

Why do I have the feeling that the murderers are victims after all?

The capital punishment has been present in every judiciary system ever since people created it. According to Wikipedia, “[c]apital punishment, also known as the death penalty, is the execution of a convicted criminal by the state as punishment for crimes known as capital crimes or capital offences.” The death penalty has its defenders and opponents. Opponents’ loud cries against such vicious penalty were successful enough to make a remarkable step forward in abolition of death penalty. Most European democratic countries (all except Belarus), Latin American countries, many Pacific Area states and Canada have abolished the death penalty, whereas the United States, Guatemala, and most of the Caribbean as well as some democracies in Asia and Africa retain it. The latest country which decided to abolish death penalty was the Philippines in June 2006.

Lets throw an eye on what does the person have to do to be condemn to death? Capital sentence passed by judgement is kept for premeditated murder, treason, espionage, or as part of military justice. Even sexual crimes, such as adultery, carry the death penalty in some countries. In many countries drug trafficking, apostasy, people trafficking, or serious cases of corruption are considered as strong and appropriate to be punished by death. Court-martials around the world have passed the law which allows condemning a person to death for crimes, such as insubordination, desertion, cowardice, and mutiny.

As it has already been mentioned, the death penalty has as many supporters as those who disagree with its realisations. Therefore, various reasons exist why people are against it. One of them is because people are afraid a convicted person would be wrongly executed for the crime he or she did not do. To prevent such excesses, there have been passed many safeguards guaranteeing protection of the rights of those facing the death penalty. It is true also that in the case of mistake, the executed prisoner cannot be given another chance. If the prisoner is proved not guilty, he or she can be freed, but not to mention neither release nor compensations are possible for a dead person. In addition, it is believed that someone can do more alive than dead, therefore the convicted should be rather sent to work, for example being employed in the community service, than sent to death. Moreover, to many who disagree with

the capital punishment, the punishment carried out in that manner is a euphemism for legally killing people and in their opinion no one has the authority of playing God.

In conclusion, all these statements enlisted above are satisfying to seed a seed of doubt in one's common sense, but nevertheless with each execution there is one threat to the humans less in our society. We have to bare in mind that the crimes differ from case to case and the degree of crimes varies, too. Therefore, not all crimes deserve to be punished by death. Furthermore, I can not imagine all the pain, anger, frustration, or hatred the families of murder victims feel or how the victims of rape feel, but I can understand them. If one just thinks of the love ones he or she is surrounded by and just the thought of them being taken away by some unreasonable vicious mind makes a person think differently about people who inflict terror and fear and in return they expect to be served by three meals a day, television, warm bed, are allowed to hang out with their inmates, and live a comfortable life they do not deserve. And not to forget mentioning that we are the ones feeding each end everyone meanwhile they rot in jail. We have to ask ourselves what is of more importance there days. If the innocent victims die without a reason, why do the mean offenders have the right to live?

Sources:

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Capital_Punishment

<http://www.cwrl.utexas.edu>