

Starter:



Jeffrey Lionel Dahmer was convicted of the rape and murder of 17 men and boys over a period of 16 years.

Known as the Milwaukee Cannibal, Dahmer would preserve his victims' body parts and later eat them.

He was found to be 'legally sane' at his trial.

Challenge: What do you think Dahmer's punishment was? Why?

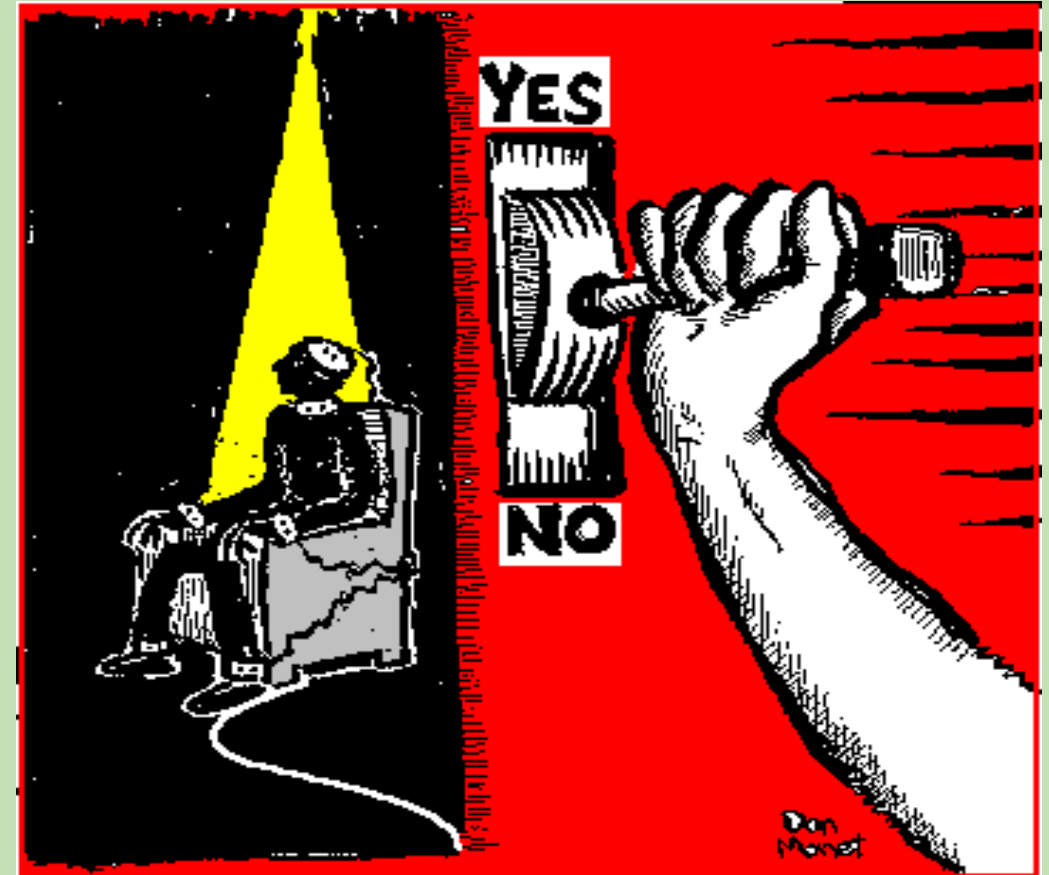
More challenging: How would you have sentenced Dahmer? Why?

Mega challenge: Explain why you think the jury needed to know if Dahmer was legally sane. What difference does that make?

Capital Punishment

By the end of the lesson you will be able to:

- **Describe** and **explain** arguments for and against the death penalty.
- **Analyse** whether the death penalty is moral, based on religious and non-religious opinions.

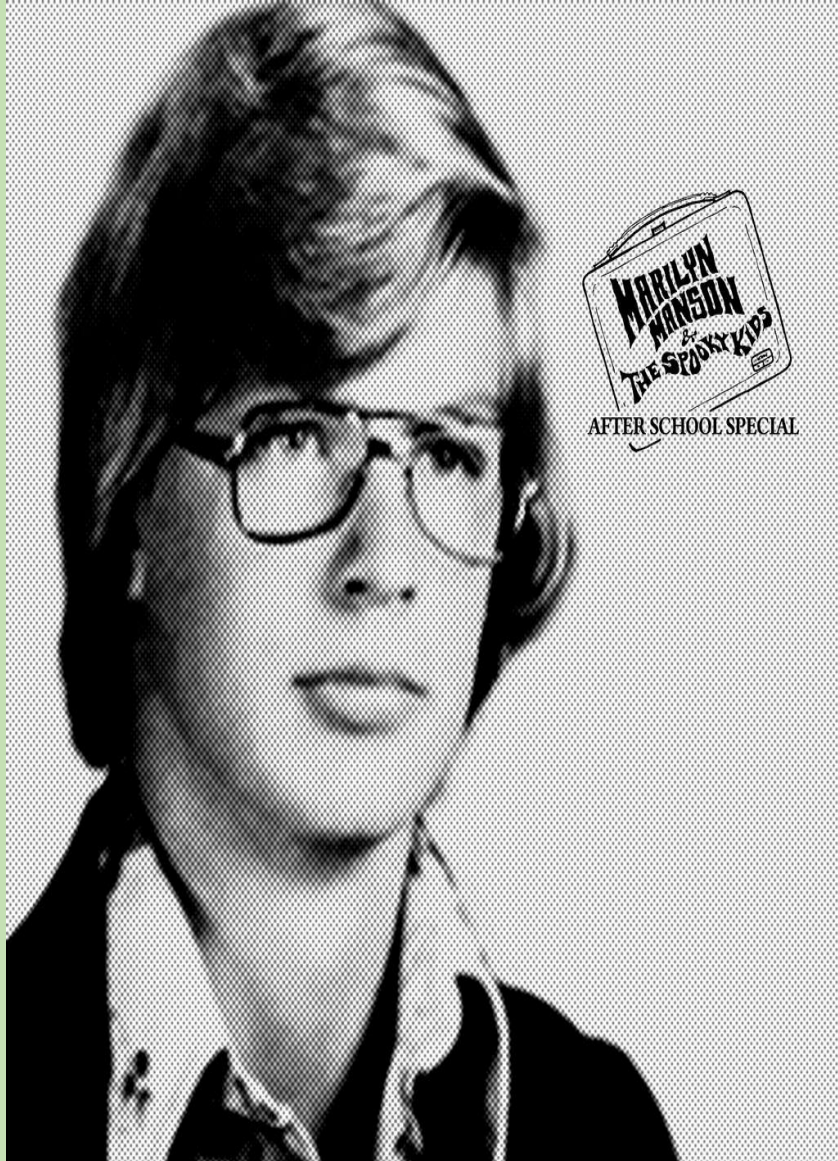




Key words



- **Capital Punishment** – the death penalty is the legally authorized killing of someone as punishment for a crime.
- **Abolition** - the action of getting rid of a system, practice, or institution.
- **Morality** – the principle of right and wrong or good and bad behaviour. Immoral is the opposite, negative behaviour.



