

**ESSAY:** Should the death penalty be abolished?

Why should The Government have the right to kill you? The death penalty has been a long debate on whether it should be abolished. Some people say that it is perfectly fine to put someone to death, others say it is too cruel for The Government to decide if you die or live. There have been many fights with the supreme court and most likely they will not stop. I think the death penalty should be abolished because the death penalty could be considered a violation of the 8th amendment in the constitution, they could be convicting the wrong person, and it costs a lot more to execute someone than to keep someone in jail for the rest of their life

The death penalty could be considered a violation of the 8th amendment. The 8th amendment states: Nor cruel or unusual punishments inflicted. This is to show that in our own constitution it says that nothing cruel shall be inflicted on a person and killing a person is considered a cruel thing to do so why should The Government be able to kill you if it conflicts with the 8th amendment. The supreme court has ruled that the death penalty is not considered cruel or unusual, but they need to reconsider because they can't think that our founding fathers meant it is okay to kill someone if they commit a bad enough crime. Justice John Paul Stevens would amend the 8th amendment to: "nor cruel and unusual punishments such as the death penalty inflicted." John Paul Stevens was one of the most respected justices on the supreme court even stated he would change the 8th amendment to make sure the death penalty would not be applicable to be passed with the 8th amendment.

The death penalty should be abolished because you could be convicting the wrong person. Justice John Paul Stevens was talking about the death penalty saying "particularly outrageous in light of the lack of evidence supporting the death penalty's purported justifications." That quote was to show that if there is evidence against the person and they are executed then later on they find that there is more evidence that leads to another person then they have killed an innocent man. The Government should not be able to make those mistakes for

taking a man's life then finding out that man was innocent. A Chicago Tribune investigation released in 2006 revealed groundbreaking evidence that Texas may have executed an innocent man in 1989. The defendant, Carlos DeLuna, was executed for the fatal stabbing of Texas convenience store clerk Wanda Lopez in 1983. That was to show that there was a chance Carlos was guilty and even a chance is bad because he might be guilty which means they killed the wrong man which is unacceptable

The death penalty takes a lot of money from the taxpayers. Justice John Paul Stevens says “Taxpayers should terminate this waste as expeditiously as possible.” This means that taxpayers are wasting money on killing people which costs a lot of money and you should not have to pay to kill someone. NBC news article: Turns out, it is cheaper to imprison killers for life than to execute them, according to a series of recent surveys. Tens of millions of dollars cheaper. That was to show that The Government would be saving a lot of money if they terminated to the death penalty.

Due to a violation of the 8th amendment, maybe convicting the wrong person and money the death penalty should be abolished. The death penalty has so many things wrong with it one of them is taking a persons life. If you take a person's life then why is The Government allowed to take yours. Also no matter how much evidence there is on a person you don't know if more evidence proving the person innocent will come to light. Overall the death penalty is a cruel thing this to have in this country and needs to end.