

## We Can Erase the Death Penalty

By Julia Abraham

The death penalty isn't helping anybody. In fact, it's just creating problems. I think using the death penalty is not right.

First of all, killing people is barbaric no matter what they have done. Second of all, when you use the death penalty you are just as bad as anyone on death row.

You also have to view it from the perspective of the family and friends of a person on death row. How do you think they feel? Scared? Angry? Devastated? Probably a mix. You are not only punishing the person who did the crime but also their family and friends.

There **are** flaws on the Judicial branch. People **do** make mistakes. Because of that an individual killed from the death penalty might be innocent. A life in jail is more humane than the death penalty, especially if you're innocent. If you are innocent, evidence can be reviewed and you can be released from jail, but if you are dead, there is no undoing that.

Sometimes the judicial system is even biased, mostly on people of color and lower income. That is unfair on so many levels. That is also a violation of the Bill of Rights' equal protection clause.

Some people think the death penalty is fair. "An eye for an eye." A government should not kill their citizens, or anyone for that matter.

I strongly believe that the death penalty is just creating problems and not helping anybody. Killing someone for any reason is not right. We can erase the death penalty in America forever. Let's stop it in Nebraska first. That will be a good start.