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Capital Punishment

*The Defining Issues for the
Next Generation*

Edited by:

Charles S. Lanier,
William J. Bowers,
& James R. Acker

University at Albany Capital Punishment Research Initiative

Capital Punishment

The Defining Issues for the Next Generation

This volume, comprised of original chapters authored by nationally distinguished scholars, is an ambitious effort to identify the most critical issues confronting the future of capital punishment in the United States and the steps that must be taken to gather and analyze the information that will be necessary for informed policy judgments. Contributors will articulate the most pressing issues of administration, litigation, legislation, and executive action confronting the future of capital punishment, and identify research strategies designed to supply answers to those questions.

The book represents a valuable academic contribution, particularly within criminal justice and law, and promises to be of interest as well to policy-makers and practitioners. It will be published a generation after the Supreme Court's landmark decision in *Gregg v. Georgia* (1976) heralded the "modern era" of capital punishment, and at a time when the efficacy and operation of the death penalty are under intensive scrutiny by governmental study commissions throughout the country.

The book is organized into six sections: (a) Institutional and Disciplinary Perspectives on the Death Penalty; (b) Capital Punishment: Public Policy Perspectives; (c) The Death Penalty as Applied; (d) Participants in the Capital Punishment Process; (e) The Punishment of Death; and (f) Interdisciplinary Perspectives: Toward a Research Agenda for the Future.

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Partial Table of Contents

Foreword

(Ronald J. Tabak)

A. Institutional and Disciplinary Perspectives on the Death Penalty

Death Penalty Research Today and Tomorrow

(Hugo Adam Bedau)

“Symbolic” and “Instrumental” Aspects of Capital Punishment

(David Garland)

The Role of Constitutional Facts and Social Science Research in Capital Litigation: Is “Proof” of Arbitrariness or Inaccuracy Relevant to the Constitutional Regulation of the American Death Penalty?

(Jordan M. Steiker)

The ABA Death Penalty Moratorium Implementation Project: Setting the Stage for Further Research

(Deborah Fleischaker)

Bridging the Theory/Practice Divide

(Peter Loge)

B. Capital Punishment: Public Policy Perspectives

The Effects of AEDPA on Justice

(David R. Dow & Eric M. Freedman)

The Cost of the Death Penalty: Directions for Future Research

(Jonathan E. Gradess & Andrew Davies)

The Future of Innocence

(Richard C. Dieter)

Why the Downturn in Death Sentences?

(William J. Bowers & Scott E. Sundby)

C. The Death Penalty as Applied

The Front End of Capital Punishment

(Jeffrey Fagan)

Racial and Ethnic Disparities in Resolving Homicides

(Michael L. Radelet & Glenn L. Pierce)

Perspectives, Approaches, and Future Directions in Death Penalty Proportionality Studies

(David Baldus, George Woodworth, & Neil Alan Weiner)

Empirical Studies of Race and Geographic Discrimination in the Administration of the Death Penalty: A Primer on the Key Methodological Issues

(David Baldus, George Woodworth, David Zuckerman, Neil Alan Weiner, & Catherine M. Grosso)

Researching Future Dangerousness

(Jon Sorensen)

Mental Retardation and the Death Penalty Five Years after Atkins

(John H. Blume & Sheri Lynn Johnson)

D. Participants in the Capital Punishment Process

The Capital Jury Experiment of the U.S. Supreme Court

(William J. Bowers, Thomas W. Brewer, & Charles S. Lanier)

Capital Punishment and the Families of Victims and Defendants

(Margaret Vandiver)

Toward a New Perspective on Clemency in the Killing State

(Austin Sarat)

Alternative Sanctions for Aggravated Murder: Form and Function

(James R. Acker)

E. The Punishment of Death

Life Under Sentence of Death: Thoughts on Conditions of Confinement and Quality of Life

(Robert Johnson, Sandy McGunigall-Smith, Fontaine, & Dum)

The Future of Execution Methods

(Deborah W. Denno)

F. Interdisciplinary Perspectives: Toward a Research Agenda for the Future

The National Death Penalty Archive (NDPA): “The Greatest Body of Evidence Ever Collected About the Death Penalty in the United States”

(Charles S. Lanier)

Conclusions and Beginnings: Toward a Research Agenda for the Future

(James R. Acker & Charles S. Lanier)