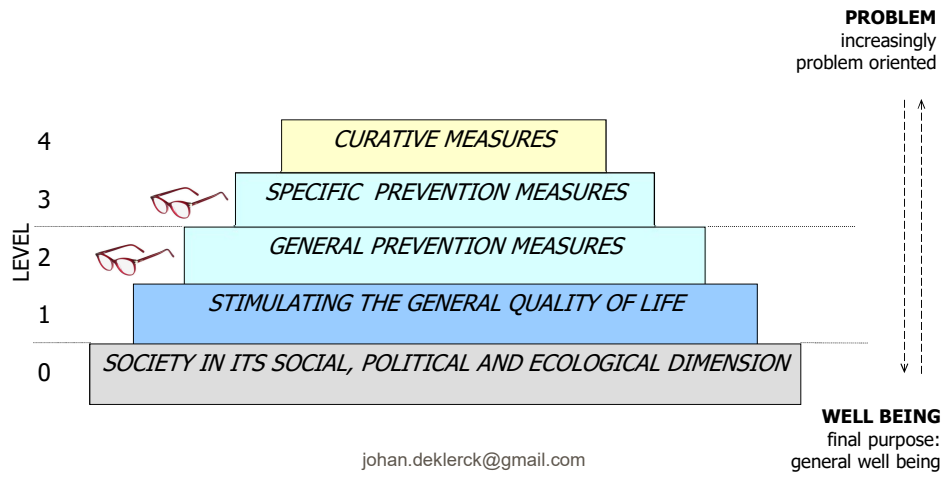


WELL BEING
final aim:
general well being

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THE PREVENTION PYRAMID

4 + 1 or 5 levels



THE PREVENTION PYRAMID

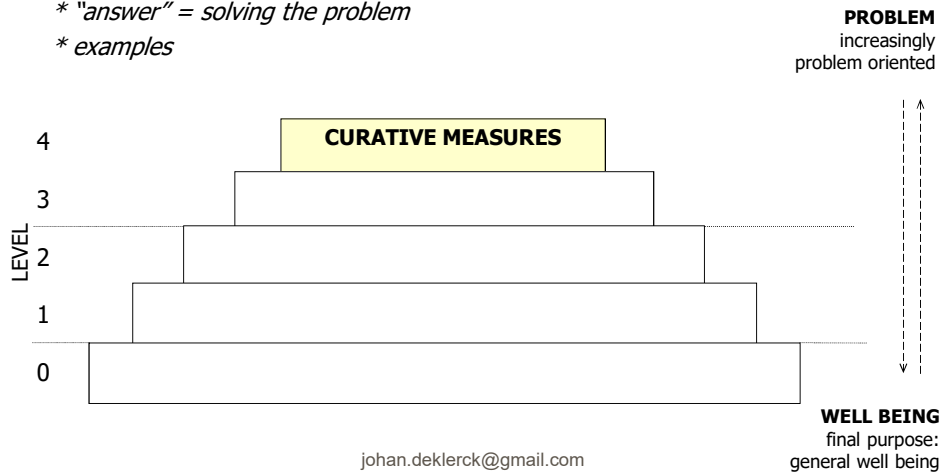
simplified model

- * level 3 and 4: problem is central
- * level 1 and 2: well being is central
- * level 2 and 3: direct prevention (light blue)
- * level 1 and 4: indirect prevention (light orange, dark blue)



The prevention pyramid: a culture of Restorative Justice and encounter
LEVEL 4: CURATIVE MEASURES

