

Argumentative Paper On Capital Punishment

Taking a unique approach that emphasizes careful reasoning, this cutting-edge reader is structured around twenty-seven landmark arguments that have provoked heated debates on current ethical issues.

Against Capital Punishment develops an innovative argument against the death penalty that sidesteps questions about the morality of execution itself. Yost argues that the irrevocability of the death penalty calls for its abolition. In so doing, he explores the extent of legal institutions' responsibility to remedy their mistakes and solves the problems that sabotage other versions of procedural abolitionism

In 1982, Sister Helen Prejean became the spiritual advisor to Patrick Sonnier, the convicted killer of two teenagers who was sentenced to die in the electric chair of Louisiana ’ s Angola State Prison. In the months before Sonnier ’ s death, the Roman Catholic nun came to know a man who was as terrified as he had once been terrifying. She also came to know the families of the victims and the men whose job it was to execute—men who often harbored doubts about the rightness of what they were doing. Out of that dreadful intimacy comes a profoundly moving spiritual journey through our system of capital punishment. Here Sister Helen confronts both the plight of the condemned and the rage of the bereaved, the fears of a society shattered by violence and the Christian imperative of love. On its original publication in 1993, Dead Man Walking emerged as an unprecedented look at the human consequences of the death penalty. Now, some two decades later, this story—which has inspired a film, a stage play, an opera and a musical album—is more gut-wrenching than ever, stirring deep and life-changing reflection in all who encounter it.

Powerful, wry essays offering modern takes on a primitive practice, from one of our most widely read death penalty abolitionists As Ruth Bader Ginsburg has noted, people who are well represented at trial rarely get the death penalty. But as Marc Bookman shows in a dozen brilliant essays, the problems with capital punishment run far deeper than just bad representation. Exploring prosecutorial misconduct, racist judges and jurors, drunken lawyering, and executing the innocent and the mentally ill, these essays demonstrate that precious few people on trial for their lives get the fair trial the Constitution demands. Today, death penalty cases continue to capture the hearts, minds, and ebasts of progressives of all stripes—including the rich and famous (see Kim Kardashian ’ s advocacy)—but few people with firsthand knowledge of America ’ s “ injustice system ” have the literary chops to bring death penalty stories to life. Enter Marc Bookman. With a voice that is both literary and journalistic, the veteran capital defense lawyer and seven-time Best American Essays “ notable ” author exposes the dark absurdities and fatal inanities that undermine the logic of the death penalty wherever it still exists. In essays that cover seemingly “ ordinary ” capital cases over the last thirty years, Bookman shows how violent crime brings out our worst human instincts—revenge, fear, retribution, and prejudice. Combining these emotions with the criminal legal system ’ s weaknesses—purposely ineffective, arbitrary, or widely infected with racism and misogyny—is a recipe for injustice. Bookman has been charming and educating readers in the pages of The Atlantic, Mother Jones, and Slate for years. His wit and wisdom are now collected and preserved in A

Descending Spiral.

A Descending Spiral

Should America Have Capital Punishment? The Experts on Both Sides Make Their Case

Hidden Victims

Fighting the Death Penalty

Final Judgments

The American Debate Over the Death Penalty

Two distinguished social and political philosophers take opposing positions in this highly engaging work. Louis P. Pojman justifies the practice of execution by appealing to the principle of retribution: we deserve to be rewarded and punished for the viciousness of our actions. He asserts that the death penalty does deter some potential murderers and that we risk the lives of innocent people who might otherwise live if we refuse to execute those deserving that punishment. Jeffrey Reiman argues that the death penalty is a just punishment for murder, we are not morally obliged to execute murderers. Since we lack conclusive evidence that executing murderers is an effective deterrent and because we can foster the advance of civilization by demonstrating our unwillingness to kill those who kill others, Reiman concludes that it is good in principle to avoid the death penalty, and bad in practice to impose it.

