

# The Problem of Transitional Justice

Comments on Colleen Murphy's *The Conceptual Foundations of Transitional Justice*

## Addressing Past Wrongdoings: What *Kind* of Justice Should Be Done?

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*Abstract:* Colleen Murphy has recently proposed an innovative approach to the normative theorization of transitional justice understood as the “just pursuit of societal transformations”. Central to Murphy’s argument is the claim that this pursuit requires discharging a set of duties of justice of a distinctive *kind*, irreducible to those of retribution, correction, and distribution. While I concur with Murphy’s claim concerning the irreducible relational nature of transitional justice, in this piece I show that this latter falls short of identifying a specific *kind* of justice. I suggest that what distinguishes the different *demands* of justice that Murphy singles out is the extent to which they commit to the specific realization of the two general kinds of duties of either end-state or interactive justice in different circumstances.

*Keywords:* Transitional justice, Interactive justice, Corrective justice, Retributive justice.

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