- * "question" = a problem
- * "answer" = solving the problem
- * examples

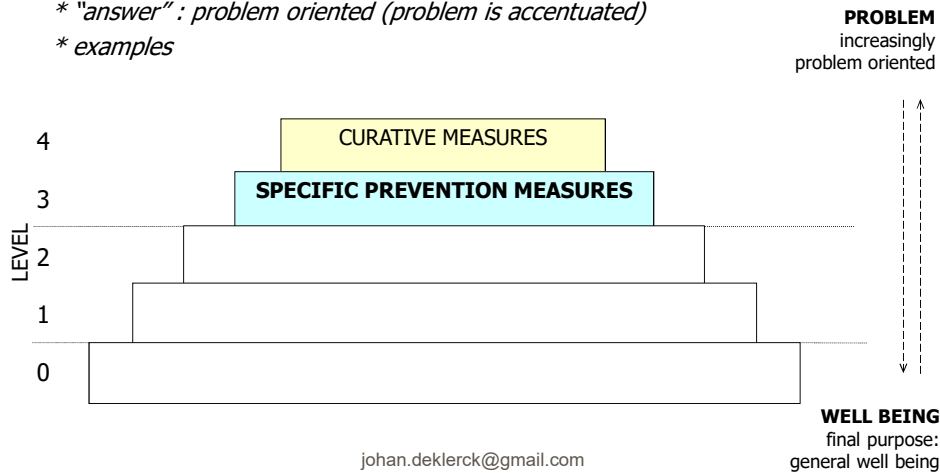


CURATIVE MEASURES
examples

- conflict mediation (<http://moderator.be/>)
- peer mediation
 - *minor facts (e.g. peers: pupils by pupils)*
 - *limited number of participants*
- group conferencing (HERGO: www.ligand.be)
 - *serious facts (fight, serious violence, physical aggression)*
 - *strong emotions*
 - *high emotional amplitude*
- reparation of the damage (cf. flow of life in different dimensions)
- attention and support for the victim
- time out projects / Naft)
- intervention (teacher, director, security, police, prosecutor, judge, ...)
- therapy, punishment, ...

The prevention pyramid: a culture of Restorative Justice and encounter
LEVEL 3: SPECIFIC PREVENTION MEASURES

- * "question" = a possible problem
- * "answer" : problem oriented (problem is accentuated)
- * examples

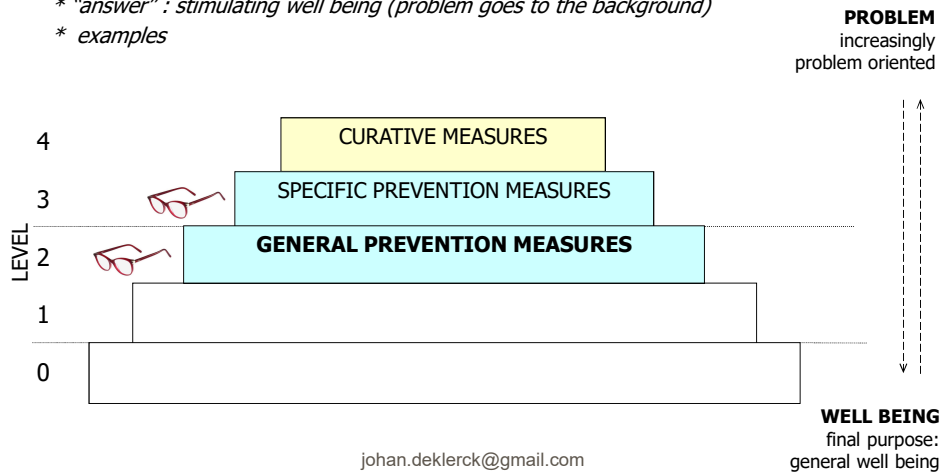


SPECIFIC PREVENTION MEASURES
examples

- training on aggression, resistance, self defence (www.arktos.be)
- training on non violent communication www.patpatfoort.be/ES-Pat.htm
- problem oriented circles: www.ligand.be; www.lesouffle.be)
 - *preventative: stopping potential escalation, more informal*
 - *growing tension in the group, negative mentality, growing bullying, ...*
- rock and water: www.rockandwaterprogram.com
- camera surveillance, electronic surveillance
- alarm procedures
- control on drugs, weapons, ...
- safety locks on doors, windows, ...
- ...

The prevention pyramid: a culture of Restorative Justice and encounter
LEVEL 2: GENERAL PREVENTION MEASURES

- * "question" = a possible problem
- * "answer" : stimulating well being (problem goes to the background)
- * examples

