



Books on the Death Penalty

Legal Perspectives

Bedau, Hugo and Paul Cassell. **Debating the Death Penalty: Should America Have Capital Punishment?** Oxford University Press, 2004. This debate includes judges, lawyers, prosecutors, and philosophers on subjects ranging from deterrence to innocence, and life in prison without parole to racial discrimination.

Bedau, Hugo, et al. **The Death Penalty in America: Current Controversies.** Oxford University Press, 1998. This book serves as a useful summary of the abolitionist viewpoint, and its extensive bibliography provides an excellent starting point for research on the subject. It also contains excerpts from important Supreme Court opinions and laws on the subject.

Burnett, Cathleen. **Justice Denied: Clemency Appeals in Death Penalty Cases.** Northeastern University Press, 2002. This book faces the difficult questions surrounding the heated public and legal debate about a criminal justice system that risks the state-sanctioned killing of an innocent person. Focusing on executive clemency petitions, which are the final hope for death row inmates, Burnett exposes troubling flaws in the legal process of administering the death penalty.

Carter, Linda and Ellen Kreitzburg. **Understanding Capital Punishment Law.** Matthew Bender and Company, Inc., 2004. Professors Linda Carter and Ellen Kreitzburg offer an overview of death penalty law, including constitutional law and current legal issues.

Christianson, Scott. **Innocent: Inside Wrongful Conviction Cases.** New York University Press, 2004. Reviews mistakes in New York's justice system, focusing on mistaken identities, perjury, inadequate counsel, false confessions, and police and prosecutorial misconduct.

Cole, David. **No Equal Justice: Race and Class in the American Criminal Justice System.** The New Press, 1999. Cole, a law professor at Georgetown University and an attorney with the Center for Constitutional Rights, demonstrates that the justice system not only has a harsher impact on minorities, but also systematically affords greater constitutional protections to certain groups at the expense of others.



Dow, David R. and Mark Dow. **Machinery of Death: The Reality of America's Death Penalty Regime.** Taylor and Francis, Inc., 2002. Death penalty lawyer David R. Dow and writer Mark Dow bring together diverse views from lawyers, wardens, victims' families, executioners, and inmates to show how America's death penalty system actually works, and what it does to those who come in contact with it.

Eisenburg, James R. **Law, Psychology, and Death Litigation.** Professional Resource Press, 2004. This resource explains the role of forensic psychology in capital trials (competency to be executed, mental retardation, risk assessment, etc.). It takes a step-by-step approach to the legal context of the death penalty.

Foley, Michael. **Arbitrary and Capricious: The Supreme Court, the Constitution and the Death Penalty.** Praeger Publishers, 2003. Through examining the history of Supreme Court decisions, this book illustrates the fundamental flaws that exist with the implementation of the death penalty.

Gottfried, Ted. **The Death Penalty: Justice or Legalized Murder?** Twenty-First Century Books, Inc., 2002. With fairness to all sides, Gottfried draws on landmark court cases to throw open the issue of capital punishment. He uses particular cases and trial proceedings to raise the big questions about guilt, innocence, and the effectiveness of the justice system.

Gray, Mike. **The Death Game: Capital Punishment and the Luck of the Draw.** Common Courage Press, 2003. Written with the power of a gritty novel, this book illustrates why justice and capital punishment don't mix. Mike Gray zeros in on issues of police brutality, pressures on prosecutors and judges seeking career advancement, and the frailty of eyewitness accounts.

Haney, Craig. **Death by Design: Capital Punishment as a Social Psychological System.** Oxford University Press, 2005. After identifying three factors that skew the application and imposition of death sentences, the author, a professor of psychology, suggests specific reforms and changes including alternative sentences and a more comprehensive investigatory process.

Junkin, Tim. **Bloodsworth: The True Story of the First Death Row Inmate Exonerated by DNA.** Algonquin Books, 2004. This biography details the events that led to the conviction, death sentence, and exoneration of Kirk Bloodsworth, who spent eight years in prison (two on death row) for a crime he did not commit.



Lezin, Katya and Stephen B. Bright. **Finding Life on Death Row: Profiles of Six Inmates.**

Northeastern University Press, 2000. This study takes the form of six dramatic narratives of condemned prisoners whose cases have been addressed by attorney Stephen Bright in his capacity as director of the Southern Center for Human Rights.

Linderoff, David. Killing Time: **An Investigation into the Death Row Case of Mumia Abu-Jamal.**

Common Courage Press, 2003. This publication examines the specifics of Abu-Jamal's capital conviction.

