

BEING A GOOD SAMARITAN

CARING FOR VICTIMS OF CRIME

PRESENTED BY: REBA COLLINS
ALL IN COMMUNITY CONSULTANT

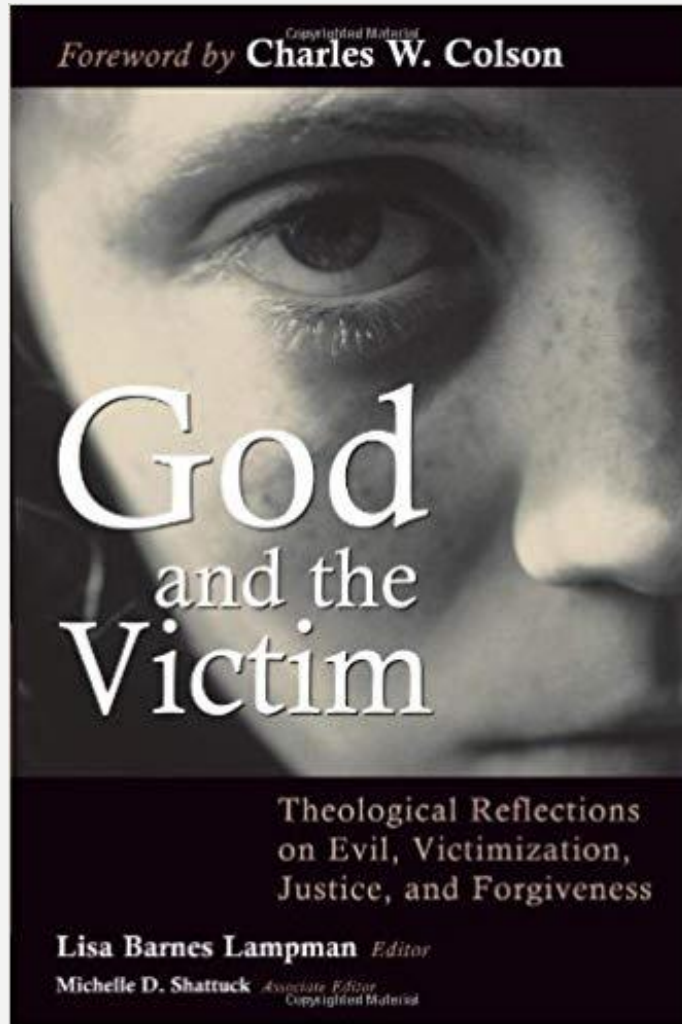


West Ohio Conference
The United Methodist Church



**WHY WE NEED
TO CARE**

PRIMARY RESOURCES



OFFICE OF VICTIM SERVICES

Ohio

**Department of
Rehabilitation
&
Correction**

Luke 10: ²⁹ ... “And who is my neighbor?”

³⁰ In reply Jesus said: “A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, when he was attacked by robbers. They stripped him of his clothes, beat him and went away, leaving him half dead. ³¹ A priest happened to be going down the same road, and when he saw the man, he passed by on the other side. ³² So too, a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. ³³ But a Samaritan, as he traveled, came where the man was; and when he saw him, he took pity on him. ³⁴ He went to him and bandaged his wounds, pouring on oil and wine. Then he put the man on his own donkey, brought him to an inn and took care of him. ³⁵ The next day he took out two denarii^[e] and gave them to the innkeeper. ‘Look after him,’ he said, ‘and when I return, I will reimburse you for any extra expense you may have.’

³⁶ “Which of these three do you think was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of robbers?”

³⁷ The expert in the law replied, “The one who had mercy on him.”

Jesus told him, “Go and do likewise.”

BIBLICAL FOUNDATION CARING FOR VICTIMS

Matthew 25:

³⁵ For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, ³⁶ I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.’

THE MISSION FIELD



There are currently 7 million offenders under some form of supervision in the United States.



There are currently 21 million known victims of crime in the United States.



IMPACTS EVERYONE

1. **PRIMARY VICTIMS:** DIRECTLY IMPACTED
2. **SECONDARY VICTIMS:** FAMILY MEMBERS, FRIENDS, OR NEIGHBORS
3. **TERTIARY VICTIMS:** COMMUNITY AS A WHOLE



VICTIMS ARE EFFECTED:

- 1. PHYSICALLY**
- 2. FINANCIALLY**
- 3. EMOTIONALLY**
- 4. SPIRITUALLY**

CRIME'S IMPACT IS DEEP:

“Traumatic events call into question basic human *relationships*. They breach the attachments of family, friendships, love and community. They shatter the construction of the self that is formed and sustained in relations to others. They undermined the *belief systems* that give meaning to human experience. They violate the *victim's faith* in a natural and divine order and cast the victim into a state of existential crisis.”