Dahmer was sentenced to life imprisonment.

The death penalty was not an option for the judge to consider in sentencing, as the State of Wisconsin had abolished capital punishment in 1853.

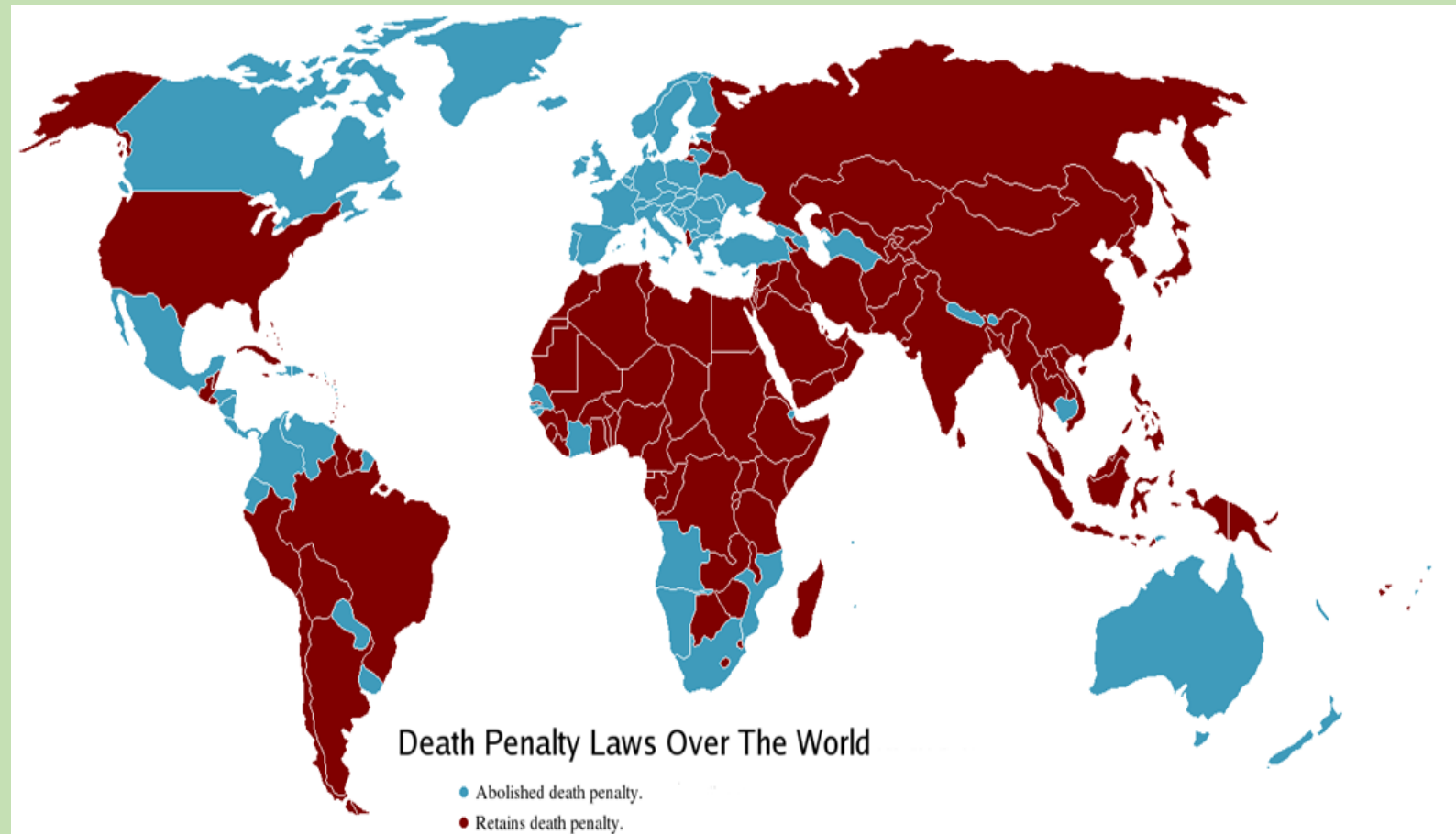
This led to a public outcry to make capital punishment a sentencing option in all US states.

Today the country is still divided, with some states having legitimising the death penalty, others not.

What is capital punishment?

Capital punishment is when someone is killed for committing a crime.

The countries in red still have the death penalty



Student name: _____

1 How many countries have abolished (or stopped using) the death penalty for all crimes by the end of 2018?

All (197) 106 74 (circle)

2 Which is the only European country to impose death sentences and carry out executions?

3 List the five most common methods of execution.

4 In 2018, how many recorded executions were there (excluding China)?

At least:

223 690 1,463 (circle)

5 Why is that number likely to be higher? _____

6 How many people are currently on death row around the world?

3,703 19,336 43,010 (circle)

7 Name the only country to abolish the death penalty in 2018.

8 How many US states still have the death penalty in law? _____

9 Which US state carried out the highest number of executions in 2018?

10 Which US state still uses the electric chair?

Texas Florida Connecticut (circle)

11 Since 1973, 166 people have been released from death row in the US because they turned out to be innocent.

True False (circle)

12 Around the world, how many people under 18 at the time of the offence were executed in 2018?

13 In what year did the UK formally abolish the death penalty for all crimes?



1 How many countries have abolished (or stopped using) the death penalty for all crimes by the end of 2018?

Answer: 106 for all crimes.

142 countries (more than two-thirds) had abolished the death penalty in law and practice.

Abolitionist for ordinary crimes only 8

Abolitionist in practice 28

2 Which is the only European country to impose death sentences and carry out executions?

Answer: Belarus. There were at least four executions and at least two death sentences in 2018.

Think point: Does it surprise you that the death penalty is used in only one European country? Why?

3 List the five most common methods of execution.

Answer:

Beheading

Electrocution

Hanging

Lethal injection

Shooting

Think point: Why do you think these are the most common?

4 In 2018, how many recorded executions were there (excluding China)?

Answer: 690. It's down 31 per cent from 2017 (at least 993 executions).

5 Why is that number likely to be higher?

Answer: China remained the world's top executioner, carrying out more death sentences than the rest of the world combined – but figures remain classified as a state secret. Amnesty estimates that thousands of people are sentenced to death and executed each year.