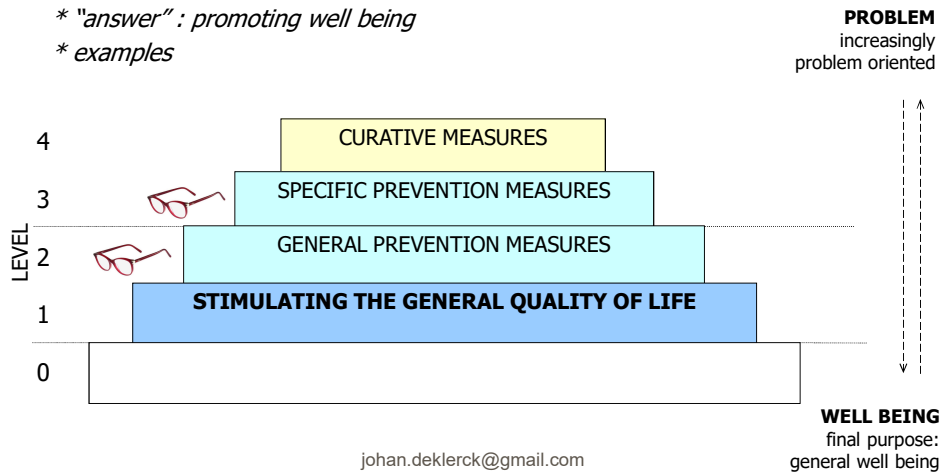


GENERAL PREVENTION MEASURES
examples

- positive, non violence techniques (www.patpatfoort.be)
- Circles on well being: (www.ligand.be; www.lesouffle.be; www.arktos.be)
 - *positive orientation: problems are not the focus*
 - *preventative: stopping potential escalation*
 - *integration of a potentially difficult youngster, stimulation relationships in the group, learning through encounter on gender, diversity*
- gender training
- training intercultural competencies, diversity, gender
- training social competencies: Kaffee Detinee – project in prison
- attention for newcomers, festivities, birthdays, special moments
- clean and nice environment, ...
- nature in the city, on the playground, in schools, ...
- efficient lightning in schools, parking places, streets, ...

The prevention pyramid: a culture of Restorative Justice and encounter
LEVEL 1: STIMULATING THE GENERAL QUALITY OF LIFE

- * "question" = well being
- * "answer" : promoting well being
- * examples

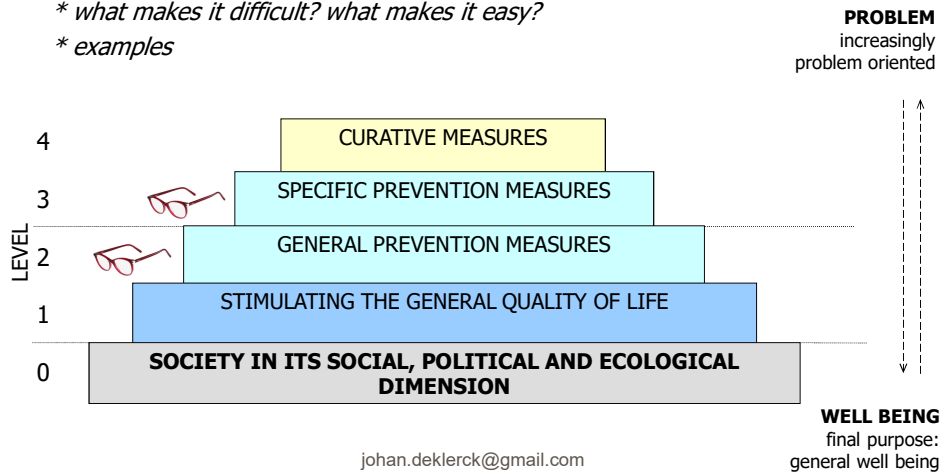


STIMULATING THE GENERAL QUALITY OF LIFE
examples

- positive climate, respecting pluralism and diversity
- culture of connectedness and encounter
- basic care and participation
- attention for minorities and vulnerable groups
- space for existential growth
- nice activities, team building and positive team spirit
- circles and horizontal communication (www.ligand.be;
www.lesouffle.be, www.arktos.be)
 - *positive relationships,*
 - *improving involvement and encounter*
 - *not problem based*
 - *example: pupils express their passions, their talents, ...*

The prevention pyramid: a culture of Restorative Justice and encounter
LEVEL 0: THE LARGER SOCIETAL CONTEXT