Trauma and Recovery:

The Aftermath of

Violence – From

Domestic Abuse to

Political Terror

By

Dr. Judith Herman



**HOW WE NEED
TO CARE**



THERE IS NO PERFECT VICTIM

- MAY VACILLATE WITH THEIR ACCOUNT
- MAY DELAY REPORTING THE VIOLENCE
- MAY BE INCONSISTENT/UNPREDICTABLE BASED ON THEIR TRAUMA
- OFTEN FEEL THREATENED, MANIPULATED, AFRAID, AND RELUCTANT TO REPORT THE ABUSE
- MAY BE CONFLICTED: DON'T WANT THE OFFENDER TO GO TO JAIL/PRISON

THE GOOD SAMARITAN WAY OF CARING

The Good Samaritan's ~~did NOT~~ **did NOT:**

- Noticed the person hurting
- Blame the victim
- Responded with empathy, compassion, and care
- Demand to know the circumstance of the incident
- Provided tangible help and encouragement
- Told the victim what to do
- Try to solve the crime or the root causes of it
- Referred victim to someone else (the Innkeeper) who could provide additional assistance
- Solely take on the well-being of the victim.



CRITICAL CARE NEEDS

Physical Safety

Removal; Security of space; Medical treatment;
Disconnection

Emotional Safety

Validating feelings, acknowledge fear, anger,
confusion & frustration, grief, guilt & self-blame,
shame & humiliation

CRITICAL CARE NEEDS

Autonomy

Restoration of control; Presence of personal power strengthens a sense of wholeness

Order

Predication and preparation; Answers to questions restores a sense of order as events can be explained

CRITICAL CARE NEEDS

Equality

Vindication and validation that this crime should not have happened; Appropriate accountability

Relatedness

Healthy relationships form and affirm our sense of identity; “A secure sense of connection with caring people is the foundation of personality development.” – Dr. J. Herman, Trauma and Recovery



**ESSENTIALS
FOR
HEALING**

EMPATHY

- Decreases shame
- Builds trust
- Increases connection
- Promotes self-agency & resiliency

em · pa · thy

/ˈempəTHē/

noun

the ability to
understand and share
the feelings of another

HELP VICTIMS IN HEALING:

- Encourage the victim to face the offense by giving them an opportunity to tell their “truth”
- Acknowledge that the wrong should not have happened
- Create safe relationships where the victim can acknowledge the severity of his/her hurt
- Walk with victim as they search for and find answers to their spiritual, emotional, physiological, and justice questions
- Develop support groups as a resource for encouragement

BUT WHY?



for·give·ness

/ˌfərˈɡɪvnəs/
noun

the action or process of
forgiving or being
forgiven

Synonyms: Pardon,
absolution, mercy,
understanding

HELP VICTIMS IN FORGIVENESS:

- Help the victim recognize that God's personal forgiveness is available to every human being
- Encourage the victim to seek God's strength in order to obey God's command to forgive; Do not make the victim feel "guilty" if he/she struggles with forgiveness
- Help the victim practice repeated forgiveness when necessary
- Summon prayer support for those struggling to offer forgiveness
- Avoid pushing for victim/offender reconciliation too quickly

HELP ALL PARTIES MOVE TOWARD RECONCILIATION

Forgiveness + Repentance

“The cost for the offended comes in withholding judgment and instead offering the possibility of restoration. . . The cost for the offender is repentance. . . Further, a forgiving heart does not wait passively for repentance to occur. Instead, it offers the offender a taste of mercy and strength intended to expose and destroy sin.”

Dan B. Allender, *“Forgive and Forget” and other Myths of Forgiveness*

HELP ALL PARTIES MOVE TOWARD RESTORATION:

Forgiveness + Repentance + Reconciliation

“... the entire community needs both the criminal and the victim restored to wholeness through the victim’s recompense and the criminal’s repentance. Only then are all parties restored to health and the faithful community healed in all its parts. And only then can God continue to use such a community and every individual in it as instruments to furthering His good and loving purpose for His world.”

Elizabeth Achtemeier, *Victimization and Healing: The Biblical View*



CRIME, VICTIM, & COMMUNITY

1. CRIME IS RECOGNIZED AS HARM DONE TO PERSONS AND/OR COMMUNITY
2. CRIME IS A VERY PERSONAL VIOLATION THAT CAUSES REAL HARM TO PEOPLE
3. CRIME IS CONSIDERED TO HAVE BEEN COMMITTED AGAINST THE STATE
4. CRIME VICTIMS ARE WITNESSES TO THE PROCEEDINGS OF JUSTICE
5. SOME EFFECTS OF CRIME ARE SHORT-TERM WHILE SOME CRIMES AFFECT PEOPLE FOR THE REST OF THEIR LIVES