6 How many people are currently on death row around the world?

Answer: 19,336

Think point: Did you think the number would be higher or lower? Why?

7 Name the the only country to abolish the death penalty in 2018.

Answer: Burkina Faso (Gambia and Malaysia both declared an official moratorium on executions).

8 How many US states still have the death penalty in law?

Answer: 30 (it has been abolished in 20 states).

9 Which US state carried out the highest number of executions in 2018?

Answer: Texas, where 13 out of 25 executions took place (Texas executed seven people in 2017).

10 Which US state still uses the electric chair?

Answer: Florida

11 Since 1973, 166 people have been released from death row in the US because they turned out to be innocent. True or false?

Answer: True

Think point: Does this change any of your views on the death penalty? Why?

12 Around the world, how many people were executed in 2018 who were under 18 at the time of the crime?

Answer: Eight. Seven in Iran and one in South Sudan. Juvenile offenders remain on death row in Iran, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia and South Sudan. Since 1990 Amnesty has documented 145 executions of child offenders in 10 countries.

Think point: Executing juveniles for crimes they committed when they were under 18 is prohibited under international human rights law. Why do you think countries ignore these laws? What should be done to stop this practice?

13 In what year did the UK formally abolish the death penalty for all crimes?

Answer: 1998, under the Human Rights Act, although the last execution in the UK was carried out in 1964. The Murder (Abolition of Death Penalty) Act 1965 suspended capital punishment for murder for five years. Parliament voted to make it permanent in 1969. But it did not apply to Northern Ireland, and it did not apply to other crimes punishable by death, such as treason and spying. The death penalty for murder was abolished in Northern Ireland in 1973.

14 On average, one execution takes place every nine hours. True or false?

Answer: True. This excludes China where executions are believed to be in the thousands.

Before we start thinking in depth about the arguments for and against the death penalty, watch the clip to gain some context about how attitudes to the death penalty have changed to the way the western world views it today.

How many countries still use the death penalty?

Which methods are still used today?

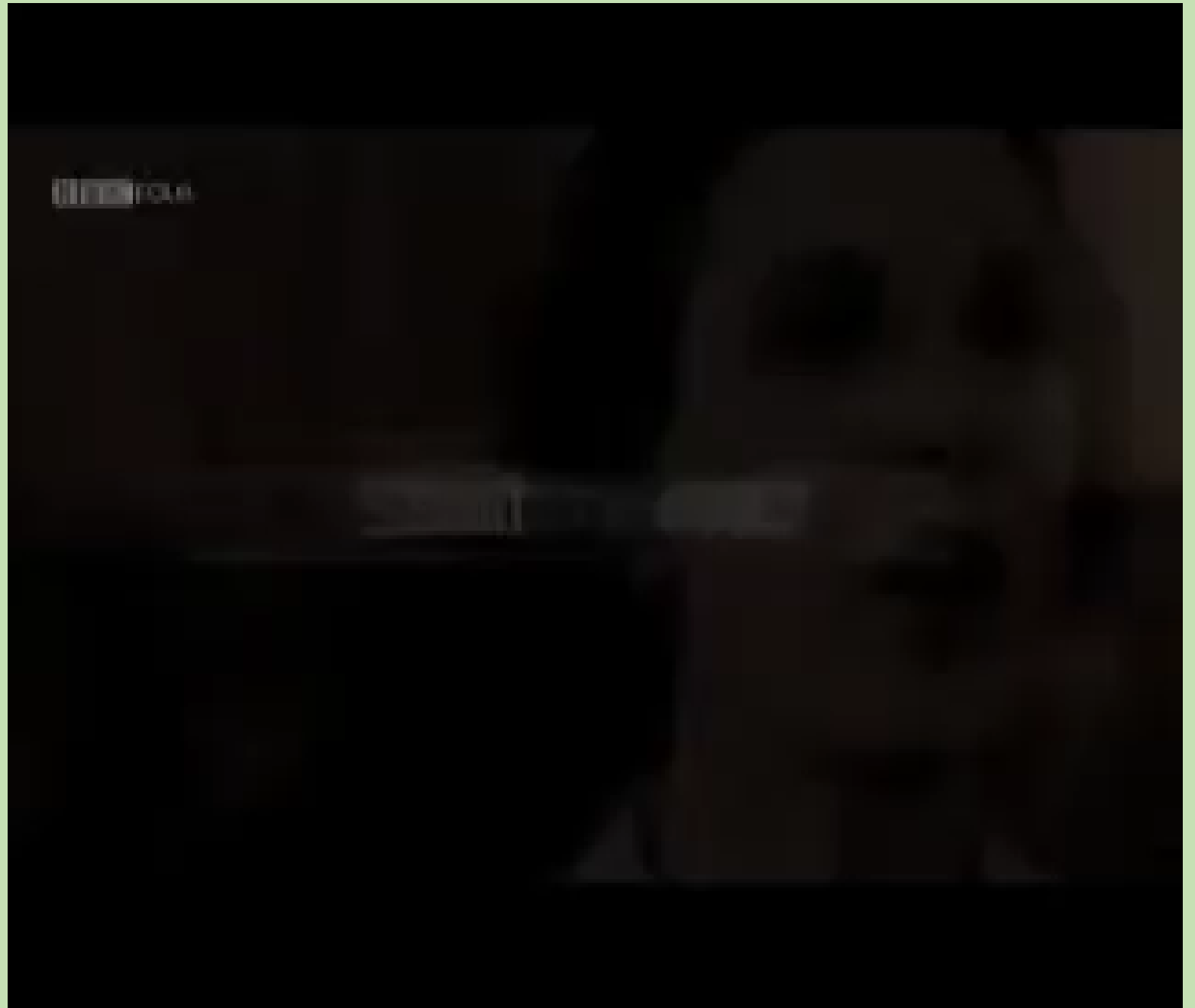
Give one argument FOR the death penalty.

Give one argument AGAINST the death penalty.

Name a medieval death penalty.

How many offenses had the death penalty in the 18th century?

What was so unfair about the death penalty (think about the rich and poor).



How many countries still use the death penalty?

Over 50 countries around the world

Which methods are still used today?

Firing squad. Lethal injection. Hangman noose

Give one argument FOR the death penalty.

Interest of the public and maintain confidence in the legal system.

Give one argument AGAINST the death penalty.

Inhumane. Degrading. Could get the wrong person!

Name a medieval death penalty.

Boiled alive. Burnt at the stake. Hung, drawn and quartered.

How many offenses had the death penalty in the 18th century?

Over 200 offences

What was so unfair about the death penalty (think about the rich and poor).