- * larger society
- * what makes it difficult? what makes it easy?
- * examples



LARGER SOCIETY
examples

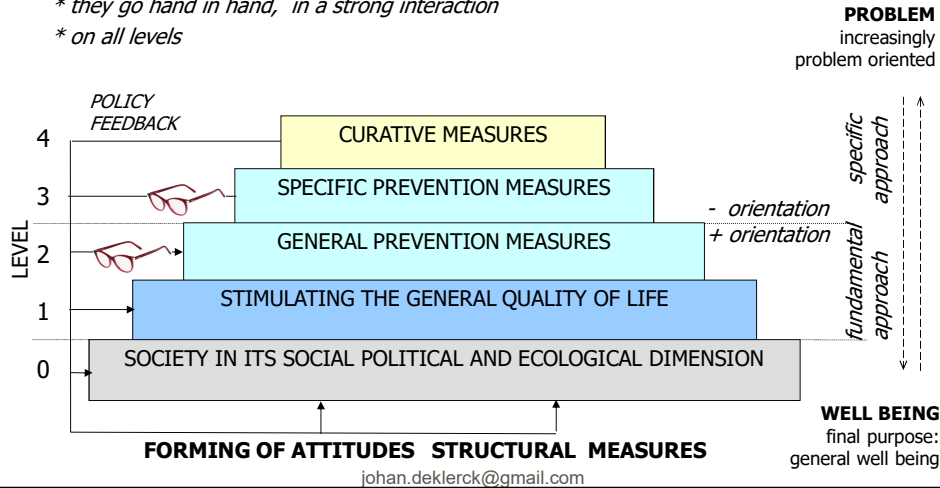
- larger society: neighbourhood, regional and national policy, ...
- international developments,
- rise of the safety society and the mediation society
- individualization
- growing diversity
- terrorism and violence
- media
- government, politics:

- > no internal measures on this level
- > participation in the organizational structures of society
- > society can be influenced: sensibilization on RJ and RP
- > political awareness on RJ, RP

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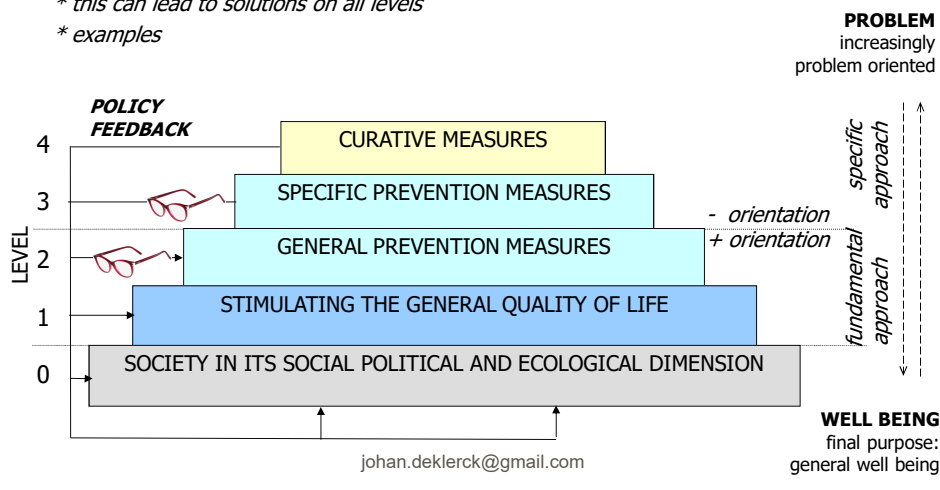
The prevention pyramid: a culture of Restorative Justice and encounter
FORMING OF ATTITUDES AND STRUCTURAL MEASURES

- * forming of attitudes = sensibilisation, posters, flyers, publicity, conferences, ...
- * structural measures = changes on a (infra-)structural level
- * they go hand in hand, in a strong interaction
- * on all levels



The prevention pyramid: a culture of Restorative Justice and encounter
POLICY FEEDBACK

