Death Penalty

Introduction

Hook: “An eye for an eye, a tooth for a tooth, a life for a life”, this is what history had told us.

Bridge: I believe a lot of people will agree that those murderer and rapists are monsters. They should pay for their action by punished to death, because they do not deserve living in the world.

Q: But is taking away those people’s life really the good way?

A: probably no

P: To support my answer, we will look at 3 areas of analysis. First, I will introduce the background of death penalty. Second, we will look carefully about why we should consider abolish death penalty by using California as an example. And at last, we will talk about why there are still people want their government to keep the capital punishment.

Conclusion

Q: Back to our question, should we keep having death penalty?

A: I think the answer should still be negative.

P: To support this answer, we looked at the three analysis. In the first analysis, we saw that there are more and more state abolishing death penalty. At the second analysis, we understand that death penalty is irreversible, expensive, and an unfair policy. In the last analysis, we take a look about some special situation in U.S. and other country.

Ending: I think even though those murderer and rapists are consider monsters, we should come up with some other way to educate them, because if we kill another life just because he / she killed another, this killing cycle will never end.

Body 1 When talking about the death penalty, we need to understand the background of it. First, we will briefly talk about the death penalty around the whole U.S.. Second, we will look closely to California’s legislation for death penalty.

1. U.S. death penalty history

American Civil Liberties Union, Dec. 2018

U.S.’s death penalty start when it used to be a British colony. The first execution record is in Virginia at 1608. As the day goes by, U.S. still keep this legislation through every states. According to American civil liberties union “Starting at 1853, Wisconsin become the first state to make death penalty illegal. More recently, total of twenty states according Washington D.C, have abolished the death penalty.”

1. Death penalty at California

Targeted News Service, Mar. 2019

However, California is one of the state that haven’t cancel the death penalty in U.S., but they are trying now. According to the Targeted News Service, “California has only killed 13 people since reinstating its death penalty and has not carried out an execution since 2006, when a court found state’s use of lethal injection violates the constitutional ban on cruel and unusual punishment.” Moreover, the governor now of California, Garvin Newson is trying to ban this cruel law.

Body 2 Move on to the second analysis. Let’s take a look about the two main reason why should California get rid of the capital punishment.

1. Human Right and Cost

California Government, Mar. 2019

The first big reason why California should suspend death penalty is because this kind of punishment puts the lives of innocent people at-risk within criminal justice system. The evidence shows there are 164 people, including 4 in California, have been released from death row since 1973 after being later found innocent. Even though it only shows 164 people have been misjudged, we can not promised there will not be more misjudged case shows after we send the person to death. Also, according to the statistic released by California government, it shows that since 1978, California has spent $5 billion on a death penalty system that only has executed 13 people. We can see from here that death penalty is an error since life cannot be irreversible and reparable.

1. Discrimination

Los Angeles Times, June. 2019

The second reason why California should follow those 20 states who have already banned the capital punishment is because the law implied discrimination. According to the Los Angeles Times, “when stating the moratorium on executions, Newson argued that the death penalty discriminates against defendants who can’t afford expensive legal representation, mentally ill, African American or Latino.” Which told us that those minorities are more likely to receive death penalty than white people. Those people do not have enough ability to protect their own human right because of the discrimination and poverty. For this reason the government should abolished this unfair law to prevent those case happens again.

Body 3 After looking to the reason why the California government should ban the death penalty, let’s take a look about why even though there are many considerable reasons for banning this legislation, there are still many people from either U.S. or other country hope the government can keep it.

1. Citizens are scared

Wall Street Journal, Apr. 2019

Many people who support keeping the capital punishment states that they want a safe living environment. They are afraid that those sadistic murderer will one day be release from the jail and come back into the society. According to Wall Street Journal, “New Hampshire is trying really hard to abolish the death penalty. New Hampshire hasn’t executed a prisoner in 80 years and had narrow down the death penalty can only be used in certain condition, including killing an on-duty police.” The state has only one death-row victim, Michael Addison, who murdered a police officer in 2006. The police officer’s family state that if the law change now, then Mr. Addison with eventually get off of death row. She says, “The death penalty is not about revenge, it is just about protecting our society from evil people to do evil thing.” We can see here that people still believe that only taking away the murderer’s life is the best way to protect the society.

1. At some country, it is necessary.

BBC News, Apr. 2018

Moreover, in some country, like India, has very high percentage of rapist around the nation. India’s reported rapes of children had more than doubled between 2012 and 2016. According to BBC news, even though a number of serious crimes in India carry the death penalty, but raping a children was not considered for it. The reason why they come up a new law in 2018 to make rapists under death penalty, is because after police released news about a local gangster raped a age of 8 years old girl during the same year, the public start to come up demand for punishing those brutal rapists. The new law allows death penalty for anyone who raped children under age of 12.