

International Bridges to Justice Youth Leading Human Rights



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Module 1: IBJ's mission and human rights



International Bridges to Justice's mission

IBJ is committed to ending torture and abuse by giving people the protection of a lawyer.

IBJ works to guarantee all citizens the **right to a lawyer**, the right to be **protected from cruel punishment** such as torture, and the right to have a **fair trial**.

- IBJ has a vision that one day, every man, woman and child will have guaranteed early access to a lawyer.

- Torture is one of the largest human rights violations, **and it is a solvable one**.

- Take this E-Learning module to learn more and find out how **you** can join a movement fighting to stop torture!



What are Human Rights?

Human Rights are rights for all people, regardless of their race, gender, nationality, beliefs, etc. Human Rights are the right to life, fair trial, liberty, freedom, free expression, work, education, and more. **EVERYONE** is entitled to these rights, without any discrimination.



Brief Timeline of Human Rights



World War II (1945)

After World War II, countries met to ensure nothing of this scale would happen ever again



Creation of the Charter of the United Nations (1945)

The culmination and cooperation of nations in order to maintain world peace and to solve economic, humanitarian, and international problems



Universal Declaration of Human Rights were written (1948)

Created by the Charter to ensure that the protection of fundamental human rights are enforced globally

The international coalition and documents that came from these two meetings have created the groundwork for the creation of the UN.

The Charter of the UN has continued to adapt and change toward international issues that have continued to trouble communities and people in need of help



SDGs and the UN 2030 Agenda

- The UN has created 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to be met by 2030. The SDG's represent an international commitment to protecting people and protecting the world, leaving no one behind and building a better future for the younger generations.
- IBJ is committed to realizing Sustainable Development Goal 16, and ensuring access to justice for all.
- **SDG 16.3 : "Promote the rule of law at the national and international levels and ensure equal access to justice for all".**



Setting the scene...

1 in 4 prisoners around the world are waiting for a trial and are held in pre-trial detention.

This means that individuals are being held in prisons, police stations and detention centres without ever having had a lawyer to represent them, and therefore never having had their case assessed in court to give them a sentence or see if they are guilty.

People in pre-trial detention **are most at risk of torture and abuse.**

Pre-Trial Detention is bad because it deepens poverty, limits economic development, spreads diseases and undermines the rule of law, high risk during COVID-19 with many youth increasingly vulnerable by being in overcrowded prisons, often mixed with adults.



IBJ's response

IBJ works all around the world to provide early access to lawyers for vulnerable people in police stations, prisons and courtrooms. IBJ works and has resources in over **108 countries**.



Module 2: Torture as an investigative tool



Who is tortured, and why?

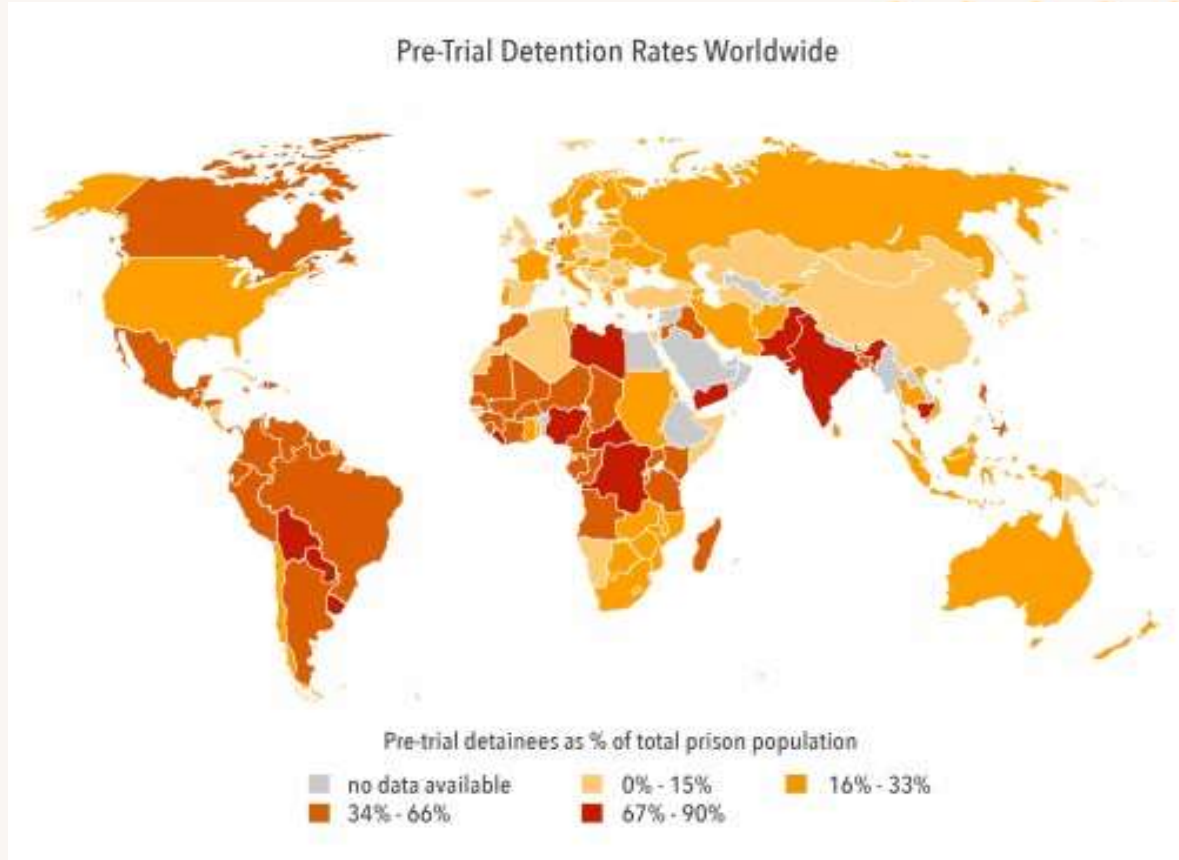
Torture is used as an **easy and cheap** way to **force individuals to confess to crimes**.

