



Victim/Offender Mediation helps...

VICTIMS OF CRIME

They can ask:

Why me?
Will you come back?

They can tell:

How they felt
How they feel now
What happened to them as a consequence of the crime

They can say:

What they think the offender can do to make amends

They can see:

The offender;
what he/she is really like

OFFENDERS

They can say:

Sorry,
this is why I did it...

They can tell:

How they felt
How they feel now
What happened to them as a consequence of the crime

They can offer:

To make amends for what they have done

They can see:

The victim as a real person

Maidstone Mediation also offers free services for:

- Neighbour disputes
- Conflicts in schools
- Parent/teenager disputes
- Young people facing homelessness



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www.maidstonemediation.co.uk

Maidstone Mediation Scheme
is a Registered Charity No. 1052104



A Member of the Restorative Justice Council

Victim/Offender Mediation is supported by...

Kent YOS

Kent Police

Maidstone Borough Council

Tonbridge & Malling Borough Council

Connexions

Tonbridge & Malling CDRP

Safer Maidstone Partnership

Probation Service

National Lottery



**WORKING
TO REPAIR
THE HARM
OF CRIME**



**Helping you
COMMUNICATE**

WHAT IS VICTIM OFFENDER MEDIATION AND WHY SHOULD I TRY IT?

What is it?

Victim Offender Mediation focuses on repairing harm, generating understanding and reducing the fear of crime. Maidstone Mediation can facilitate this voluntary, confidential process by giving victims and offenders the opportunity to communicate without feeling pressured.



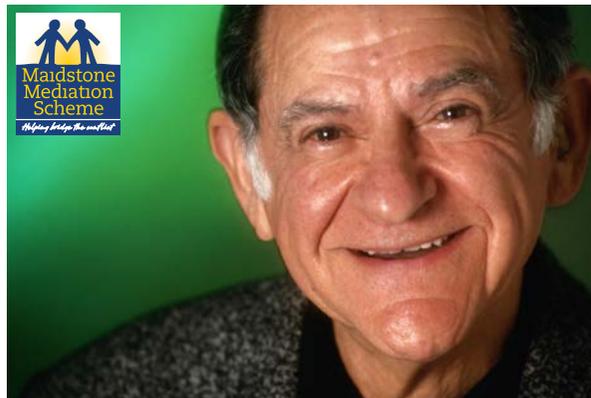
If you are the Victim

Victims of crime sometimes feel traumatised by what has happened. Others feel less affected and see it as part of today's society. Either way, Mediation can offer a way of gaining greater understanding of the offence and the person who committed it. It will also give you an opportunity to say how you feel about the offence and how you have been affected by it.



If you are the Offender

Victim Offender Mediation also works with offenders by enabling them to acknowledge responsibility for their behaviour. No matter how trivial or serious you see your offence, the impact of your actions can have a greater effect than you think. Mediation may give you an opportunity to tell the victim why the crime was committed and for you to give answers to their concerns and to apologise.



Who are the Mediators?

Mediators are trained men and women who assist people to resolve their difficulties. They do not give advice or make judgements about the rights and wrongs of issues. Their role is to help victims and offenders find ways forward through safe communication.

How does it work?

Mediators will meet both the victim and offender separately to discuss the process and assess the needs and concerns for both parties. Mediation can then be either face-to-face (with Mediators present) at a neutral venue or, Mediators can act as a go-between the two parties i.e. the two parties do not meet. The Mediator's role is to make sure that the process is safe and beneficial for both the victim and offender.

The service is free and confidential

It won't cost you anything - only your time.

What do I do next?

Either telephone a member of our team on 01622 692843 or wait for one of our mediators to contact you to arrange an appointment to visit. We are happy to visit you in your home and discuss how mediation can help.