CONTEMPORARY RETRIBUTIVE JUSTICE

The State as victim

Wrong as a violation of rules

Focus on guilt and abstract principles

Justice tested by rules, procedures

Justice divided into areas, each with different rules

BIBLICAL RESTORATIVE JUSTICE

People, communities, shalom as victim

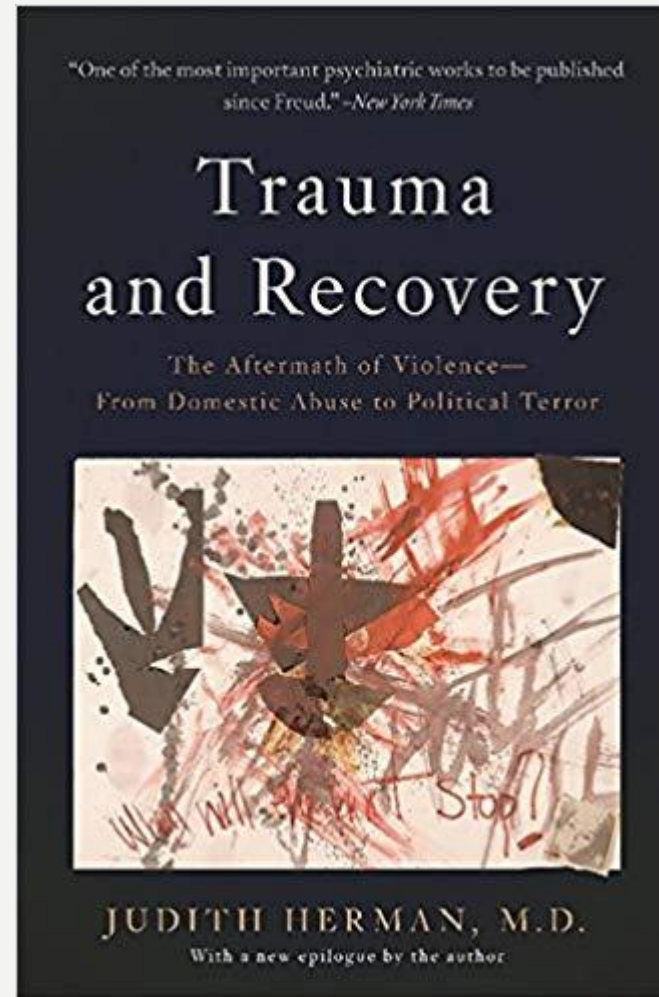
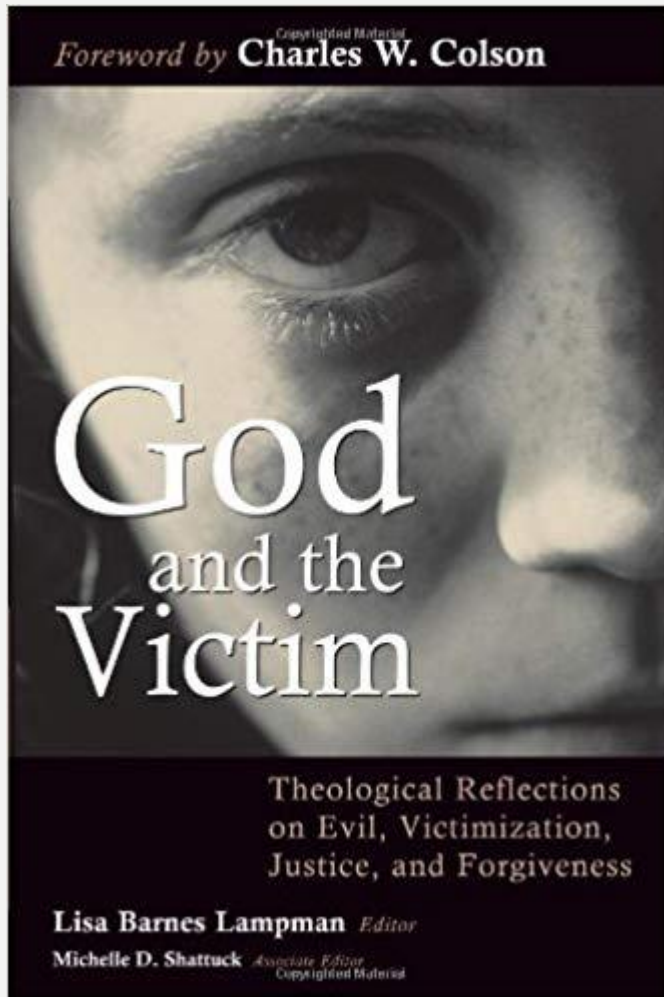
Wrong as violation of people, relationships, shalom

Focus on harm done

Justice defined by outcome, substance

Justice seen as integrated whole

RESOURCES






WEST OHIO CONFERENCE RESOURCES:

**2019 WEBINARS AND
TRAININGS**

FACEBOOK GROUP

**[HTTPS://WWW.FACEBOOK.CO
M/GROUPS/409737749417698/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/409737749417698/)**



**“TRAUMATIC EVENTS DESTROY THE
VICTIM’S FUNDAMENTAL
ASSUMPTIONS ABOUT THE SAFETY
OF THE WORLD, THE POSITIVE VIEW
OF THE SELF, AND THE
MEANINGFUL ORDER OF
CREATION.” -- DR. JUDITH HERMAN,
TRAUMA AND RECOVERY**

**THANK
YOU**

**CONTACT INFO: REBAKCO@GMAIL
513-262-0184**