Mellow, Michael, et al. **Deathwork: Defending the Condemned.** University of Minnesota Press,

2002. As part memoir and part legal casebook, this book offers a picture of what some in the legal system refer to as the "machinery of death." The book closely examines issues of prosecutorial misconduct, racial inequities in sentencing, rules of evidence, and the rights of the mentally ill. It also shows what it is like to live and work under an impending death sentence.

Nelson, Lane and Burk Foster. **Death Watch: A Death Penalty Anthology.** Prentice Hall, 2000.

This topical anthology features a collection of short articles, written in an accessible journalistic style, that focus on various aspects of the legal process of the death penalty and on executions past and present.

Radelet, Michael L., Hugo Adam Bedau, and Constance E. Putnam. **In Spite of Innocence: Erroneous Convictions in Capital Cases.** Northeastern University Press, 1994. This book presents the stories of some 400 innocent Americans who were falsely convicted of capital crimes and it examines the weaknesses in the criminal justice system that led to these wrongful convictions.

Sarat, Austin. **Mercy on Trial: What It Means to Stop an Execution.** Cloth, 2005. In this compelling and timely work, Austin Sarat provides the first book-length work on executive clemency. He turns our focus from questions of guilt and innocence to the very meaning of mercy. Mercy on Trial uses the lens of executive clemency in capital cases to discuss the condition of mercy in American political life.

Streib, Victor. **A Capital Punishment Anthology.** Anderson Publishing, 1997. These law review articles focus on both substantive and procedural laws for imposing capital punishment.

Streissguth, Thomas. **The Death Penalty: Debating Capital Punishment.** Enslow Publishers, 2002.

This book illustrates the present death penalty debate by using seven experts, including judges, lawyers, prosecutors, and philosophers, whose discussion reveals the multiple facets of the issue.



Taub, Maura. **Juries: Conscience of the Community.** Chardon Press, 1998. A collection of readings on the realities of the justice and penal systems.

Trombley, Stephen. **The Execution Protocol: Inside America's Capital Punishment Industry.**

Crown Publishers, Inc., 1992. This is a story of men and machines: how a team of men, sanctioned by the highest courts, sets out, deliberately and according to a well-defined plan, to take a life. It is based on unprecedented access to the execution team and condemned inmates at Missouri's Potosi Correctional Center.

Turow, Scott. **Ultimate Punishment: A Lawyer's Reflections on Dealing with the Death Penalty.** Farrar, Straus, and Giroux, 2003. For years, attorney and novelist Scott Turow was ambivalent towards the death penalty. His position changed, however, after he served on the blue-ribbon commission assembled by the former Governor of Illinois, George Ryan, which examined the flaws in the capital punishment system. In this book, Turow presents the arguments that swayed him in favor of abolition.

Historical Perspectives on the Death Penalty

Amsterdam, Tony. **America's Death Penalty: Beyond Repair?** Duke University Press, 2003. An examination of capital punishment in the United States since 1976 through a range of scholarly essays that review subjects such as innocence, arbitrariness, race and international laws on human rights.

Banner, Stuart. **The Death Penalty: An American History.** Harvard University Press, 2002. This book is a richly detailed overview of American attitudes towards capital punishment and its implementation throughout the history of the United States.

Boehm, Robert. **Death Quest II: An Introduction to the Theory and Practice of Capital Punishment in the United States.** Anderson Publishing, 2003. This book provides a historical overview of capital punishment. It also examines both arguments and counter arguments employed by proponents and opponents of the death penalty, specifically analyzing subjects such as deterrence, cost, and wrongful convictions.

Galliher, John, Larry Koch, David Patrick Keys, and Teresa J. Guess. **America Without the Death Penalty: States Leading the Way.** Northeastern University Press, 2002. Employing the case study method, this work focuses on the 13 U.S. states and jurisdictions that have abolished the death penalty. It provides invaluable historical and practical information to advocates striving to abolish capital punishment in other states.



Jackson, Rev. Jesse. **Legal Lynching: Racism, Injustice, and the Death Penalty.** Marlow & Co., 1996. Jackson recites the specifics of cases in which innocent men were sentenced to death - and even executed. The racial injustice of sentencing and the application of capital punishment come in for particular attention, as Jackson sketches the moral case for reforming the American criminal justice system to conform with what he sees as morally sound notions of justice and human rights.