Plenary:

Complete your exit ticket

**Strongest
argument for
Capital
punishment:**

**Strongest
argument
against Capital
punishment:**

**Should we have
the death
penalty in the
UK?**

Starter:

What emotion do you feel and why?

Task – write about the image.

The PEE formula

P- Make a point about the image:

The photographer has used this image to make the reader....

E – Evidence – say what you can see

The image shows...

E- Explain – how do these things make you feel certain emotions?:

This gives an impression

This makes the reader feel

The image suggests

The use of _____ shocks because....



Model answer

P- *The producer of this image has used it to make the reader feel that the process of execution is bad.*

E – The image shows a very empty, cold looking room that shows a bed, with an arm rest, and there are restraints that are obviously used to tie someone to the bed. There is also a window that people can watch the execution through.

E- This image clearly shows that, before being executed the criminal has to be tied down, maybe because their body will convulse really badly before they die. This suggests that they will be in lots of pain. The fact that there is nothing in the room, suggests loneliness and that the person dies all by themselves – maybe scared and lonely. Also, the window allows other people to sit and watch this process and this makes it feel like it's entertainment!



Anthony Cardell Haynes

TIME ON DEATH ROW: 18 years, 10 months

RACE: Black

AGE: 39

SEX: Male

SUMMARY OF CONVICTION:

Haynes was convicted in the shooting death of a Houston police officer.

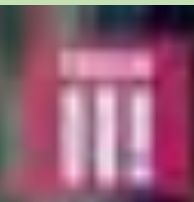
CRIME COMMITTED ON: May 22, 1998

ON DEATH ROW SINCE: Nov. 3, 1999

CRIME COMMITTED IN: Harris County

Discuss

- Anthony Haynes
- He is still on death row.
- He committed the crime in 1998 when he was 19.
- He is now 39 and has lived the majority of his life on death row!



Do you believe
in the Death Penalty?



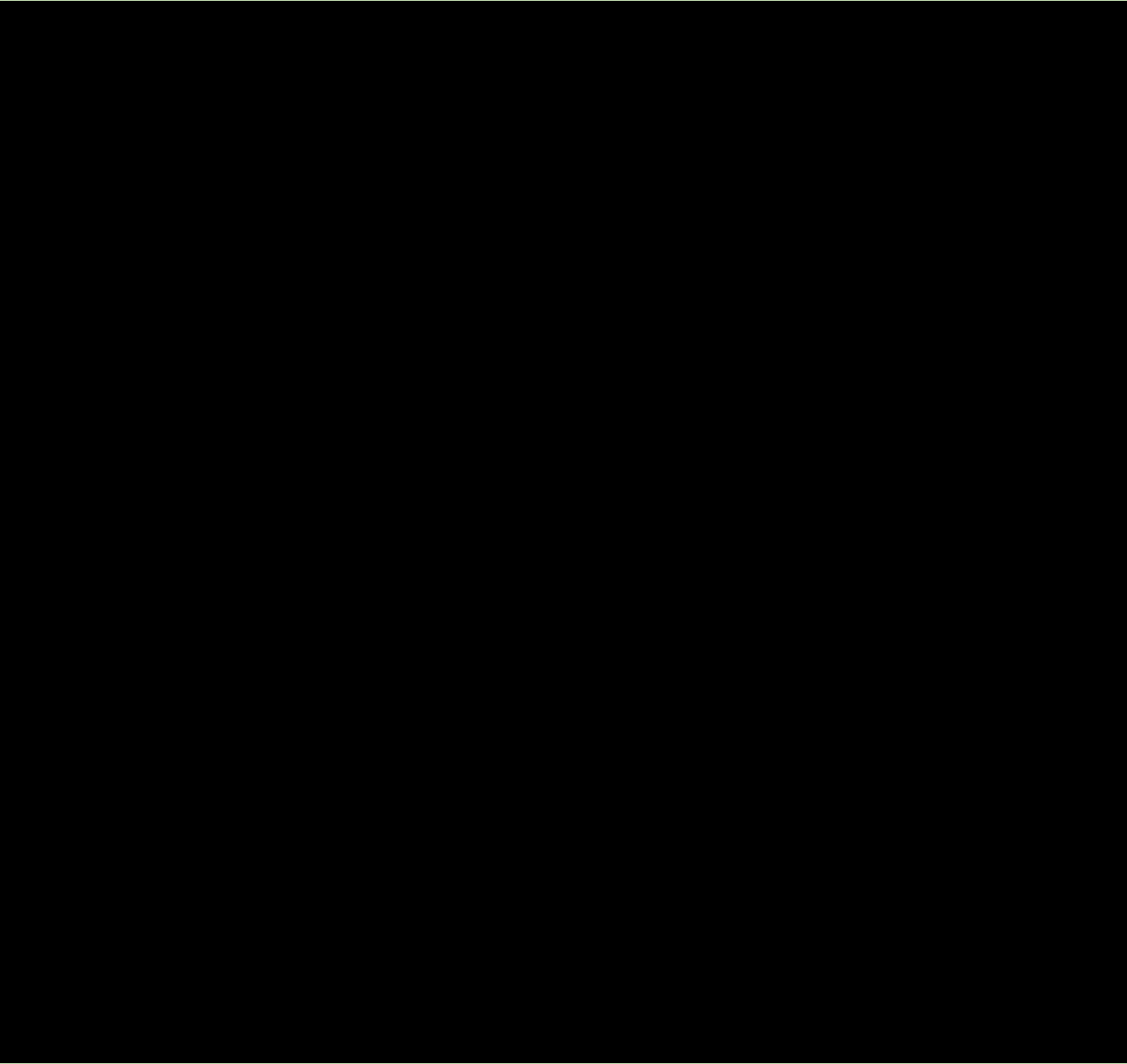
Discuss

- What did he do to end up on death row?
- Do you think he deserved the death penalty?
- Who would benefit from his execution?
- Who would be negatively affected by it?

FOR OR AGAINST?

Should we have the
Death Penalty
in the UK?

Who do you agree
with more?



Sabrina Butler was exonerated from death row in the US. She spent two years and nine months on Mississippi's death row after being convicted of her baby son's murder.

She was released in 1995 when it was discovered that her son had died of natural causes and the bruises on his body were from her attempts at CPR to save him. She now fights against the death penalty.

John Thompson from New Orleans spent 18 years in prison, 14 on death row; he survived eight execution dates.

He was one month away from being executed when private investigators uncovered evidence hidden by prosecutors proving John could not have committed the crime.

In his retrial, the jury took just 35 minutes to find him not guilty and he was released. He spent the last 14 years of his life helping others who had been wrongly accused and imprisoned.

