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The Death Penalty

Horrifying thoughts running through his head, barley able to breath, gasping for air as he walks down the hallway. The room becomes cold as he lies down on the table. This will be the worst and last day of his life, but what he thought would be short and painless turns out to be the complete opposite. First his body was strapped down and then his arms spread and also strapped down. The needle is placed into his arm and injected. Angel Diaz began to show signs of severe pain and distress. As he tried to mouth words he was breathing heavy and his jaw was clench. His body began twitching and jolting. Twenty four minutes later he was showing no signs of dying and was administered another dose. It should have only take three to five minutes before he will lose consciousness and fifteen for him to die. In Angel Diaz case it took him 35 minutes of pure torture before he finally died. This is just one of many botched executions. The death penalty must be illegal in all 52 states. It is against the eight amendments. Innocent people are going to be murdered.

The death penalty is against the eight amendment. The eight amendment states “Excessive bail shall not be required, nor excessive fines imposed, nor cruel and unusual punishments inflicted" (Roland 1). There are many cases where the death penalty inflicted cruel and unusual punishment. The case of Romell Broom is a perfect example of how the death penalty breaks the eight amendment. Romell Broom an inmate on death row was supposed to die of lethal injection at ten am September 15th, 2009 (Information about the Romell Broom Botched Execution). Instead he suffered two long hours of pure torture. The execution team poked and prodded for two hours trying to find a suitable vein for an IV to inject the lethal chemicals ( 1). During the two hours Mr. Broom even attempted to help find a suitable vein. "Broom attempted to assist them by moving on his side, sliding the rubber tubing up and down his arm, and flexing his fingers" (New Revelations of Inmate's Struggles During Ohio Execution Attempt). A vein was found with his help but also failed. Many times Mr. Broom was seen showing signs of pain. At one point he laid on his back and covered his face with both hands appearing to be in distress ( 1). "One of the execution team handed him a roll of toilet paper, which he used" (1). During these two hours the execution team had to take breaks and one member walked out completely. The execution was finally called off by the Ohio Governor Ted Strickland and issues a one week reprieve (1).This obviously violate Ohio's statutory requirement that a lethal injection execution is to be quick and painless. Mr. Broom was in severe pain and this was not quick. Anyone who went through this pain would say that it is cruel and unusual punishment. Just because he is a murder himself does not mean that the constitution does not apply to him. Things may have changed over the past three years but things like this still can happen. The death penalty is a flawed system and some cases like these do break the eight amendment and they must to be stopped.

Innocent people are going to be murdered. Many people have been wrongful convicted each year, unfortunately some of them lost their lives due to death penalty. It is bad enough that people have to live their lives in prison when they are innocent, but they can all ways get out and get their freedom back if later are proven innocent. For someone who is executed and later on proven innocent, it is impossible to give them the freedom they deserve. Troy Davis is unfortunately one of the many men that have been executed when he was innocent. Troy Davis was convicted for the murder of an off-duty police officer in 1989 (Peralta 1), and given the death penalty in 1991 for the murder of an off-duty police officer (Georgia Sets Sept. 21 Execution Date for Troy Davis). It took twenty two years after his conviction when Troy was executed. Troy Davis was executed September 21, 2011. ( 1). There were multiple dates set for Mr. Davis's execution but, he kept receiving a grant to stay. That went on for twenty two years obliviously there was reasonable doubt that he was not the man who killed the police officer or he would have never been granted any stays. He would have been executed the day of his first scheduled execution. There was a great deal of uncertainty that lead to Troy Davis's case taking twenty two years. "Since his conviction, the evidence his conviction was based on has largely fallen apart. Seven of nine eyewitnesses have recanted or contradicted their trial testimony, the ballistic evidence was later withdrawn and new witnesses have identified a different shooter" (1). That fact right there just proves that all the evidence that was used to convict Troy Davis was false. Maybe the witnesses felt under pressure when they were being interrogated from the police and just gave the answer they wanted to hear so it could all be over. As time passed the guilt that built up inside of them lead them to tell the truth. All of the evidence that was used to convict Mr. Davis fell through, and that alone proves that Troy Davis was innocent. This shows just how unjust the death penalty is when it is killing innocent people. Troy Davis was robbed of the freedom and the life that he deserved.

Without the death penalty the government would save so much money. To keep the death penalty in place it is costing people on average 245 million a year (Death Penalty). This is an outrageous number, and should not be this high what so ever. The money that is going to keeping the death penalty around could be used for much more important things. Like feeding the hungry, putting money towards new roads or buildings, or even have the money be put forth to the education system. There are much more important things that all this money could be used for. The death penalty is just a way to get rid of someone who committed a crime for example. If people use this money for things like the education system, that is something that will stay around. An interesting fact that not too many people do not know is that the money that we pay for the death penalty is not necessarily being used. People pay that money just to have the death penalty around (Death Penalty 2) .This is not fair to people and needs to be stopped by eliminating the death penalty.

The death penalty has grown out of control and needs to be stopped and be illegal in each of the 50 states. Some people may argue that once the death penalty is made illegal that the death rate will go up because people might think that they can get away with a murder crime and not get the death penalty seeing how it was made illegal. But this is not true. Statistics show that the death row rate is actually going down (Death Row). Showing a decline in 2002, the number of people on death row is continuing to go down (Death Row). This means that the number of crimes that are being brought forth to face the death penalty is also going down. Statistics show that this trend is going to continue to go down, which is a very good reason to do away with the death penalty and make it illegal in each of the 50 states.

The death penalty has a few different forms of execution in which all are painful and a way of cruel and unusual punishment, which is against the eight amendment (Ronald, John). Instead of having the death penalty, and violating the rights of the eights amendment people who commit a murder crime should just spend life in prison. This would stop the cruel and unusual punishment that people are going through when they face the death penalty (Ronald, John). The execution of people through the death penalty is just becoming out of control and needs to change. Life in prison would be so much easier instead of wasting money beyond money to put people to death. The death penalty needs to banish and be made illegal in each of the 50 states.