



# Critical Thinking: Short Argument Paper

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Argument Paper: Capital Punishment

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Capital punishment. The death penalty. Capital punishment is a modern day stoning in which a human being pays the ultimate price for their transgressions against society; they pay with their life. I believe capital punishment should be abolished and my argument lies within this short paper.

The reasons why capital punishment is ethically wrong are: it is ineffective as a deterrent (murders happen whether or not there is capital punishment), it does not bring back the victims (capital punishment would be an act of revenge against the criminal in this case), there is always the possibility of executing an innocent man or woman (this would be a grave injustice), and killing the criminal for their immoralities would deny them any form of rehabilitation (even if the criminal cannot be rehabilitated, they may still have something valuable to offer society). We all have heard the arguments for capital punishment, but what about the solutions? I believe we should do what is best for everyone involved, including the criminals (a sort of utilitarian approach). I have accepted that crime in America has roots in the socioeconomic problems that plague the poorest of neighborhoods, as well as corporate tyranny, capitalism run amuck, monetary greed, and corrupt politicians. We need to clean up America one neighborhood at a time, as well as balance the wealth, education, and healthcare of this great country (all of these elements would lead to less crime, crime that is punishable by capital punishment). We should change capital punishment to life without a chance of parole, at least until we evolve morally and ethically and can step into the future knowing more about crime, why it happens and what role we play in it. Let us do what is best for everyone and stop capital punishment.