

Killing the Innocent: The Death Penalty and Miscarriages of Justice



Dr Bharat Malkani

“Capital punishment was abolished in England, Wales and Scotland in 1965, and abolished in Northern Ireland in 1973. Since then, we have not run the risk of sentencing innocent people to death, but innocent people have been, and continue to be, sentenced to death with alarming frequency in the United States of America.”

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Feedback

on 14 October 2013, **Robert Miller** wrote

As an American who encounters news of crimes including murder and rape on a daily basis, what we need is MORE capital punishment, not less. No, I do not want to see 'innocent people' die but I do want to see swift justice for those involved in murder, rape, child abuse, etc. And it should be done in public, as a deterrent to further crimes. Do-gooder policies don't work and keeping people in prison at our (growing) expense is NOT an option. Eye for an eye!

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on 10 October 2013, **Michael Johnson** wrote

Just reading 'INJUSTICE' by Clive Stafford Smith regarding the case of Kris Maharajah. KM is still on death row for a crime that CSS says he almost certainly didnt commit. What struck me about US law is the extent to which Prosecution, Police, Courts will go to convict a man just because they 'think' he is guilty and not because he actually is guilty - beyond reasonable doubt. To my mind the case against the death sentence is two-fold i.e. a question of morality and a question of justice. On the moral side, a country that embraces state killing perpetuates the notion that death is a solution to lifes problems - revenge for revenges sake! Intems of justice, I agree with your point that history is littered with wrongful convictions. One someone is executed there is no appeal - when you are dead you are dead!

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