- 1) How do you feel after watching these films?
- 2) Did families and organisations campaign on their behalf?
- 3) How could the story have been different?
- 4) How do you think John and Sabrina's families felt when they were in prison? And when they were released?
- 5) What about the families of the victims?

Plenary:

FOR OR AGAINST?



'All of us are worth more than our worst act' (quote from death penalty activist Sister Helen Prejean, pictured left). Everyone has the right to life, as proclaimed in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

Courts can make mistakes. Innocent people are executed, and you cannot bring them back to life.

Capital punishment is a deterrent. The fear of being executed must surely put off the criminals from committing murder. Certainly no executed person will ever kill again.

Retribution is morally flawed. 'Revenge is not the answer. The answer lies in reducing violence, not causing more death' (quote from Marie Deans, whose mother-in-law was murdered in 1972).

It is more humane to put someone to death than to keep them locked up for years

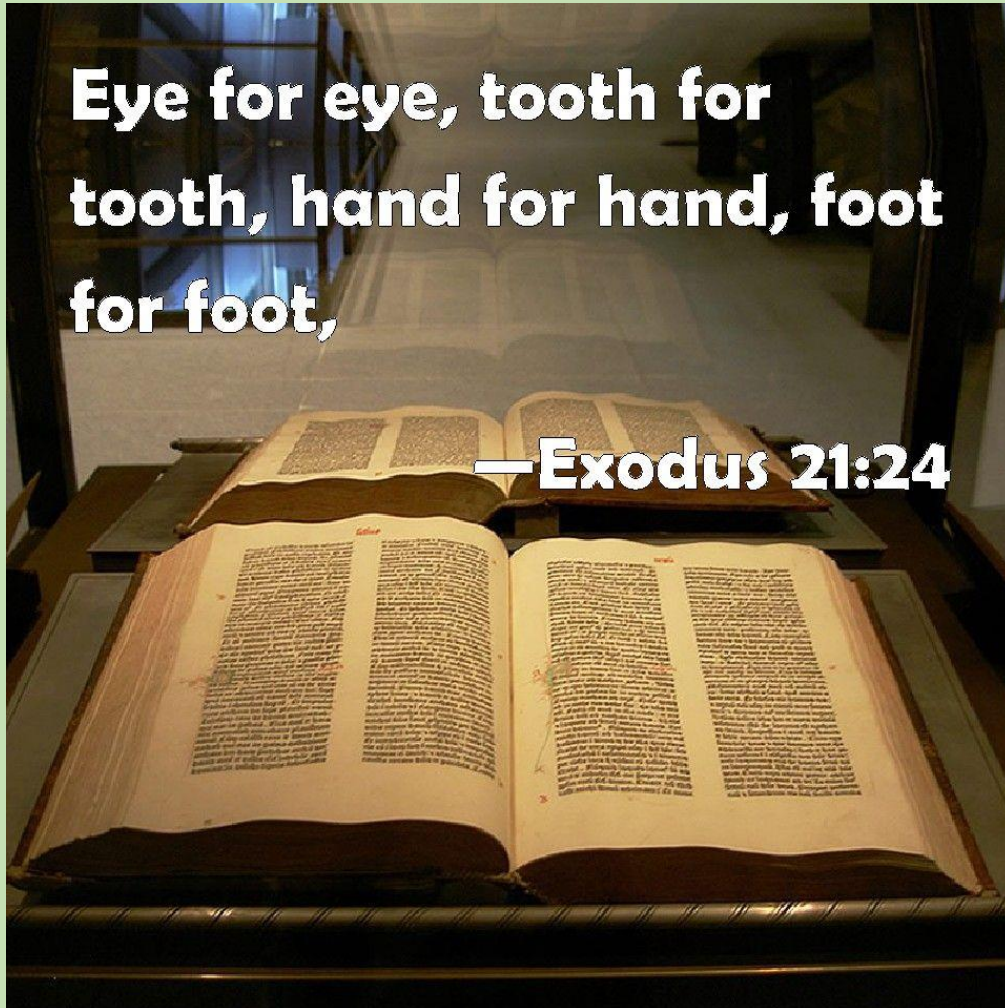
Capital punishment is the right punishment for those who take away life: murderers, terrorists, drug peddlers. Those who have taken a life should be killed: a life for a life.

Why do we kill people who kill people to show that killing is wrong? If we support the death penalty for murder, we end up supporting murder, making us just as guilty.

The death penalty does not seem to deter people from committing serious crimes.

If someone murders someone else, they have given up their human rights, including the right to stay alive themselves.

Starter: Discuss



**Eye for eye, tooth for
tooth, hand for hand, foot
for foot,**

—Exodus 21:24

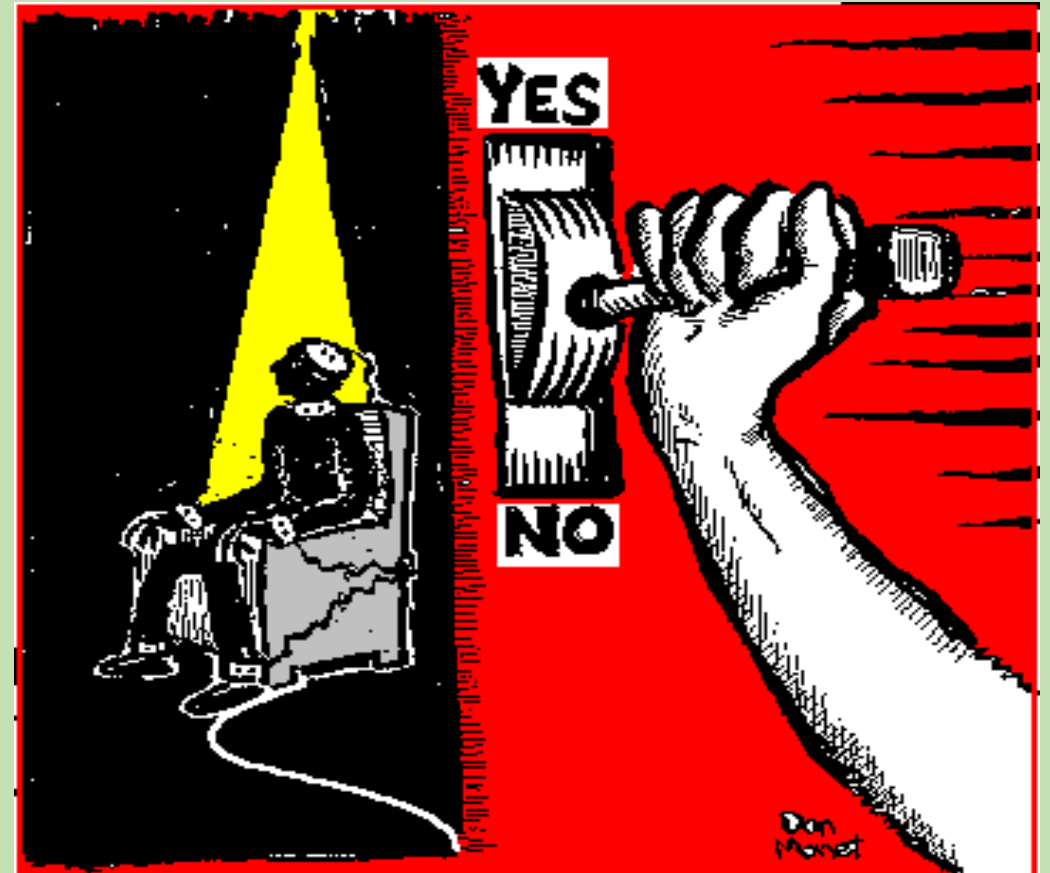
**You have heard that it was
said, 'Eye for eye, and tooth
for tooth.' But I tell you, do
not resist an evil person. If
anyone slaps you on the right
cheek, turn to them the other
cheek also.**

