

*Creative Dispositions and  
Placement Options*

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Let's begin this conversation

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**Creative Dispositions and  
Placement Options  
4 Core Issues**

- Retribution and Restorative
- The Bell Curve
- Role Definition and Texas Law
- Internal Control and External Control

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Retributive and Restorative  
Justice

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Which approach are you balancing?

▪ Retribution Puritans	▪ Restorative Quakers
▪ Eye for an Eye	▪ Direct Accountability to victim and Community
▪ Retribution is justified by the juvenile's guilt	▪ Recognizes relationship with community
▪ Placement severs relationship to community	

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The Bell Curve!!

The statistical significance or  
insignificance of going  
"outside the box"

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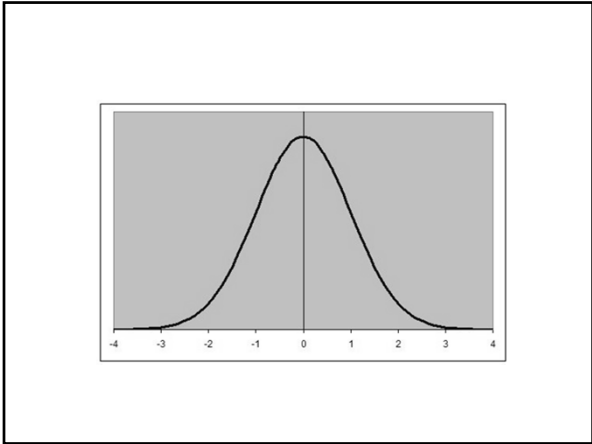
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**Role Definition and Texas Law**

Phantom Rules

Any experience or education that you have from the past that no longer applies

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- Role Definition**
- Juvenile
  - Judge
  - Prosecuting Attorney
  - Defense Attorney
  - Juvenile Probation Officer

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## Texas Juvenile Law

- Texas Family Code
- Texas Juvenile Probation Commission
- Appeals Court
- Texas Bar

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## Internal and External Control

- Mother and Father roles
- Zero Tolerance / Trial and Error
- Physical and Emotional

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## Internal versus External Adolescent Development

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|---|---|
| ▪ Internal Motivators   | ▪ External Motivators   |
| Assessment of the adolescent stage that allows for the juvenile to make decisions in their own best interest. | Providing a protection to the community and sanctions to at risk behaviors that could lead to recidivism. |

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## Creative Dispositions

- A balanced order that considers the four core issues in providing the best opportunity for successful completion of the term of probation
- Allows the flexibility within the core issues to be utilized.
- There is no magic pill to cure adolescence

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## Creative Disposition Examples

- The goals are to teach
- 1. Empathy
- 2. Tolerance
- Other examples...

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## Creative Placements

- Meets the core requirements in a safer environment that, with time, allows the juvenile to amend their behavior OR move past the stage they were in at the time of arrest.
- Rites of Passage
- Glen Mills
- Youth Center of the High Plains
- Other examples...

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Creativity is inherent in Texas Juvenile Law. It is not in Penal Code, it is not in policy, it is not in phantom rules. It is held in the hands of the players, the people at the bench that have an ethical and moral responsibility to make every decision in the best interest of the child and the community.

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Thank You!!

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