Lynd, Staughton. Lucasville: **The Untold Story of a Prison Uprising.** Temple University, Press, 2004. Examines the events during the 1993 Lucasville, Ohio, prison uprising and the trials and death sentences of the participants.

Steelwater, Eliza. **The Hangman's Knot: Lynching, Legal Execution and America's Struggle with the Death Penalty.** Westview Press, 2003. This book uses narrative, personal stories, and rare archival photographs to powerfully portray capital punishment in a historical context.

General Death Penalty Analysis/Casework

Costanzo, Mark. **Just Revenge: Costs and Consequences of the Death Penalty.** St. Martin's Press, 1997. Costanzo deftly presents and evaluates competing perspectives in the debate, ranging from deterrence to the cost of an execution. This work will inform readers about how and why America punishes capital felons, and what - if anything - this lethal policy accomplishes.

Dow, David. Executed on a Technicality: **Lethal Injustice on America's Death Row.** Beacon Press, 2005. Attorney David Dow's eye-opening book allows the men, and their cases, to speak for themselves. Through these accounts, he chronicles how his own position on the death penalty changed in favor of abolition.

Dwyer, Jim, Peter Neufeld, and Barry Scheck. **Actual Innocence: Five Days to Execution and Other Dispatches from the Wrongly Convicted.** Doubleday, 2000. Scheck, Neufeld, and Dwyer tell the stories of 10 of the men they have helped through the Innocence Project. They describe how these men wound up in prison - some on death row - for crimes they didn't commit.

Edds, Margaret. **An Expendable Man.** New York University Press, 2003. This book uses the case of death row exoneree Earl Washington, Jr. to demonstrate how easy it is for those marginalized in society to be wrongfully convicted.



Jackson, Rev. Jesse, Jesse L. Jackson, Jr., Bruce Shapiro. **Legal Lynching: The Death Penalty and America's Future.** New Press, 2001. In this collaborative work, father and son pursue a nationwide conversation on the issues surrounding the death penalty, one that begins with the proposal of a moratorium and could lead to the eventual cessation of capital punishment.

Lifton, Robert Jay and Greg Mitchell. **Who Owns Death? Capital Punishment, the American Conscience, and the End of Executions.** William Morrow, 2000. The authors provide a powerful analysis of the current status of the death penalty in the USA, including psychological insights and pieces of history not found in most other sources. They contend that, despite cases like Timothy McVeigh's, the death penalty is slowly losing support in America and will be abolished.

McAllister, Pam. **Death Defying: Dismantling the Execution Machinery in 21st Century USA.** Continuum Publishing Company, 2003. *Death Defying* is a life-embracing, uplifting, and thoughtful argument against the death penalty and a handbook for all who oppose it. McAllister draws on a variety of sources and addresses complex issues of violence, racism, revenge, and forgiveness - particularly in the age of terrorism in which we live. With over 100 examples of nonviolent action used in the fight against capital punishment, this book is sure to galvanize readers with its myriad inspiring ideas on how to break the cycle of violence.

Nathanson, Stephen. **An Eye for an Eye? The Immorality of Punishing by Death.** Roman & Littlefield, 2001. In this second edition, author Stephen Nathanson evaluates the arguments for and against capital punishment. He argues that the death penalty is inconsistent with the principles of justice and respect for life.

Ogletree, Charles and Austin Sarat. **From Lynch Mobs to the Killing State: Race and the Death Penalty in America.** Through the use of several approaches to the issue, this book draws a clear and comprehensive link between the death penalty and race. Readers will understand how the two help to propagate one another and how the death penalty system uniquely structures and frames race in our country.

Sarat, Austin. **When the State Kills: Capital Punishment and the American Condition.** Princeton University Press, 2001. This book considers what the death penalty does to us as a society, rather than what it does for us. Solar, Susan Lee Campbell. **No Justice: No Victory - The Death Penalty in Texas.** Plain View Press, 2004. Examination of capital punishment in Texas through a political lens, with a focus on cases and anecdotes that illustrate the flaws in the system. **Understanding Capital Punishment: A Guide Through the Death Penalty Debate.** Death Penalty Information Center, 2003. This guide is an excellent tool for those who speak, write, teach, organize, or want to learn more about the death penalty. To order copies of this 150-page, user-friendly and comprehensive resource, please contact DPIC at www.deathpenaltyinfo.org.



Zimring, Franklin. **The Contradictions of American Capital Punishment.** Oxford University Press, 2003. This book examines the way that American values have influenced the nationwide death penalty debate. Zimring examines the connections between lynching and the death penalty. He also seeks to understand why the United States and its international allies have taken different paths regarding this issue.