The contributors offer analysis and explanations of new developments in retributivism, the philosophical account of punishment that holds that wrongdoers must be punished as a matter of right, duty, or justice, rather than deterrence, retribution, or mercy.

Refusing to eradicate the death penalty, the U.S. has attempted to reform and rationalize capital punishment through federal constitutional law. While execution chambers remain active in several states, Carol Steiker and Jordan Steiker argue that the death penalty is likely to be sealed by this failed judicial experiment.

Experts on both side of the issue speak out both for and against capital punishment and the rationale behind their individual beliefs.

The International Library of Essays on Capital Punishment, Volume 1

Justice and Legal Issues

Critical Thinking, fifth edition

The Case Against the Death Penalty

Deterrence and the Death Penalty

The Immorality of Punishing by Death

Essay from the year 2015 in the subject Law - Philosophy, History and Sociology of Law, grade: 4.00, Indiana University (College of Arts and Sciences - Political Science Department), course: POLS-Y210 Rule of Law, language: English, abstract: This paper hopes to establish the continued forcefulness of Cesare Beccaria's argument against torture and the death penalty by reconciling its reasoning with the societal and legal context of the modern day. Cesare Beccaria, considered one of the founding fathers of Enlightenment penology and legal theory, is perhaps most well known for his treatise On Crime and Punishment in which he argues against punitive administration of torture and capital punishment. This paper analyzes the arguments proposed by Beccaria and reasserts their modern relevance to contemporary legal conversation on the death penalty and government-administered torture. Weaknesses in Beccaria's argument such as his questionably justified causal claims on human behavior are examined, but ultimately found to not render his argument less sound insofar as it seeks to discredit capital punishment. Beccaria's own model of social contract theory is also examined and used as a basis by which to evaluate his legal claims.

Presents the arguments of two social and political philosophers with opposing views on the topic

This revised and updated second edition is an overview of capital punishment. It offers an examination of the death penalty, supported by statistics and Supreme Court cases, and followed by pro and con discussions. The book addresses every major issue relating to the death penalty including deterrence, racial impact, arbitrariness, its use on special populations, and methods of execution. This text challenges students to evaluate their beliefs and assumptions on each of the various issues surrounding this controversial subject. Each chapter begins with a primer of the issue to be discussed, followed by the data and critical documents necessary to make an educated assessment, and concludes with essays that offer differing viewpoints by some of the best minds in the country. New material added to the second edition includes: updated data on deterrence ; new data and articles on brutalization and cost ; new cases and articles on the death penalty for juveniles ; new case and articles on the death penalty for raping a child ; and a new chapter on methods of execution.

Final Judgments: The Death Penalty in American Law and Culture explores the significance and meaning of finality in capital cases. Questions addressed in this book include: how are concerns about finality reflected in the motivations and behavior of participants in the death penalty system? How does an awareness of finality shape the experience of the death penalty for those condemned to die as well as for capital punishment's public audience? What is the meaning of time in capital cases? What are the relative weights according to finality versus the need for error correction in legal and political debates? And, how does the meaning of finality differ in capital and non-capital (LWOP) cases? Each chapter examines the idea of finality as a legal, political, and cultural fact. Final Judgments deploys various theories and perspectives to explore the death penalty's finality.

