



[The death penalty and when it is appropriate.](#)

A few hundred years ago, all around the world, the penal system was absolutely. People would be sentenced to death for even the most petty of crimes and nothing would be thought of it. Public executions would be held as a form of entertainment, and average citizens could occasionally participate in the killings themselves. However, our society as a whole has reached a point where the death penalty is a very debated over problem that no group can reach a unanimous decision upon. A lot of factors go into this decision, and the process in its entirety can take months or years to complete, all the while people are having arguments over its usage. So, my question is when is the death penalty considered to be appropriate?

I found a [site](#) that discusses the pros and cons of the issue as a whole and it provided a lot of new information that I had previously not considered, such as cost or constitutionality. Though it is considered to be a cheaper alternative than that of a life sentence for a prisoner, the amount that adds up from trials and other events can actually be much more expensive:

“[A]ll of the studies conclude that the death penalty system is far more expensive than an alternative system in which the maximum sentence is life in prison.”

However, there are some crimes so vile that releasing the prisoner would never be a viable option, and having that person around other inmates could cause serious threats to their health as well. So, the only logical way to go about it would be to enact the death penalty. Though it is given in very, very special circumstances, there are usually very good reasons behind it.

I found another [website](#) that also offers some differing opinions on the topic, that brings to light even more factors that I had not considered. The first of these is the argument that it teaches the condemned person nothing. Simply killing the person will not make them learn the errors of their

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<https://www.youthvoices.live/2018/01/09/the-death-penalty-and-when-it-is-appropriate/>

ways and will only enforce the ideal that there is no other way to go about life:

“But if that child grows up and murders someone for their wallet or just for fun, and they are in turn put to death, they are taught precisely nothing, because they are no longer alive to learn from it. We cannot rehabilitate a person by killing him or her.”

However, on the other side of the same topic, others argue that the death penalty is not meant to teach the person wrong from right. The people that are given the death penalty are truly the worst of the worst, and to keep them around in functioning society would only be a hindrance. People like serial killers, rapists, and pedophiles should not be given another opportunity to be released into the public where they have the potential to repeat the actions that led to their initial incarceration.