Matt 5:38-39

Should we bring back the death penalty?

By the end of the lesson you will be able to:

- **Identify** a range of arguments both religious and non-religious which are either pro or anti the death penalty.
- **Develop** personal opinion through a persuasive piece of literature.



FOR

People might not commit violent crime if they know that they'll be killed for it.

If murder is wrong, it should not be punished with another murder. Two wrongs don't make a right.

Ordinary people should be protected from murderers and rapists.

If someone murders someone else, then they should be killed.

AGAINST











Why should the family of a murderer have to suffer? They've done nothing wrong.

Prison is not a harsh enough punishment for rapists and murderers.

Killers are sick people. They need treatment to make them better, not punishment by death.

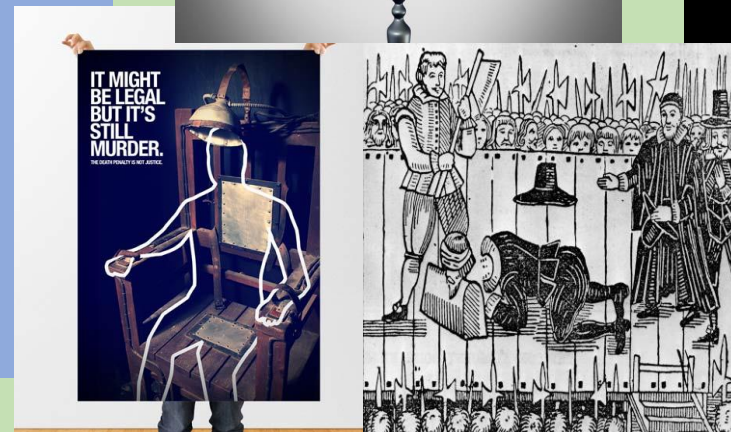
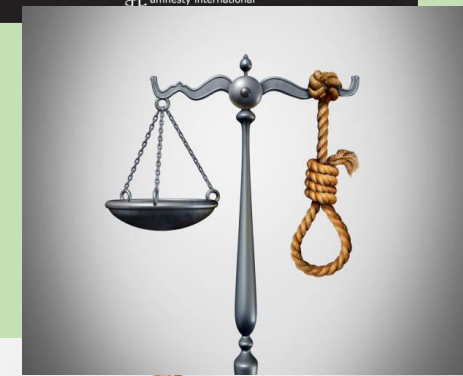
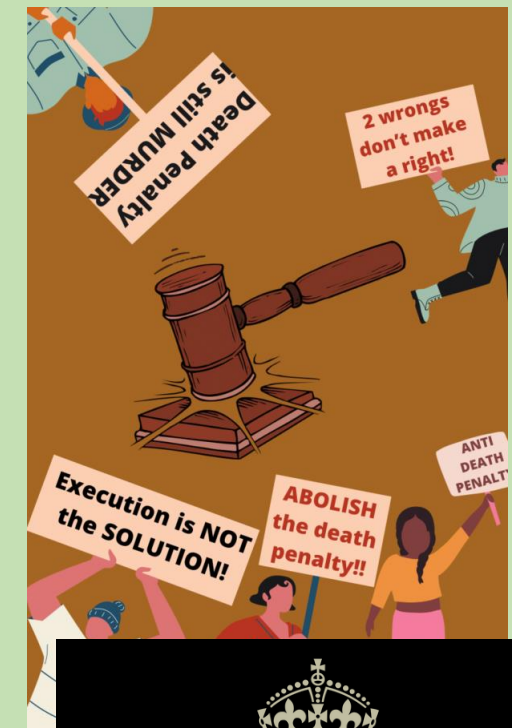
What if you execute the wrong person? You can't bring them back to life.

RELIGIOUS VIEWS

Yes Jewish scholars teach that capital punishment should be used only in very rare cases.		Hinduism teaches, oh yes, the idea that violence should never be used.	
Christianity teaches that human life is created by God and can only be taken by God.		Buddhism teaches that all life should be protected and no harm should be done to it.	
Yet the Qur'an also teaches that execution should be a last resort.		Yet some Hindu scriptures call for the death penalty for some crimes.	
Yet some countries that have majority Buddhist populations have the death penalty.		Yet some Christian politicians are in favour of capital punishment.	
The Qur'an teaches that capital punishment is appropriate in certain cases. In some countries that practise Shari'ah law, death penalties are passed and carried out.		The Jewish Bible teaches that death is an appropriate punishment for murder.	

Task:

- Imagine you are campaign for or against the death penalty in the UK.
- Create a leaflet to go through people's door to persuade them to vote for your campaign.
- You need to ensure your leaflet is eye-catching and give a clear message.
- Select from the information you have sorted today to help with your campaign.
- Don't forget to add your own view point!



Design a flyer For or Against the death penalty

Success criteria.

Task	✓
Include views on what some people may think (use the quotes you stuck in earlier and select a few which you find important)	
Include some religious views – what do some religions think? (Look at the information you stuck in your grid and select a few which you feel are the most important)	
Include your own thoughts – why are you for or against it?	
Add colour, make it eye-catching. Make it something that will make you want to read it if it came through your letterbox.	
Add a slogan – a catchy sentence to get people to agree with your standpoint. Persuade people around to your way of thinking.	

By the end of the lesson you will be able to:

- **Identify** a range of arguments both religious and non-religious which are either pro or anti the death penalty.
- **Develop** personal opinion through a persuasive piece of literature.

