THE RESTORATIVE MINDSET MAP
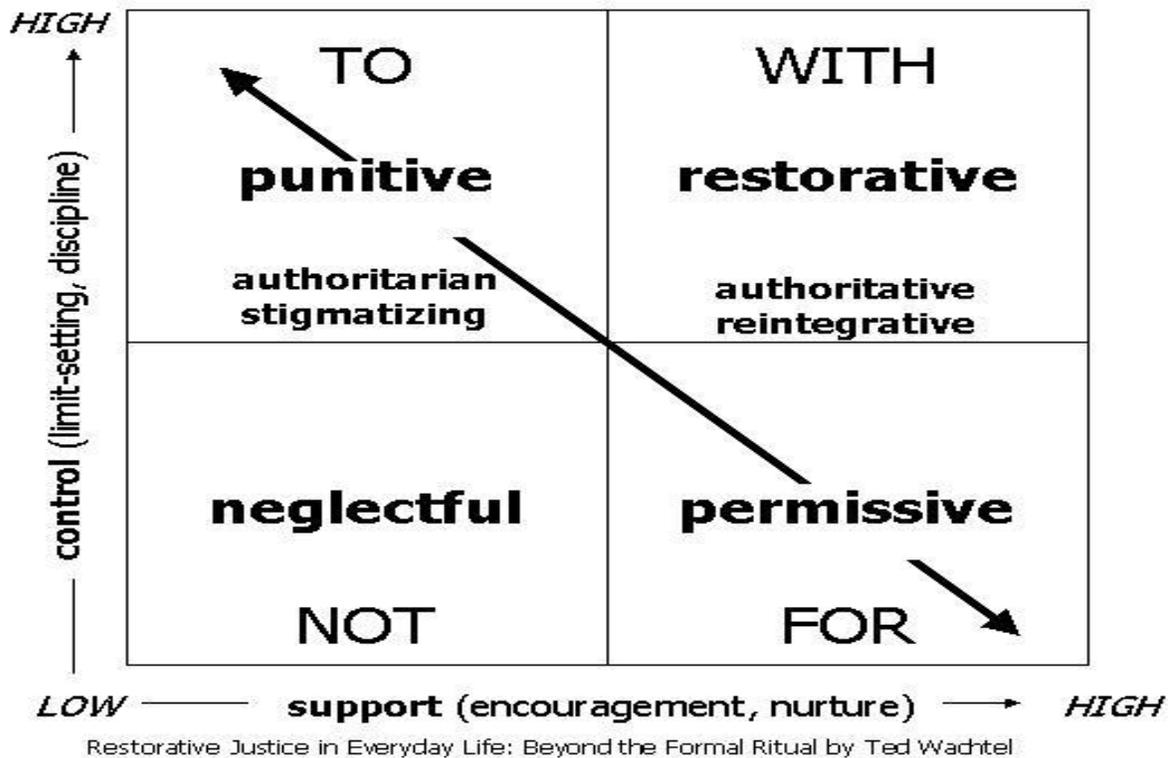

Restorative Justice in Everyday Life: Beyond the Formal Ritual by Ted Wachtel

TO - In this quadrant, there is very high control but very little support. "To" demands compliance…..do what I tell you. Only the adult's voice matters, youth should be seen and not heard. Youth are not engaged in problem-solving.   This is having "power over" someone.

FOR – In this quadrant, there is very little control, but very high support.   The young person's voice and needs are dominant. Adults do things "for" young people. We accept their excuses for their behavior. The adult needs to be liked, to be their friend.   Adults do the problem solving for them.   This is disempowering, rescuing, excusing, not challenging youth. Youth do not learn to take responsibility for their actions nor learn problem solving skills.

NOT - In this quadrant, there is very low control as well as very little support. The adult is not available for the youth emotionally, psychologically or physically. There is or no interaction. Adults are ignoring, not engaging at any level, and not meeting the needs of the youth. The strategy is not to do anything, hoping and believing that they will figure it out by themselves or by observing/watching others.

WITH – In this quadrant, there is very high control and very high support. Adults are firm, hold youth accountable for the actions, but are fair and collaborative. Youth need to know there are boundaries and limits, but that adults are available to provide support and help when necessary. Young people will be held accountable for their behavior, but adults will support them while they take responsibility for their actions and learn from their mistakes so that the behavior doesn't occur again in the future.

The restorative approach confronts and disapproves of wrongdoing while supporting and valuing the intrinsic worth of the wrongdoer.   Human beings are happier, more cooperative and productive, and more likely to make positive changes in their behavior when those in positions of authority do things with them, rather than "to" them or "for" them.