International Perspectives on the Death Penalty

Council of Europe (COE). **Death Penalty: Beyond Abolition.** Council of Europe Publishing, 2004. As a pioneer in the movement to abolish the death penalty, the Council of Europe details the path to abolition in Europe, the only region in the world where capital punishment has been almost completely eradicated. The book features the contributions of experts Robert Badinter, Hugo Bedau, Peter Hodgkinson, Roger Hood, Anne Ferrazzini, Michel Forst, Eric Prokosch, H.C. Kruger, Anatoli Pristavkine, C. Ravaud, Sir Nigel Rodley, Renate Wohlwend, and Yoshihiro Yasuda.

Hood, Roger. **The Death Penalty: A Worldwide Perspective.** Oxford University Press, 2002. The third edition of this work illustrates how the move to abolish the death penalty worldwide has continued to gather pace. It also captures the ways in which international organizations and human right treaties have increased the pressure on retentionist countries. Author Roger Hood has updated his review of studies that shed light on the realities of capital punishment, especially with regard to its arbitrariness and discrimination.

Schabas, William A. **The Abolition of the Death Penalty in International Law.** Cambridge University Press, 2002. This book describes the international community's progress away from the use of capital punishment, providing an in-depth discussion of the death penalty in terms of international law.

Religious/Faith Perspectives on the Death Penalty

"The Death Penalty, Religion and the Law: Is Our Legal System's Implementation of Capital Punishment Consistent with Judaism or Christianity?" Rutgers University Journal of Law and Religion: Volume 4, Number 1: 2003. This journal is a compilation of writings by religious leaders from both the Jewish and Christian communities regarding the morality and legality of capital punishment. The authors address such issues as innocence, whether capital punishment meets God's requirements, and the religious community's ambivalence toward capital punishment.

Hanks, Gardner C. **Against the Death Penalty: Christian and Secular Arguments Against Capital Punishment.** Herald Press, 1997. 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.



Hanks, Gardner C. **Capital Punishment and the Bible.** Herald Press, February 2002. This new book explores the death penalty by reviewing biblical references to capital punishment and by examining the USA's current application of the death penalty in light of these scriptures. This book is a follow up to an earlier work by Hanks (see above).

Marshall, Christopher D. **Beyond Retribution: A New Testament Vision for Justice, Crime, and Punishment.** Eerdmans Publishing Co., 2001. Among other topics, Marshall reviews the debate in social thinking over the ethics and purpose of punishment - including capital punishment - and he advocates a new concept of "restorative punishment." The result of this engaging work is a biblically-based challenge to imitate the way of Christ in dealing with both victims and offenders.

Megivern, James. **The Death Penalty: A Historical and Theological Survey.** Paulist, 1997. This theological and historical discussion of the death penalty documents the sweeping changes that many churches have made on this issue.

Prejean, Helen. **Death of Innocents.** Random House, 2004. Sister Helen Prejean takes the reader on a spiritual journey as she accompanies two potentially innocent people to their executions. Prejean also shows how race, prosecutorial ambition, poverty, election cycles, and publicity play far too great a role in determining who lives and who dies.

Recinella, Dale S. **The Biblical Truth About America's Death Penalty.** Northeastern University Press, 2004. As a death row chaplain in Florida, Dale Recinella was struck by the number of Christians who quoted Bible passages, particularly from the Hebrew Torah/Pentateuch, that they thought mandated the death penalty. He argues that people of Biblical faith should be advocates of abolishing the death penalty, rather than supporters of this practice. This book is recommended for anyone who wants to explore the American death penalty in the light of the Bible.

Snyder, T. Richard. **The Protestant Ethic and the Spirit of Punishment.** Eerdmans Publishing Co., 2000. This work confronts the spirit of punishment that permeates our culture and its degrading effects on today's penal system and society at large. Snyder shows that our notions of punishment are often rooted in and reinforced by popular misunderstandings of human nature and God's grace.

Steffen, Lloyd. **Executing Justice: The Moral Meaning of the Death Penalty.** The Pilgrim Press, 1998. This book explores the moral justification for the death penalty as it analyzes the philosophical and humanitarian arguments for and against it. It debunks the legal and ethical arguments for the death penalty and uses the case of executed inmate Willie Darden to illustrate its moral deficiencies.