Plenary:

Should the UK bring back the Death Penalty?



Task


You have lots of statements, some for the death penalty and some against.

Sort these statements and glue them onto your A3 sheet to form something like the example.

You will need this information for your assessment next lesson.


AGAINST THE DEATH PENALTY

core issue for Christians is the sanctity of life. A murderer's life is less sacred than the life of any other human being. According to Christians, God gives life and only God has the right to take it away.



"Do not judge or you will be judged... Why do you look at the speck of sawdust in your brother's eye and pay no attention to the plank in your own eye?" Matthew 7 1-3

Medieval forms of the death penalty were inhumane and break basic human rights.




DEATH PENALTY

"[the death penalty] is cruel and unnecessary, a violation of the dignity of human beings and should never be taken away, even in the case of someone who has done great evil."


"Do not judge others, so that God will not judge you"

John Paul II - former leader of the Catholic Church Pope



At the heart of Jesus' teachings was that we have all done things wrong, and so we should not judge people. We should therefore be loving and compassionate to others.

FOR



AGAINST

Derek Bentley had the mental age of an 11 year old, and many believe he was innocent!

The New Testament

Reparation:

A criminal can 'pay' for their crimes by being punished in different ways.

Innocent m...

To make the criminal pay for what he/she has done

Assessment

“The Death Penalty is a fair punishment for some crimes.”

Do you agree? (12)

You will need to write 3 P.E.E. paragraphs to answer this question.

Paragraph 1 – you need to argue for the death penalty. Why is there a place for it in society? What do some Christians think?

Paragraph 2 – you need to argue against the death penalty. What should it be abolished? What are the arguments to support this. What do some Christians think?

Paragraph 3 – you own opinion. Do you agree with the statement? Why?



KEEP
CALM

Point, Evidence & Explain

And
PEE

Point – Many people would agree that the death penalty for some crimes is a fair punishment.

Evidence – They would argue that crimes such asMany Christians follow this view point as in the Bible teaching such as.....

Explain – The reason why these people believe in the death penalty is because.....

Point – However, there are many who are opposed to the death penalty and do not believe it is a fair punishment.

Evidence – They would argue thatMany Christians follow this view point as in the Bible teaching such as.....

Explain – The reason why these people believe that the death penalty is not appropriate is because.....

Point – I agree/disagree with the statement that the death penalty for some crimes is a fair punishment.

Evidence – From various sources I can see that.....

Explain – I have reached this conclusion because.....

Ukrainian assessment

«Смертна кара - це справедливе покарання за деякі злочини». Ви згодні? (12)

Вам потрібно буде написати 3 абзаци Р.Е.Е., щоб відповісти на це питання. Пункт 1 – потрібно аргументувати смертну кару. Чому їй є місце в суспільстві? Пункт 2 – потрібно аргументувати проти смертної кари. Що його слід скасувати? Які аргументи на користь цього. Пункт 3 – ваша власна думка. Чи згодні ви з твердженням? Чому?

Пункт – Багато людей погодиться, що смертна кара за деякі злочини є справедливим покаранням.

Докази – Вони б стверджували, що такі злочини, як

Пояснить – Причина, чому ці люди вірять у смертну кару, полягає в тому, що.....

Точка зору – Однак є багато тих, хто виступає проти смертної кари і не вважає, що це справедливе покарання.

Докази – Вони б стверджували, що

Пояснить – Причина, чому ці люди вважають, що смертна кара не є доречною, полягає в тому, що.....

Пункт – Я згоден/не згоден з твердженням, що смертна кара за деякі злочини є справедливим покаранням.

Докази – З різних джерел я бачу, що.....

Пояснить – я дійшов такого висновку, тому що.....

- **Аргументи на користь смертної кари** Якщо хтось вбиває когось іншого, він відмовляється від своїх прав людини, включаючи те, щоб залишитися в живих самим. Покарання має «відповідати злочину» - якщо ви когось убили, вас теж слід убити. Винесення вбивці смертного вироку зупинить їх - та інших - зробити це знову. Дуже малий шанс стратити не ту людину врівноважується вигодою для суспільства відкладати інших вбивць. **Аргументи проти смертної кари**
- Смертна кара суперечить нашому найосновнішому праву людини - праву на життя. Бути вбитим смертельною ін'єкцією або ураженням електричним струмом не завжди гладко і безболісно, іноді це викликає болісну смерть. Ніхто ніколи не доводив цифрами, що вбивство вбивць зупиняє інших людей, які вчиняють подібні злочини. У законі іноді допускаються помилки - що робити, якщо вбитий хтось, хто насправді невинний?

Level 0 0 marks	No evidence submitted or response does not address the question.
Level 1 1-3 marks	A weak attempt to answer the question. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Candidates will demonstrate little understanding of the question. • Answers may be simplistic with little or no relevant information • Viewpoints may not be supported or appropriate • Answers may be ambiguous or disorganised • There will be little or no use of specialist terms • Errors of grammar, punctuation and spelling may be intrusive
Level 2 4-6 marks	A limited answer to the question. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Candidates will demonstrate some understanding of the question. • Some information will be relevant, although may lack specific detail. • Only one view might be offered and developed • Viewpoints might be stated and supported with limited argument/discussion • The information will show some organisation • Reference to the religion studied (Christianity) may be vague • Some use of specialist terms, although these may not always be used appropriately • There may be errors in spelling, grammar and punctuation
Level 3 7-9 marks	A competent answer to the question. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Candidates will demonstrate a sound understanding of the question. • Selection of relevant material with appropriate development • Evidence of appropriate personal response • Justified arguments/different points of view supported by some discussion • The information will be presented in a structured format • Some appropriate reference to the religion studied (Christianity) • Specialist terms will be used appropriately and for the most part correctly • There may be occasional errors in spelling, grammar and punctuation
Level 4 10-12 marks	A good answer to the question. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Candidates will demonstrate a clear understanding of the question. • Answers will reflect the significance of the issue(s) raised • Clear evidence of an appropriate personal response, fully supported • A range of points of view supported by justified arguments/discussion • The information will be presented in a clear and organised way • Clear reference to the religion studied (Christianity) • Specialist terms will be used appropriately and correctly

<p>Introduction:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Definition • Background information 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is the death penalty? • Where is the death penalty still used?
<p>Arguments for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arguments to back up the statement • Description/analysis of arguments • Group[s] who would agree with the statement • Reasons why they would agree 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What sort of crimes can/should lead to the use of the death penalty? • What arguments do people use to support the use of the death penalty? • Why do some Christians support it? • Why are the views held? • How are these reasons linked to the main aims of punishment?
<p>Arguments against:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arguments to contradict the statement • Description/analysis of arguments • Group[s] who would disagree with the statement • Reasons why they would disagree 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What arguments do people use to oppose the death penalty? • Why do some Christians oppose it? • Why are these views held? • How are these reasons linked to the main aims of punishment?
<p>Conclusion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Summary of the main points on both sides • Own personal viewpoint 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What do different people (including Christians) think about the death penalty? • What do you think about the death penalty?

