

QUOTES FROM ABOLITIONIST EDITORIALS

“ ... we believe the state of Texas should abandon the death penalty – because we cannot reconcile the fact that it is both imperfect and irreversible. ... The state cannot impose death – an irrevocable sentence – with absolute certainty in all cases. Therefore the state should not impose it at all.”

Dallas Morning News, April 15, 2007

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“The death penalty is useless. ... we are left with a grueling process that in the end only guarantees more suffering for victims’ families and society at large as faith in the justice system erodes.”

The Sentinel (Pennsylvania), April 3, 2007

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“The evidence of mistakes, the evidence of arbitrary decisions, the sobering knowledge that government can't provide certainty that the innocent will not be put to death--all that prompts this call for an end to capital punishment. It is time to stop killing in the people's name.”

Chicago Tribune, March 25, 2007

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“Besides the lack of even-handedness, one of the other arguments against the death penalty is that someone may be convicted unjustly, and an execution in that case would irreparably compound a miscarriage of justice.”

Albany Democrat-Herald (Oregon), Dec. 11, 2006

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“Americans are too reluctant to eliminate or streamline appeals. For valid reasons, they are afraid of being hasty and killing an innocent man. On the hand, the long, costly process robs the death penalty of any deterrent effect. Put murderers away for life.”

Delaware News Journal, July 28, 2006

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“Because of the delays, the inconsistency, the drain on the public purse and the nightmarish possibility of executing an innocent person, it is time for the United States to end the practice.”

Spokane Spokesman-Review, May 28, 2006

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“For now, a yearlong moratorium on executions is in effect while a study commission looks at how New Jersey enforces its death penalty statute. The commission should file its report now with the common-sense finding that New Jersey's death penalty is a failure and should be abolished in favor of life in prison without parole.”

Asbury Park Press (New Jersey), May 16, 2006

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“ ... [W]e have come to believe Alabama's capital punishment system is broken. And because, first and foremost, this newspaper's editorial board is committed to a culture of life. . . . We believe all life is sacred. And in embracing a culture of life, we cannot make distinctions between those we deem 'innocents' and those flawed humans who populate Death Row.”

Birmingham News, Nov. 6, 2005

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“ ... the family members of people who have been executed are no longer willing to suffer in silence. Their stories of survival after their parents, children or siblings were executed should give the public yet another reason to abolish the death penalty.”

Austin American-Statesman, Oct. 28, 2005

