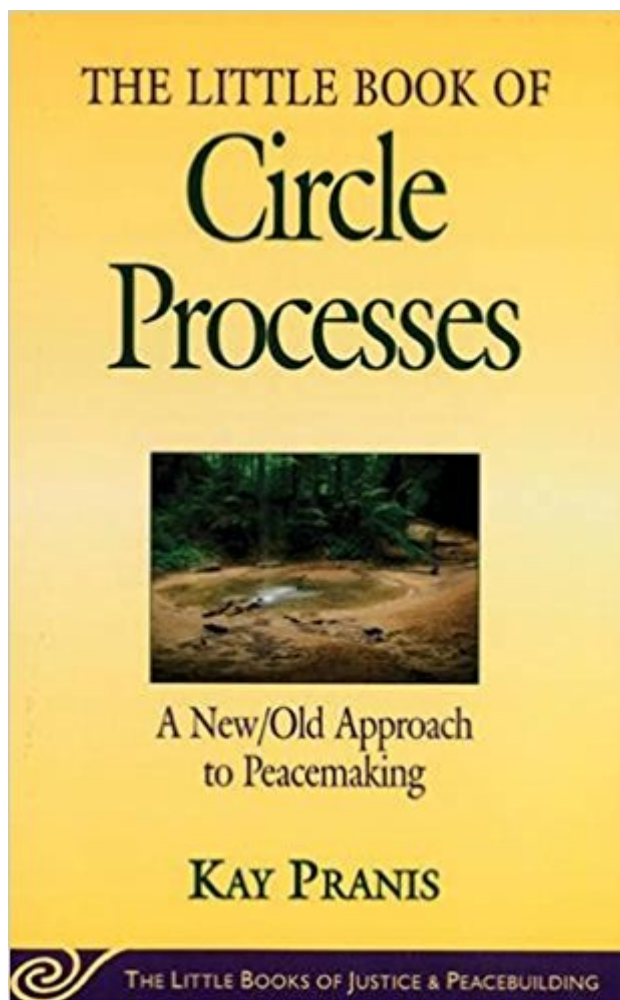


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# The Little Book Of Circle Processes : A New/Old Approach To Peacemaking (The Little Books Of Justice And Peacebuilding Series) (Little Books Of Justice & Peacebuilding)





## Synopsis

Our ancestors gathered around a fire in a circle, families gather around their kitchen tables in circles, and now we are gathering in circles as communities to solve problems. The practice draws on the ancient Native American tradition of a talking piece. Peacemaking Circles are used in neighborhoods to provide support for those harmed by crime and to decide sentences for those who commit crime, in schools to create positive classroom climates and resolve behavior problems, in the workplace to deal with conflict, and in social services to develop more organic support systems for people struggling to get their lives together. A title in The Little Books of Justice and Peacebuilding Series.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Kay Pranis is a trainer and writer on Peacemaking Circles and restorative justice. She served as the Restorative Justice Planner for the Minnesota Department of Corrections from 1994 to 2003. Since 1998, Kay has conducted Circle trainings in a diverse range of communities—from schools to prisons to workplaces to churches, and from rural towns in Minnesota to Chicago's South Side to Montgomery, Alabama. She has written numerous articles on restorative justice and co-wrote Peacemaking Circles: From Crime to Community. Kay's intention in her work is to create spaces in which people can be in more loving connection with each other. Kay's experience as a parent and a community activist form the foundation of her vision for peacemaking and community-building.

This little book is an excellent introduction to Peacemaking Circles. It is NOT a "How To" book. It does provide a great introduction to Circles for the reader. It also seems to be a helpful resource for introducing others to the topic and helping groups, organizations, and communities consider getting more information and training and possibly using Circles for conflict resolution, to promote dialogue around difficult topics, discovery and learning of different perspectives, alternative sentencing in courts, alternative discipline in schools, etc. The book is well written, clear and concise. The author is knowledgeable and has much practical (and inspirational) experience. I enjoyed the brief stories and examples used in the book, which seemed fitting for the subject. I did find it somewhat redundant in how it introduced the core elements of Circles in the second chapter, and then attempted to explain them further in a separate chapter (c 6). I didn't find much additional info in the chapter on the core elements, though some expansion of ideas previously introduced was helpful. I wondered if the limited space in the book could have been better used to cover additional content (The "Little Books of Justice & Peacebuilding" series seems to be wisely limited to 90 pages). I was glad that the author did address various challenges to implementing Circles in the book.

Circle Processes is a really good reference for anyone looking to learn a bit about the benefit of working in circles. This book outlines why circles are used for therapy sessions, the criminal justice system and in school settings. It also outlines the reasons that circles are good ways to promote healing and accountability. I used this book for more than one project in courses focused on education. There is a lot of good information contained in this little book. A friend of mine recommended it after her school started teacher conferences to go over the benefits of circle processes.

I actually took a class and this was a required book. I received it in a timely fashion and it was in great condition

Best book on the market to quickly learn about the philosophy behind restorative justice. There are so many books to follow it up with but Kay lays out the basics and makes you want to learn more!

I found this book helpful in explaining the circle process. it has help drive my desire to see this process used in corrections rather than longer sentences or other forms of punishment.

Very helpful for Circle beginners. Good course material.

This book is both inspirational and practically helpful. It's a short, easy read with lots of good guidance and insight. Highly recommended!

We are using this in one of our classes. GREAT book. Excellent service!!

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