Assessment

“The Death Penalty is a fair punishment for some crimes.”

Do you agree?

Introduction

The death penalty is.....

Around the world, the death penalty is still used in.....

Arguments for the death penalty

Many people are in favour of the death penalty. They believe crimes such as.....should lead to a death sentence.

The reason many believe these crimes should face a severe punishment is because.....

Some Christians support these views as they believe.....

Arguments against the death penalty

However, many people are opposed to the death penalty as they believe.....

Some Christian also hold this view as they believe.....

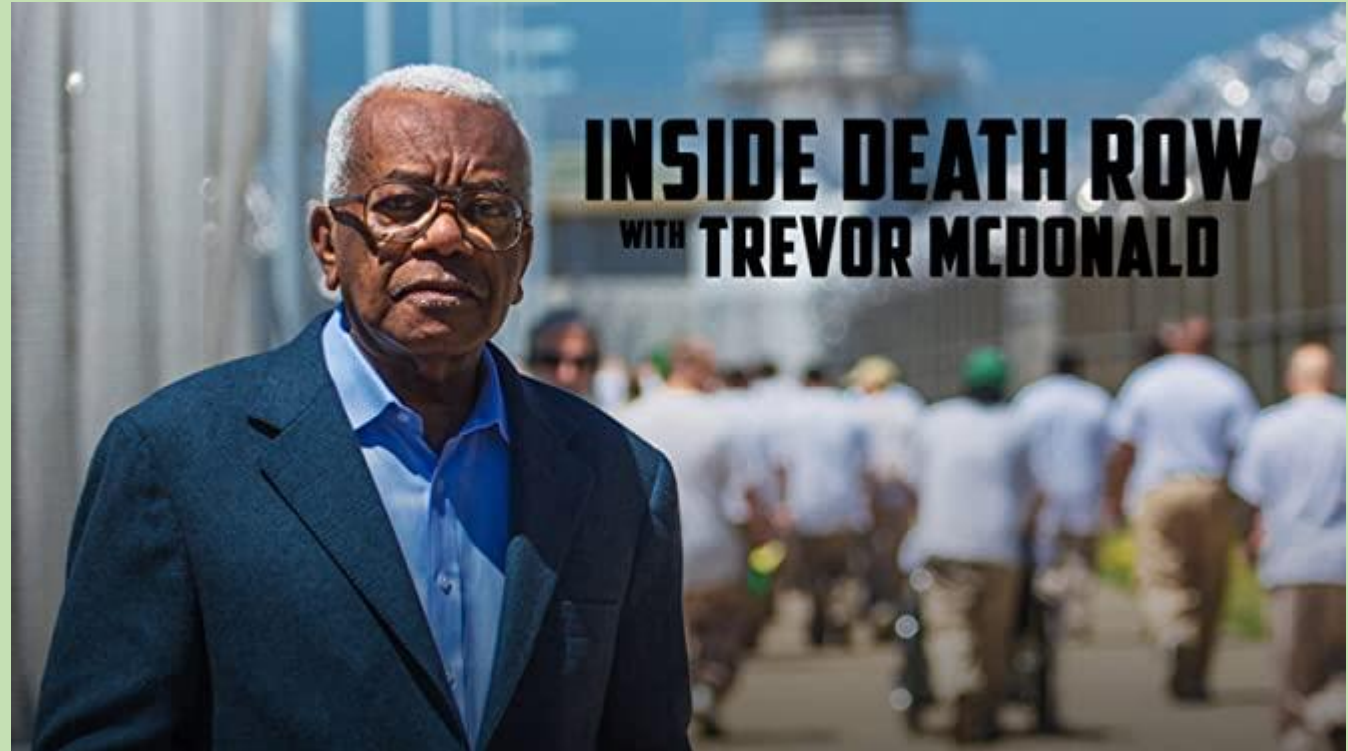
Conclusion

I personally believe that.....

I have reached this conclusion because.....|

Task

Watch the documentary about life on death Row and answer the questions on your sheet.



Trevor McDonald Life on Death Row

Terms:

- **Death Row** – the part of a prison where they keep prisoners who are going to be executed
- **population** – the area of the prison where non-death-row prisoners are kept
- **homicide** – murder
- **Kabbalah** – Jewish mystical writings exploring the supernatural power of words from the Hebrew Bible (Jewish ideas but sometimes adopted by Christians)

1. What is the average length of sentence in Indiana State Prison?

2. List the effects that prison has on people.

3. List the effects that the anticipation of the death sentence has on prisoners.

4. What is an honor cell?

5. What privileges do some prisoners have?

6. List ways in which religion plays a part in people's lives in the prison.

Discussion

7. Is it better to be a victim or a shark?
8. Is it right to kill a prisoner if killing is supposed to be wrong?
9. Is there a difference between murder and judicial execution?
10. Is it right that a killer of other people should be allowed to live a full lifespan?
11. Is it right for people to have to pay taxes to keep murderers alive in prison at £30,000 per year each?
12. What human rights are involved in this area of debate?
13. Can these crimes be excused?
14. Can these crimes be forgiven?

Capital Punishment: Inside Death Row Episode 1



Ronald L Sanford. Sentenced to 170 years for the murder of two women – he committed this crime at the age of 15. What do you think about this case? How does Ronald seem to you?

What do you think about the Barbers shop? Is it a good idea?



How is the prison a deterrent?

How does the prison 'correct' its inmates?

How is the prison retributive?

Capital Punishment: Inside Death Row Episode 2

“The broadcaster Trevor McDonald interviews Fredrick Baer, who has been on death row at Indiana State Prison for seven years following his conviction for the murders of a woman and her four-year-old daughter. Baer talks about his abusive childhood and explains what led him to a life of crime, before Trevor visits the chamber where the condemned man will one day be executed.”

Which crimes
deserve the
death penalty in
your opinion?

Describe life in a
maximum
security prison.

Describe *Indiana State Prison's* death
chamber.



Why do they allow the inmates to have
cats? What Positive impact do they
have



Capital Punishment: Inside Death Row Episode 2

How do you think offenders cope knowing that they will never get out?

How might the Superintendent's job impact on his life?

Case Study: Frederick Baer

What was his crime?



Had he committed other crimes?

What 'caused' him to commit crimes?

In your opinion does he deserve to die? Yes/No
Why? _____