A Catholic Defense of Capital Punishment

How Killing the Death Penalty Can Revive Criminal Justice

How To Do Things With Logic

The Supreme Court and Capital Punishment

A Balanced Examination

In Twelve Essays

The true and gripping account of the nine-year struggle by a small band of lawyers to abolish the death penalty in the United States. Its new edition features a 2011 Foreword by death-penalty author Evan Mandery of CUNY's John Jay College of Criminal Justice, as well as a new Preface by the author.The mission, plotted out over lunch in New York's Central Park in the early 1960s, seemed as impossible as going to the moon: abolish capital punishment in every state. The approach would fight on multiple fronts, with multiple strategies. The people would be dedicated, bright, unsure, unpopular, and fascinating. This is their story: not only the cases and the arguments before courts, the death row inmates and their victims, the judges and politicians urging law and order, this is the true account of the real-life lawyers from the inside. The United States indeed went to the moon, and a few years later the U.S. Supreme Court ruled the death penalty unconstitutional. The victory was long-sought and sweet, and the pages of this book vividly let the reader live the struggle and the victory. And while the abolition eventually became as impermanent as the nation's presence on the moon, these dedicated attorneys certainly made a difference. This is their tale.As Evan Mandery writes in his new Foreword, "In these pages, Meltser lays bare every aspect of his and his colleagues' thinking. You will read how they handicapped their chances, which arguments they thought would work (you may be surprised), and what they thought of the Supreme Court justices who would decide the crucial cases. You will come to understand what they perceived to be the basis for support for the death penalty. and, with Meltser's unflinching honesty, what they perceived to be the inconsistencies in their position."Mandery concludes: "It is my odd lot in life to have read almost every major book ever written about the death penalty in America. This is the best and the most important. Every serious scholar who wants to advance an argument about capital punishment in the United States—whether it is abolitionist or in favor of the death penalty, or merely a tactical assessment—cites this book. It is open and supremely accessible." And the author's "constitutional vision was years ahead of its time. His book is timeless." Part of the Legal History and Biography Series from Quid Pro Books, the new ebook editions feature embedded pagination from previous editions (consistent with the new paperback edition as well, allowing continuity in all formats), active TOC and endnotes, and quality digital formatting.

William Hughes's Critical Thinking, revised and updated by Jonathan Lavery, is a comprehensive and accessible introduction to the essential skills required to make strong arguments. Hughes and Lavery give a thorough treatment of such traditional topics as deductive and inductive reasoning, logical fallacies, the importance of inference, how to recognize and avoid ambiguity, and how to assess what is or is not relevant to an argument. The authors also cover less traditional topics such as special concerns to keep in mind when reasoning about ethical matters, and how the nature of a language can affect the structure of an argument. In addition to covering basic concepts for analyzing and assessing arguments, the text also has two chapters that are designed to help students write argumentative essays. Last but not least, Critical Thinking includes a selection of logical paradoxes and puzzles that are as entertaining as they are enlightening. For the fifth edition particular attention has been paid to the needs of Canadian students and instructors.

This volume provides up-to-date and nuanced analysis across a wide spectrum of capital punishment issues. The essays move beyond the conventional legal approach and propose fresh perspectives, including a unique critique of the abolition sector. Written by a range of leading experts with diverse geographical, methodological and conceptual approaches, the essays in this volume challenge received wisdom and embrace a holistic understanding of capital punishment based on practical experience and empirical data. This collection is indispensable reading for anyone seeking a comprehensive and detailed understanding of the complexity of the death penalty discourse.

Annotation In the US, murderers, particularly those sentenced to death, are usually considered as entirely different from the rest of us. Sociologist Susan F. Sharp challenges perspective by reminding us that those facing a death sentence, in addition to being murderers, are brothers or sisters, mothers or fathers, daughters or sons.

The Death Penalty Debate

Cesare Beccaria Against Capital Punishment. Presenting and Evaluating his Argument

Capital Punishment

A Brief Statement of the Argument for the Abolition of the Death Punishment

Against the Death Penalty

An Introduction to the Basic Skills

Reprint of the fourth edition, which contains an additional text attributed to Voltaire. Originally published anonymously in 1764, Dei Delitti e Delle Pene was the first systematic study of the principles of crime and punishment. Infused with the spirit of the Enlightenment, its advocacy of crime prevention and the abolition of torture and capital punishment marked a significant advance in criminological thought, which had changed little since the Middle Ages. It had a profound influence on the development of criminal law in Europe and the United States.

