



Dead Certainty: The Death Penalty and the Problem of Judgment

By Jennifer Louise Culbert

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"Dead Certainty is one of the most interesting and original treatments of capital punishment I have read in a long time. Culbert offers a philosophically compelling account of the Supreme Court's ongoing struggle to legitimate capital punishment. In her view, this struggle reveals important things about the nature of judgment itself and about the Court's attempt to ground capital punishment outside a framework of judgment." - - Austin Sarat, Amherst College. About the Author. Dead Certainty is about the challenge of judging matters of public concern without a common sense of the good or other shared criteria that validate final decisions. Examining both the philosophical and the practical aspects of this challenge, this book focuses on United States Supreme Court opinions that authorize and regulate the practice of sentencing people to death. Unlike other books that discuss capital punishment, it does not argue for or against the death penalty. Instead, Dead Certainty contributes to a larger project in contemporary political and legal philosophy: re-imagining how people in today's world give coherence and meaning to their shared experience. The existence of the death penalty in any society raises one underlying question: have we established our justice systems out of a desire for rehabilitation, or out of a desire for retribution? The lister has set out to examine both sides of the debate over the ethics and legality of capital punishment, especially in the US, and chooses neither side in any of the following entries. They are not presented in any meaningful order. A death sentence is the only irrevocable penalty that protects innocent lives. Maintains justice. For most people, life is sacred and innocent lives should be valued over the lives of killers. The Bottom Line: The death penalty has been used to maintain the balance of justice throughout history, punishing violent criminals in the severest way to ensure they won't kill again. On the other hand, with inconclusive evidence as to its deterrence of crime, the higher costs involved in pursuing capital cases, and the lack of relief and closure it brings to victims' families, the death penalty is not justified. Where do you stand on this controversial issue? The death penalty has been responsible for the death of many innocent people as well as people handed a sentence that didn't fit the level of the crime. Life imprisonment has the distinct advantage that it can lead to liberation if new evidence uncovers innocence. In a country where it is still possible to be put to death based on witness testimony, the weakest form of evidence, this penalty should not be allowed. The idea behind prisons should be to separate dangerous individuals from society. Taking someone's life goes beyond that and we should not allow ourselves or institutions t

The death penalty aims to be primarily a deterrent. And it fails. The death penalty is made humane. We're constantly researching for ways to make the death in the death penalty as painless as possible. That essentially renders it completely ineffective. The problem with any scientific study of the effects of large-scale, slow-moving public policy is that it's basically impossible to do a controlled experiment, and there are so many factors (thousands observable, millions unobservable) that contribute to any metric. For example, let's say that you could prove that murders increased after the death penalty was instated. Similar books and articles. Jennifer L. Culbert: *Dead Certainty: The Death Penalty and the Problem of Judgment*: Stanford: Stanford University Press, 2008, 235 Pp. [REVIEW] George Pavlich - 2009 - *International Journal for the Semiotics of Law - Revue Internationale de Sémiotique Juridique* 22 (1):157-161. *The Death Penalty Divides the West*. Danilo Zolo - 2009 - *Iris. European Journal of Philosophy and Public Debate* 1 (1):83-110. An Ethical and Social Examination of the Death Penalty as Depicted in Two Current Films Made in a Pro-Death Penalty Society. Atsushi Asai & Sakiko Maki - 2011 - *Eubios Journal of Asian and International Bioethics* 21 (3):95-98. *Bandages*. Kelly Oliver - 2014 - *Journal of French and Francophone Philosophy* 22 (2):70-83. Question: Does the death penalty have anything to do with the religious concept that good people go to heaven and bad people go to hell? Answer: Religious opinion is divided on the death penalty. Some Christian groups, such as Catholics, see life as precious and that only God can judge whether a life should be taken away, with God's judgment generally coming in the afterlife. Advocates of the death penalty typically see it as a natural punishment that enforces Christian morality, which also has biblical justification. Question: Do prisoners like having a life sentence? Answer: No one wish