Torture and abuse normally happen during the early investigative stage of criminal justice.

- Prisoners can spend **months or years** in pre-trial detention and are often kept in terrible conditions before having a chance to be represented by a lawyer. This means that someone could spend years of their life in detention for a crime they never committed and without a lawyer to defend them.



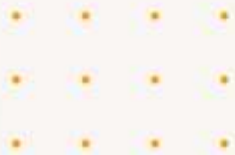
IBJ **protects** individuals who cannot afford a lawyer, who therefore are deprived of their freedom and stay in pre-trial detention without the chance of having access to a lawyer.



Youth incarceration...

Around the world there are youth in detention, many who have never had access to a lawyer to defend them.

Many children and youth's are destined to spend their childhood or teenage years behind bars, often in terrible conditions, for crimes they may not have committed.

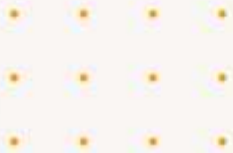


True or False?

Globally over 1 million children in conflict with the law are in detention (UNICEF)

In some countries up to 85% of child inmates, who can be as young as eight years old, are in adult detention centres, leaving them vulnerable.

In some countries more than 75% of child prisoners in detention are waiting for a trial, with many waiting months if not years.



Story time...

Prison systems around the world are failing children. An example of this is the story of a boy who was arrested when he was 12 for a small crime. Despite the charges against him being dropped, and him no longer being deemed as guilty, no one told him or released him from prison. When IBJ met him he was 40 and had finally been released, over 26 years later to his arrest and having spent an extra 23 years for no reason in prison...

- This boy had no access to a lawyer, or to anyone who could protect him and his rights. Had he
- indeed been informed of his rights, he would never have been kept in inhuman conditions and
- imprisoned for most of his life.



What is the solution to this problem?

The solution is simple: Early access to a lawyer - specifically for ordinary people, who are unable to afford a lawyer and are frequently forgotten

- Through training lawyers and criminal defenders and through influencing government policy to create more accountable criminal justice systems.