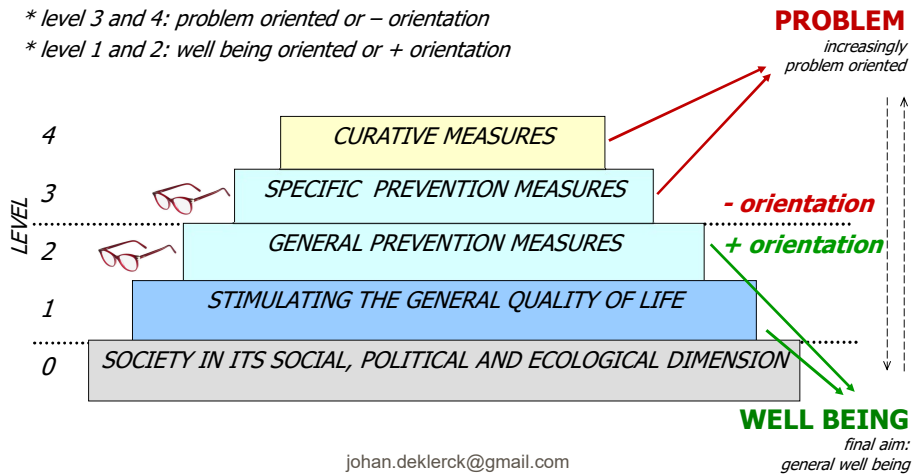
- * Facts can learn us a lot: the importance of a good registration, good surveys
- * this can lead to solutions on all levels
- * examples



THE PREVENTION PYRAMID

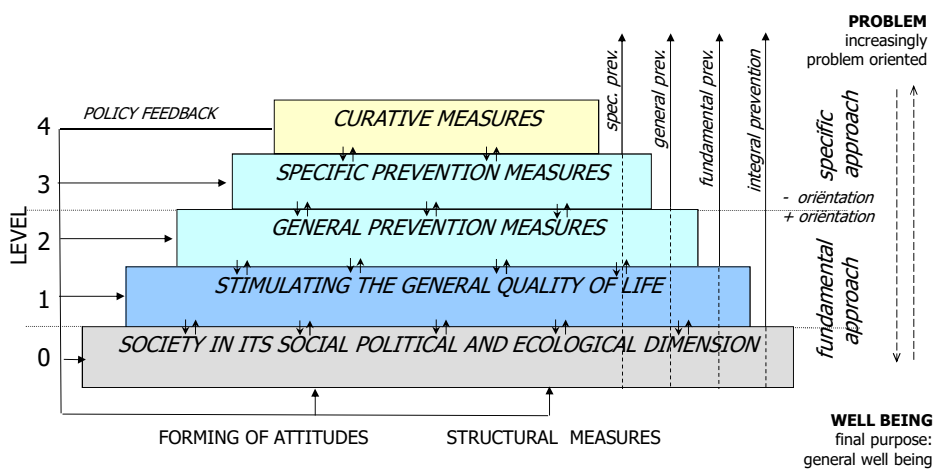
positive – negative orientation

- * basic tension: problem- or well being oriented
or: negative – positive orientation
- * level 3 and 4: problem oriented or – orientation
- * level 1 and 2: well being oriented or + orientation



THE PREVENTION PYRAMID

a framework for an integral and positive prevention



The prevention pyramid

a culture of Restorative Justice and encounter

- SCIENCE BASED POLICY AND SCREENING INSTRUMENT:
 - * Hierarchy
 - * Orientation
 - * Policy instrument
 - * Attitude en structure
 - * Integral
- TOWARDS A GENERAL CULTURE OF ENCOUNTER AND RESTORATIVE JUSTICE:
 - * Thinking larger
 - * Policy, organizational culture, well being

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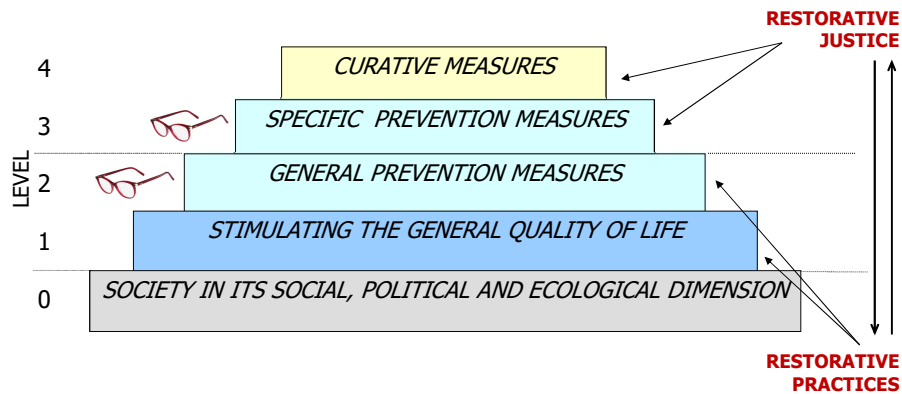
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THE PREVENTION PYRAMID