The Catholic Church has in recent decades been associated with political efforts to eliminate the death penalty. It was not always so. This timely work reviews and explains the Catholic Tradition regarding the death penalty, demonstrating that it is not inherently evil and that it can be reserved as a just form of punishment in certain cases. Drawing upon a wealth of philosophical, scriptural, theological, and social scientific arguments, the authors explain the perennial teaching of the Church that capital punishment can in principle be legitimate—not only to protect society from immediate physical danger, but also to administer retributive justice and to deter capital crimes. The authors also show how some recent statements of Church leaders in opposition to the death penalty are prudential judgments rather than dogma. They reaffirm that Catholics may, in good conscience, disagree about the application of the death penalty. Some arguments against the death penalty falsely suggest that there has been a rupture in the Church's traditional teaching and thereby inadvertently cast doubt on the reliability of the Magisterium. Yet, as the authors demonstrate, the Church's traditional teaching is a safeguard to society, because the just use of the death penalty can be used to protect the lives of the innocent, inculcate a horror of murder, and affirm the dignity of human beings as free and rational creatures who must be held responsible for their actions. By Man Shall His Blood Be Shed challenges contemporary Catholics to engage with Scripture, Tradition, natural law, and the actual social scientific evidence in order to undertake a thoughtful analysis of the current debate about the death penalty.

The death penalty is contested across modern social, political, academic, and legal institutions, and this interdisciplinary text helps readers analyze that debate. It begins with Furman v. Georgia, which doubles as the Supreme Court's only decision striking down the death penalty and as the origin of the modern American death penalty. The text explores the legal rules and moral reasoning behind the principle that the death penalty be reserved for the worst offenders, as well as the most uncomfortable realities of American capital punishment—the likelihood of wrongful executions and the undeniable influence of race on death penalty practice.

Discussion of law and theory is always supplemented with appropriate empirical studies, and is connected to the practice of lawyers on the ground. The text concludes with a glimpse to the future of the death penalty, and situates the increasingly exceptional American experience in an international context. This legal material is carefully presented so as to remain accessible to non-lawyers, and it is intended for anyone with an interest in capital punishment.

Discusses the controversial issue of whether the death penalty is a fair punishment, debating both sides of the argument.

For and Against

End of Its Rope

Christian and Secular Arguments Against Capital Punishment

Courting Death

A Life for a Life

Exposing the Death Penalty in 12 Essays

Is Capital Punishment A Legal Crime or Just Punishment? I Want YOU To Decide! ** Get this book by Author David K. Garfield ** Capital punishment has been debated as good practice vs. bad practice for many years. Is it an effective learning method, or not? Is it humane or inhumane? These are questions that have been asked by the political powers, psychologists, and the average living citizen. Countless case studies and research is out there for hours upon hours to get to the bottom of the actual effectiveness of this particular procedure. In this book, we will take a deep look at capital punishment and let the reader decide his/her side of this everlasting argument. "The Death Penalty: Capital Punishment in the USA" is not only intended to give the reader knowledge about capital punishment in the USA, but also an overview of the history of its use globally. A deep focus however, is to gain insight into why the practice appears to be so ingrained into the American penal system. Capital punishment has evolved through the 20th century and the methods of execution differ from before; i.e. how capital justice is dispensed & where. Also how the death penalty fits into the broader social dynamic of the United States; discussing both the objective and subjective arguments for and against capital punishment in the modern world. You are about to get some a wide perspective of unique views into the world of capital punishment. After reading, your eyes will be wide open no matter which side your argument is supporting. You will discover: The History Of Capital Punishment The Effects Of Capital Punishment Where Capital Punishment Still Exist Today Social Aspects Of Capital Punishment Does It Work Or Doesn't It Work? The Future Of Capital Punishment Take Action! Purchase this book today! "

Michigan is the only state in the country that has a death penalty prohibition in its constitution—Eugene G. Wanger’s compelling arguments against capital punishment is a large reason it is there. The forty pieces in this volume are writings created or used by the author, who penned the prohibition clause, during his fifty years as a death penalty abolitionist. His extraordinary background in forensics, law, and political activity as constitutional convention delegate and co-chairman of the Michigan Committee Against Capital Punishment has produced a remarkable collection. It is not only a fifty-year history of the anti-death penalty argument in America, it also is a detailed and challenging example of how the argument against capital punishment may be successfully made.

