Focus: A future-focused workshop around the group’s vision for youth safety and the criminal justice system by 2060
Goal: Identify shared values and visions, as well as the steps and tools to achieve them

KEY TAKEAWAYS

Collective imagination is an integral part of social change, enabling greater empathy and pushing the boundaries of the possible.
In envisioning the ideal (not most likely) 2060, the top responses, in order of frequency, were as follows:

Values shaping the world in 2060:
- Justice
- Equality
- Empathy
- Peace
- Fairness

Words describing criminal justice in 2060:
- Restorative
- Just
- Hippocratic oath
- Obsolete/inexistent/unnecessary

Less frequent but thought-provoking responses:
Comprehension, non-legal, honorable, and participatory

Key actors involved in the criminal justice system of 2060:
- Neighborhoods
- Family
- Communities of color/Impacted communities
- Education/Educators
- Civil society/Citizens
- Academics/Specialists (e.g. mental health specialists, psychologists, anthropologists)

Not mentioned: Judges, prosecutors, national/state governments

Top tools and mechanisms identified:
- Mediation/Dialogue
- Open minds and healing
- Meditation
- Therapy
- Education

Less frequent but thought-provoking: Prevention programs, social welfare, labor habilitation, peer support/mentoring, faith

Not mentioned: Data, metrics

Key aspects of today’s system that should survive in the new system:
- Rule of law
- Advocacy
- Public safety

Less frequent but thought-provoking: Restricting movement/isolation necessary time, social recognition of failure, accountability, support for victims, functional courts, “almost nothing”

The need for empathy and for the population to understand the conditions within the carceral state—often hidden from most of society—were understood as key factors in achieving reform.

Themes of poverty alleviation and early childhood investments arose consistently as means of constructing a more just system and removing reasons for criminal activity.

Likewise, the themes of mediation and dialogue, as well as individuating justice, i.e. determining a person’s needs and designing their rehabilitation accordingly, were central to the group’s vision.

There were also consistent questions around sustainable reform:
- How does a society achieve deterrence?
- Is there a human urge for harsher “justice” and how can that urge be curbed?
- How does a reformed society respond to waves of violent crime that often give rise to calls to restore order through harsher punishments?
- How many people need to be removed from society, i.e. incarcerated, to protect it from the very few who are truly dangerous and beyond rehabilitation?
- How might technology enable those physically removed to participate virtually?

KEY EXAMPLES

- Civic Imagination Project (USC, California, US)