Restorative justice -> restorative practices



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Reshaping local communities through restorative practices with the PREVENTION PYRAMID 1

ENLARGING RJ TO RP:

- the prevention pyramid: enlarging restorative justice to restorative practices
- basic tension: problem oriented vs. well being oriented
- jumping over the invisible rupture towards reinforcing and developing positive elements: level 1-2 and 3-4 of the pyramid
- a culture of connectedness is the best 'prevention' and contributes to a general well being: spirit of RJ/RP
- an integral and positive approach

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Reshaping local communities through restorative practices with the PREVENTION PYRAMID 2

FREEDOM AS THE BASE OF CONNECTED COMMUNITIES

- restoring freedom is more than handling conflicts
- restoring freedom is becoming free of the "right to destructiveness"
- restorative practices have to do with relationships
- restorative practices have to do with freedom

- enlarging freedom to the whole community:
 - *conflict mediation, conferencing,*
 - *building communities on freedom in relationships*


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THE PREVENTION PYRAMID framework for a culture of restorative practices

- *restorative practices on all levels*
- *enlarging freedom in human relations (freedom)*
- *within a just organisation (justice)*



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EXERCISE

The prevention pyramid: RP in your environment, ...




- Blanco pyramid, fill in:
 - *analyze your community, practice, school, neighbourhood, ...*
 - *what are you doing already? what could you do?*
 - *write down in the form*
 - *empty spaces? all levels?*
 - *take into account the right to destructiveness*
- Exchange experiences, learn from each other
- Think positively and integrally

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THE PREVENTION PYRAMID

fit a measure? I

- ⌘ *the view of the prevention worker*
- ⌘ "Prevention is what is called so" 
- ⌘ *so concrete as possible! (not: 'project', 'programme', ...)*

STEP 1:

- ORGANISATION INTERNAL MEASURE: level 1 to 4
- ORGANISATION EXTERNAL MEASURE: level 0 (vr. directors, responsables, ...)

STEP 2:

- PROBLEM ORIENTED MEASURE: level 3 or 4
- WELL BEING ORIENTED MEASURE: level 1 or 2

STEP 3:

- prevention glasses  : level 2 or 3
- no prevention glasses: level 1 or 4



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THE PREVENTION PYRAMID

fit a measure? II

PROBLEM ORIENTED MEASURE:



eg. lock the door, mediation

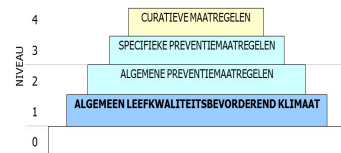
- no  => curative => **level 4**
-  => preventative => **level 3**

or:

WELLBEING ORIENTED MEASURE:

eg. intercultural communication, team building

-  => preventative => **level 2**
- no  => basic care => **level 1**



-> *the same measure can fit on level 1 ("not called prevention") or level 2 ("called prevention")*

-> *the same measure can fit on level 4 ("intended as a curation") or on level 3 ("intended as a prevention")*

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The prevention pyramid

a culture of Restorative Justice and encounter

- problem oriented vs well being, or RJ vs RP:
 - *concentrate on positive elements*
 - *take care of problematic approaches*
 - *RP have a positive preventative effect*
- start with level 1 of the pyramid
- concentrate on 'freedom in relationships' and the risk of the 'right to destructiveness' (Nagy)

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1. INTRODUCTION
2. CONFLICTS, CRIME: A LOSS OF FREEDOM
3. FREEDOM AND JUSTICE
4. THE PREVENTION PYRAMID AND REDRESS
5. CONNECTED COMMUNITIES AND FREEDOM IN RELATIONS
6. EXERCISE

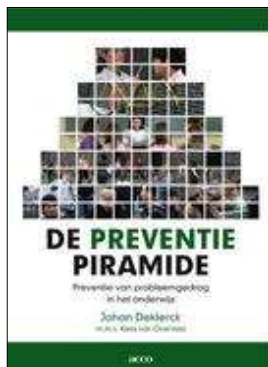
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MEER INFORMATION?

- > johan.deklerck@gmail.com
- > www.johandeklerck.be (coming soon)

SECOND EDITION

Deklerck, J. (2011),
De preventiepiramide.
*Preventie van
probleemgedrag in
het onderwijs.*
Acco, Leuven



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