Personal Memoirs

Abu-Jamal, Mumia. **Live from Death Row.** Avon Books, 1996. Mumia Abu-Jamal was convicted in 1982 and sentenced to death for the murder of Philadelphia police officer Daniel Faulkner after a trial that many have criticized as profoundly biased. This book is a collection of Mumia Abu-Jamal's prison writings, an impassioned yet unflinching account of the brutalities and humiliations of prison life.

Arriens, Jan and Helen Prejean (Editor). **Welcome to Hell: Letters & Writings From Death Row.** Northeastern Univ. Press, 1997. This deeply moving book unmaskes the human face in the hidden world of death row by giving condemned men and women in the United States the rare opportunity to speak for themselves.

Cabana, Donald A. **Death at Midnight: The Confessions of an Executioner.** Northeastern University Press, 1996. In this narrative, Cabana, a prison official for 25 years, recounts his experiences as a warden and his change of heart about the death penalty. The book is a plea to ordinary citizens to reject messages from political and media sources that paint capital punishment as "the quick fix to a very complex problem."

Dicks, Shirley. **Congregation of the Condemned: Voices Against the Death Penalty.** Cambridge, 1995. This compilation of over forty essays calling for an end to the death penalty was gathered by Shirley Dicks, whose son is on death row for his role in a robbery that resulted in a storekeeper's death.

Fleury-Steiner, Benjamin. **Jurors' Stories of Death: How America's Death Penalty Invests in Inequality.** University of Michigan Press, 2004. Real-life accounts of white and black jurors in capital trials who discuss the unjust role that race can play in the sentencing process.

Masters, Jay Jarvis. **Finding Freedom: Writings from Death Row.** Padma, 1997. This collection of prison stories, told against a background of extreme violence and aggression at San Quentin Prison, comes from a death row inmate who has become a practitioner of Tibetan Buddhism. Jarvis' story is a testament to the power of faith.

Moore, Billy Neal. **I Shall Not Die: 72 Hours on Death Watch.** AuthorHouse, 2005. For more than 16 years on death row, Billy Neal Moore taught and preached to fellow inmates and the American public about Christ's love. Miraculously, his life was spared just 7 hours prior to his execution time. He describes his experiences in his new autobiography.

Murray, Robert. W. **Life on Death Row.** Albert Publishing Company, 2003. This is an in-depth examination of life on death row, drawn from the personal experience of an inmate in Arizona. It is available through www.1stbooks.com or from Albert Publishing Company, P.O.Box 30280, PMB 111, Phoenix, AZ 85046-0280.



O'Shea, Kathleen. **Women on the Row: Revelations from Both Sides of the Bars.** Ithaca Firebrand Books, 2000. A result of the author's correspondence with women on death row, some but not all of whom claim to be innocent, describing their lives before and since being placed on death row.

Pickett, Carrol and Carlton Stowers. **Within These Walls: Memoirs of a Death House Chaplain.** St. Martin's Press, 2002. This is the powerful memoir of Rev. Carroll Pickett, who spent fifteen years as the death house chaplain at "The Walls," the Huntsville unit of the Texas prison system.

Prejean, Helen. **Dead Man Walking.** Random House, New York, 1993. A Catholic nun's impassioned memoir of her friendship with two death-row inmates, coupled with a plea for the abolition of capital punishment.

Rossi, Richard M. **Waiting to Die: Life of Death Row.** Vision Paperbacks, 2004. Rossi offers a first-person account of daily life on death row in Arizona, where he served for 20 years. He describes the conditions on death row and their psychological effects.

Vadas, Agnes and Richard Nields. **Truth Be Told: Life Lessons From Death Row.** AuthorHouse, 2005. Correspondence between a Washington State human rights activist and a death row inmate can be found in this book. Many topics are discussed throughout the letters, including life's challenges and the lessons learned from them.

Williams, Nanon. **Still Surviving.** Breakout Publishing Co., 2003. First-person account of life on death row from Nanon Williams, a juvenile offender who spent 10 years on death row in Texas before his sentence was commuted in the wake of the U.S. Supreme Court decision in *Roper v. Simmons*, which banned the juvenile death penalty. Williams gives readers the chance to confront the death penalty - not as an abstract term - but as a reality for over 3,000 people in this country. Order from www.breakoutpublishing.com.

Fiction, Poetry, and Photography

Black, Jacquelyn. **Last Meal.** Common Courage Press, 2003. A book of more than 60 photographs, this work focuses on death row inmates in Texas and what they chose as their last meal before being executed. Combined with last words of the condemned, each set of pages features a photo of the person and what they ate.