Many studies during the past few decades have sought to determine whether the death penalty has any deterrent effect on homicide rates. Researchers have reached widely varying, even contradictory, conclusions. Some studies have concluded that the threat of capital punishment deters murders, saving large numbers of lives; other studies have concluded that executions actually increase homicides; still others, that executions have no effect on murder rates. Commentary among researchers, advocates, and policymakers on the scientific validity of the findings has sometimes been acrimonious. Against this backdrop, the National Research Council report Deterrence and the Death Penalty assesses whether the available evidence provides a scientific basis for answering questions of if and how the death penalty affects homicide rates. This new report from the Committee on Law and Justice concludes that research to date on the effect of capital punishment on homicide rates is not useful in determining whether the death penalty increases, decreases, or has no effect on these rates. The key question is whether capital punishment is less or more effective as a deterrent than alternative punishments, such as a life sentence without the possibility of parole. Yet none of the research that has been done accounted for the possible effect of noncapital punishments on homicide rates. The report recommends new avenues of research that may provide broader insight into any deterrent effects from both capital and noncapital punishments.

From 1965 until 1980, there was a virtual moratorium on executions for capital offenses in the United States. This was due primarily to protracted legal proceedings challenging the death penalty on constitutional grounds. After much Sturm und Drang, the Supreme Court of the United States, by a divided vote, finally decided that "the death penalty does not invariably violate the Cruel and Unusual Punishment Clause of the Eighth Amendment." The Court's decisions, however, do not moot the controversy about the death penalty or render this excellent book irrelevant. The ball is now in the court of the Legislature and the Executive. Leg islatures, federal and state, can impose or abolish the death penalty, within the guidelines prescribed by the Supreme Court. A Chief Executive can commute a death sentence. And even the Supreme Court can change its mind, as it has done on many occasions and did, with respect to various aspects of the death penalty itself, durlong the moratorium period. Also, the people can change their minds. Some time ago, a majority, according to reliable polls, favored abolition. Today, a substantial majority favors imposition of the death penalty. The pendulum can swing again, as it has done in the past.

A Fifty-Year Journey of Argument and Persuasion

Peculiar Institution

By Man Shall His Blood Be Shed

Readings in Ethical Issues

An Eye for an Eye

The Effects of the Death Penalty on Families of the Accused

NEW YORK TIMES EDITORS' CHOICE • A deeply reported, searingly honest portrait of the death penalty in Texas—and what it tells us about crime and punishment in America “If you’re one of those people who despair that nothing changes, and dream that something can, this is a story of how it does.”—Anand Giridharadas, The New York Times Book Review **WINNER OF THE J. ANTHONY LUKAS AWARD** In 1972, the United States Supreme Court made a surprising ruling: the country’s death penalty system violated the Constitution. The backlash was swift, especially in Texas, where executions were considered part of the cultural fabric, and a dark history of lynching was masked by gauzy visions of a tough-on-crime frontier. When executions resumed, Texas quickly became the nationwide leader in carrying out the punishment. Then, amid a larger wave of criminal justice reform, came the death penalty’s decline, a trend so durable that even in Texas the punishment appears again close to extinction. In *Let the Lord Sort Them*, Maurice Chammah charts the rise and fall of capital punishment through the eyes of those it touched. We meet Elsa Alcalá, the orphaned daughter of a Mexican American family who found her calling as a prosecutor in the nation’s death penalty capital, before becoming a judge on the state’s highest court. We meet Danalynn Recer, a lawyer who became obsessively devoted to unearthing the life stories of men who committed terrible crimes, and fought for mercy in courtrooms across the state. We meet death row prisoners—many of them once-famous figures like Henry Lee Lucas, Gary Graham, and Karla Faye Tucker—along with their families and the families of their victims. And we meet the executioners, who struggle openly with what society has asked them to do. In tracing these interconnected lives against the rise of mass incarceration in Texas and the country as a whole, Chammah explores what the persistence of the death penalty tells us about forgiveness and retribution, fairness and justice, history and myth. Written with intimacy and grace, *Let the Lord Sort Them* is the definitive portrait of a particularly American institution.

