

# Should the death penalty be legal?

## The Way I See It



DARRAN WHITE  
Columnist

It would be a bad idea to put an end to the death penalty. While some may argue that the death penalty is inhumane, I would disagree.

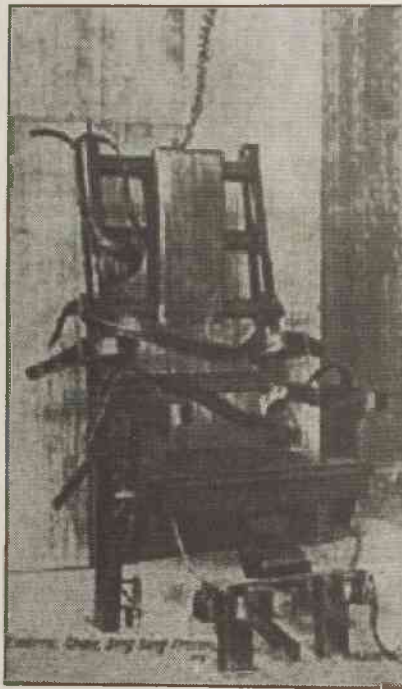
I also think it is ironic that some of the people who are against the death penalty are in favor of abortions. The irony is in the fact that the innocent baby can be disregarded but the murderer should be taken care of. Please forgive my little tirade. For the sake of this argument I will not include people who have had abortions in my definition of murderers.

When someone has a disregard for another person's life, the way I see it, this person has forfeited his right to be regarded favorably in the court system. I do not want to support this individual by providing tax money to him to go to college and

have free room and board. Now, before you think I'm in favor of, as so elegantly stated on a t-shirt, "killin'em all and letting God sort'em out," I am not. The death penalty should only be enforced in extreme circumstances.

Now the question arises, what is an extreme circumstance? An extreme murder would involve one or more of the following: malice, multiple murders, mutilation or lack of remorse.

I could list some examples of these extreme murders but I think my readers could come up with some graphic ideas on their own. Go ahead think of a few and then read the rest of my article.



Have you gotten an image in your mind? Good (I knew you could).

Now this person has been convicted of murder by whatever atrocity you chose (maybe a malicious multiple murder that involved mutilation). If there were no death penalty then this person would be

given free room and board for the rest of his life. All this will be paid for with your tax money.

For some this is good. They feel that a life in prison is harder for the person to endure. The argument

is they are living in confinement and know they will never be able to enjoy the freedoms they once had. In essence they are living a hollow, vacant life, and they will die in a lonely desolate place. Boo Hoo.

If the person has this much hatred in his heart I think it will take them along time before they reach this state of hopelessness. There are people who have gotten out of prison and have committed another crime and ended up right back in prison. This makes no sense. The punishment for crime is a deterrent. It may only be a deterrent to innocent people, but that is still justification to enforce the death penalty. If you take away the fear of death for murdering someone, there maybe an increase in the number of murders.

The way I see it, this country needs to enforce the death penalty and free up some space in the prison system to save tax money. The punishment for crime will help keep crime from happening. As always, this is simply the way I see it.

## From My Side



MALIA KALUA  
Page Layout Editor

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If you would like to share your opinion on this subject or any other past subject, please write a "Letter to the Editor" and send to: studentmedia@methodist.edu or call 630-7292 with any questions.