Module 3: Becoming a Changemaker



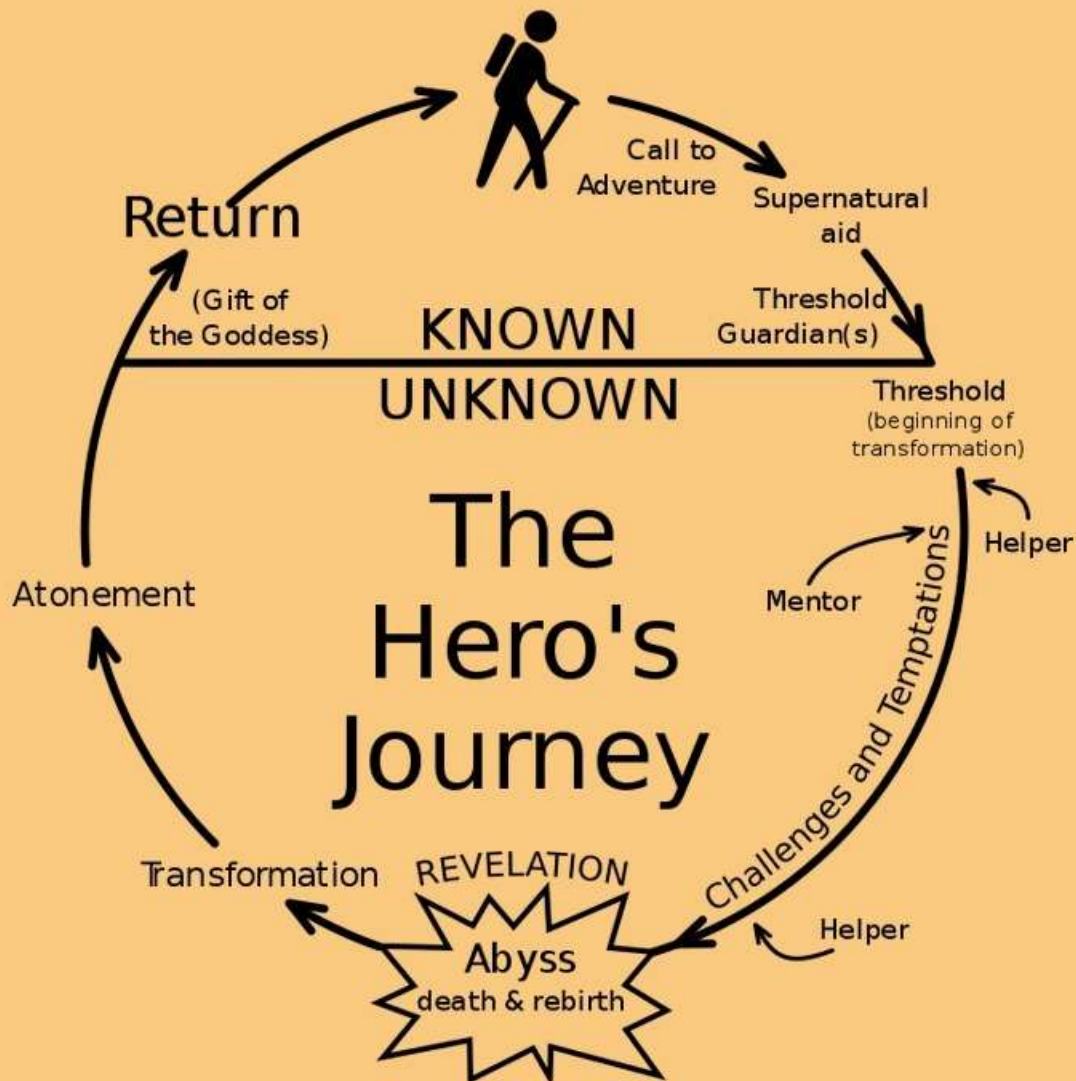
The 4 Changemaker Values

We believe that making change is driven by four fundamental values :

- Belief that change is possible
- Commitment to bringing about the change
- Perseverance to follow through on the journey for change
- Working together

The Changemaker's journey follows the Hero's Journey...





The Johari Window

Change makers must be able to maintain relationships with fellow peers

-The Johari Window helps leaders understand their relationships with themselves and others

-Four segments of the window help assess your awareness and how you are perceived by others

-Create your own Johari Window and learn more about yourself!

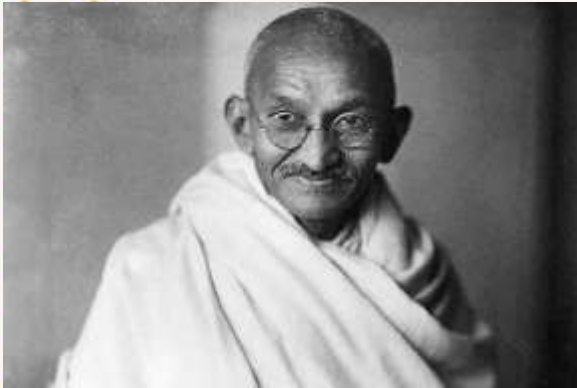
<p>Window 1: Known to Self</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">-Write in this window the things you know about yourself and reveal to others- I.E. gender, height age, interests, and hobbies	<p>Window 2: Private Area</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">-Things you choose to keep to yourself-I.E. Privates stories that explain who you are or why you do certain things
<p>Window 3: Blind Zone</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">-The things others know about you, but you are unaware-What you feel about yourself, but friends may think differently about	<p>Window 4: Unknown</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">-Things that are not known to you or others-Information, feelings, abilities that are unknown to yourself and others in the group

It's your turn to do the right thing!

"The time is always right to do the right thing" – Martin Luther King



"You must be the change you wish to see in the world" – Mahatma Gandhi



Models of change

Malala Yousafzai & Greta Thunberg



Module 4: Youth response



What you can do !



Youth are emerging as powerful changemakers and are instrumental in transforming the field of criminal justice ...



What IBJ Youth have done in the past:



Speak at UN conferences about issues relating to justice, fundraising to support youth programs, raising awareness about criminal justice issues, connecting a global network of youth activists



The Youth Initiative



Connecting and empowering young people to become active in fighting for justice in their communities.

We do this by providing a platform for young people to be able to share their ideas and innovative projects that can improve people's access to justice.



Join the Youth Justice Network!

- Join the **IBJ Youth for Youth Justice Competition** – create innovative solutions to transform youth access to justice and have winning project implemented at www.ibjyouth.org
- Join or Establish an IBJ local group
- Fundraise!
- Join the **IBJ Youth Movement** and unleash the power of youth – claim your potential and develop grit, confidence and leadership skills



What does it take to be a Good Leader?



-We believe leaders must be self-aware, self-confident, and gritty

-Leaders must have an honest understanding of their own flaws, strengths, emotions, and passions

-By doing so, leaders can then focus on relationships with their peers that will ultimately benefit in the fight for human rights advocacy (e.g. IBJ)

Becoming an IBJ Youth Changemaker demands persistence, curiosity, imagination and grit.

Leaders exemplify **grit** because of the difficult and crushing environment that they partake in! Grit pushes these leaders to succeed and surpass expectations...