In the past 15 years a host of critical thinking books have appeared that teach students to find flaws in the arguments of others by learning to detect a number of informal fallacies. This book is not in that tradition. The authors of this book believe that while students learn to become vicious critics, they still continue to make the very mistakes they criticize in others. Thus, this book has adopted the approach of teaching the construction of good arguments first and then introducing criticism as a secondary skill. Moreover, the emphasis of the book is not on learning to name fallacies, but on being able to identify weaknesses in an argument so as to be able to construct an effective critique of that argument. The book is accompanied by a workbook featuring a wealth of examples to help

students acquire the material.

Drawing on Old and New Testament resources as well as secular arguments, Gardner C. Hanks shows that the death penalty harms rather than helps any quest for a just, humane society. He demonstrates through research data that the death penalty is an ineffective crime-fighting tool.

Today, death sentences in the U.S. are as rare as lightning strikes. Brandon Garrett shows us the reasons why, and explains what the failed death penalty experiment teaches about the effect of inept lawyering, overzealous prosecution, race discrimination, wrongful convictions, and excessive punishments throughout the criminal justice system.

Capital Punishment in America

An Eyewitness Account of the Death Penalty in the United States

Capital Punishment in the USA

The Rise and Fall of the Death Penalty

Essays on the Death Penalty

Let the Lord Sort Them

"Please see the attached text file"--

The death penalty issue has become the epitome of the unresolvable issue, the question which people answer on the basis of gut reactions rather than logical arguments. In the second edition of *An Eye for an Eye?* Stephen Nathanson evaluates arguments for and against the death penalty, and ultimately defends an abolitionist position to the controversial practice, including arguments that show how and why the death penalty is inconsistent with respect for life and a commitment to justice. A timely new postscript and an updated bibliography accompany the volume.

A landmark dissenting opinion arguing against the death penalty Does the death penalty violate the Constitution? In *Against the Death Penalty*, Justice Stephen G. Breyer argues that it does: that it is carried out unfairly and inconsistently, and thus violates the ban on "cruel and unusual punishments" specified by the Eighth Amendment to the Constitution. "Today's administration of the death penalty," Breyer writes, "involves three fundamental constitutional defects: (1) serious unreliability, (2) arbitrariness in application, and (3) unconscionably long delays that undermine the death penalty's penological purpose. Perhaps as a result, (4) most places within the United States have abandoned its use." This volume contains Breyer's dissent in the case of *Glossip v. Gross*, which involved an unsuccessful challenge to Oklahoma's use of a lethal-injection drug because it might cause severe pain. Justice Breyer's legal citations have been edited to make them understandable to a general audience, but the text retains the full force of his powerful argument that the time has come for the Supreme Court to revisit the constitutionality of the death penalty. Breyer was joined in his dissent from the bench by Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg. Their passionate argument has been cited by many legal experts — including fellow Justice Antonin Scalia — as signaling an eventual Court ruling striking down the death penalty. A similar dissent in 1963 by Breyer's mentor, Justice Arthur J. Goldberg, helped set the stage for a later ruling, imposing what turned out to be a four-year moratorium on executions.