Gaines, Ernest. **A Lesson Before Dying.** Vintage Books, 1997. In this powerful fictional narrative, an innocent young black man is about to go to the electric chair for murder in 1940s Louisiana. This story is about the relationship that develops between Jefferson, the convicted, and Grant Wiggins, a high school teacher trapped within social convention.



Johnson, Robert. **Poetic Justice: Reflections on the Big House, the Death House, and the American Way of Justice.** Conservatory of American Letters, 2003. This collection of poetry deals with the American system of justice and subjects such as crime and punishment, prison, prejudice, privilege, execution, and terror.

Jones, Lou. **Final Exposure: Portraits from Death Row.** American Friends Service Committee, 2002. This powerful collection of photographs from Lou Jones, with interviews by Jones and Lorie Savel Borges, presents moving profiles of individuals on death row throughout the United States.

Families of Victims & Families of Death Row Inmates

Ackler, James R. and David Reed Karp. **Wounds That Do Not Bind: Victim-Based Perspectives on the Death Penalty.** Carolina Academic Press, 2006. This book presents personal stories and legal issues to help the reader understand the emotional experiences that the criminal justice system requires victims' family members and victims' advocates to endure.

Bosco, Antoinette. **Choosing Mercy: A Mother of Murder Victims Pleads to End the Death Penalty.** Orbis Books, 2001. Bosco's world was overturned in 1993 when her son and daughter-in-law were shot to death while they slept. In this spiritually-charged meditation on violence and punishment, Bosco addresses difficult issues ranging from a deeply flawed corrections system to whether the worst offenders possess the capacity to atone and be redeemed.

Cushing, Robert Renny and Susannah Sheffer. **Dignity Denied: The Experience of Murder Victims' Family Members Who Oppose the Death Penalty.** Murder Victims' Families for Reconciliation, 2002. This text reveals the discrimination that family members of victims who oppose the death penalty have endured from prosecutors, judges, and members of the victims' services community. The work seeks to challenge the assumption that family members of victims are always in favor of capital punishment. Available at www.mvfr.org.

King, Rachel. **Capital Consequences: Families of the Condemned Tell Their Stories.** Rutgers University Press, 2004. In *Capital Consequences*, King reminds us of other families and other victims who must be considered in the debate over the death penalty: the families of those on death row.

King, Rachel. **Don't Kill in Our Names: Families of Murder Victims Speak Out Against the Death Penalty.** Rutgers University Press, 2003. King's book is a collection of the wrenching accounts of individuals who have had loved ones murdered but oppose the death penalty, often working to save the life of the killer. These narratives intend to promote restorative justice, despite grief and the temptation for revenge. The book addresses the question of how one can move past the unforgettable and seemingly unforgivable.



Murder Victims' Families for Reconciliation. **"I Don't Want Another Kid to Die":** Families of Victims Murdered by Juveniles Oppose Juvenile Executions. Murder Victims' Families for Reconciliation, 2003. This report details the experiences of families of victims murdered by juveniles who oppose the death penalty. The report includes the story of Ireland and Rena Beazley, whose son Napoleon was a juvenile offender executed by the state of Texas in 2002. It is a statement against state killing of juveniles, made by those who know violent loss most intimately and have been most directly affected by juvenile crime. This report is available at www.mvfr.org.

Norgard, Katherine. **Hard to Place: A Crime of Alcohol.** Recover Resources Press, 2006. This non-fiction book chronicles a mother's first-hand experience with the death penalty system when her son is sentenced to die. Only after he has been on death row is it discovered that he is mentally ill and suffers from fetal alcohol syndrome.

Pelke, Bill. **Journey of Hope... From Violence to Healing.** 2003. The brutal murder of 78-year-old Bible teacher Ruth Pelke by four teenage girls was the beginning of Bill Pelke's Journey of Hope...From Violence to Healing. Initially, Pelke did not raise any objections when 15-year old Paula Cooper was sentenced to death for the murder of his grandmother. However, through the power of prayer and transformation, he moved from supporting Cooper's death sentence, to working to have it overturned, to dedicating his life to the abolition of the death penalty. This is the story of Pelke's remarkable journey, the overwhelming obstacles he overcame, and the phenomenal, loving, forgiving, committed people he encountered and befriended along the way. To purchase this book, go to www.journeyofhope.org.

Sharp, Susan. **Hidden Victims.** Rutgers University Press. 2005. This book focuses on the effects the death penalty has on the families of the accused and condemned.