"The Italian political and legal thinker Cesare Beccaria (1738-1794) is justly regarded as the founding father of the movement for criminal law reform that emerged in Europe in the mid-18th century. His treatise, *On Crimes and Punishments* (1764), is a seminal text that has had an enormous and lasting influence on politicians, jurists, philosophers and theologians. In particular, his attack on the death penalty has dominated the historical and philosophical debate. However, an earlier treatise that specifically argues for the abolition of the death penalty has recently come to light. This is *Contro la pena di morte* (1761), by Giuseppe Pelli (1729-1808). Pelli and Beccaria were not in contact and apparently had no knowledge of the other's work until Beccaria's treatise appeared. Pelli's treatise was never completed and remained unpublished for 250 years. It was discovered in the late 1980's among the papers of the descendants of his adopted daughter, and was published in Italian in 2014. In *Against the Death Penalty*, Peter Garnsey, a historian of the Roman Empire and Italy, provides the first English translation of this important yet forgotten text. Although Beccaria attacked the whole criminal justice system of his time, Pelli's work was singular in its focus on attacking on just the death penalty. As such, it was the first attack of any substance that appeared in Europe, and although unfinished, it is a work of considerable sophistication and depth. It is a comprehensive critique, considerably longer and more thorough than that of Beccaria. Pelli was also a man of religious convictions and operated within the Catholic tradition: for his key arguments he drew on the writings of the natural jurists, in particular Grotius and Pufendorf. Garnsey provides a substantial introduction, the bulk of which is a comparative evaluation of the discussions of Pelli and Beccaria on the death penalty and alternative punishments. He also provides historical context for the intellectual and social environment in which the two men lived and from which their works emerged. Although much has been written about Beccaria, little is known or has been written about Pelli's life. Garnsey reconstructs what is important for understanding his text by drawing on the massive diary Pelli left, which has also only recently become available. It not only sheds light on Pelli's intellectual development but provides a fascinating, extraordinarily informative, and revealing day-by-day, profoundly personal account of a man of letters who became a bureaucrat in the service of the Habsburg Monarchy"

Against Capital Punishment

A Debate

Dead Man Walking

An Essay on Crimes and Punishments

Capital Punishment in the United States

Argument of Edward Livingston, Against Capital Punishment

Numerous people face legal execution in the United States. Their presence in death rows throughout the country refutes a basic premise of our judicial system, for the use of capital punishment denies the existence of universal rehabilitation. There is another paradox—juries continue to sentence men and women to death; yet few ever get executed. Whether one is for or against capital punishment, one cannot approach the issue without deep emotion and conviction. James McCafferty provides an even-tempered, eminently reasonable discussion of the issue with balanced commentary from both sides of the debate. McCafferty presents not only empirical data and analyses of the nature of capital punishment, but provides perspectives on the larger issues of our approach to lawbreakers and their rehabilitation. The claims of both those who want to retain capital punishment and those who want to abolish it are included. The arguments consider whether capital punishment deters crime as well as the question of discrimination. A wealth of references, an extremely useful bibliography, and a final chapter delineating the legal issues facing the courts at the time the book was originally published in 1972 complete this unusually incisive and balanced study. *Capital Punishment* remains an important volume in the field of criminal justice. It seeks to educate rather than propagandize. It is intended for use in numerous courses in sociology and political science as well as in law schools. Anyone wishing to gain a perspective on what remains a controversial issue more than thirty years later would be well advised to study this work by world-class scholars.

Why does the United States, alone among Western democracies, still have the death penalty? It's not a new question, but David Garland provides fresh answers from a multilayered analysis...The title hints at the most provocative part of Garland's answer. In American history, the "peculiar institution" is slavery. Anyone who thinks its vestiges were wiped out by the Emancipation Proclamation or civil rights laws should read this book and think again.

"This book explores the various trends in public opinion that influence crime prevention efforts, create public policy, and reform criminal law. It discusses three core issues: the role of free will and determination; the search for the root cause or causes of crime; and the effects of studying crimes versus studying criminals"--Provided by publisher.

Debating the Death Penalty

The Death Penalty in American Law and Culture

Essays on Theory and Policy

Contemporary Moral Arguments

Cruel and Unusual

Writings from the First Abolitionists—Giuseppe Pelli and Cesare Beccaria