

Unit 4 Wrap Up

Do Now: Take out your reflection assignments that were due today. Discuss with your partners what you wrote for the first two questions.

Final thoughts on the death penalty

- Is the death penalty racist?
- Racial Breakdown of those on death row:
- 45% white, 42% black, and 10% Latino.
- Does this prove that the death penalty is not racist?
- Racial breakdown of the US in 2010:
- 64% white, 12% Black, 5% Asian, 16% Latino

- Studies show that the race of the defendant was not strongly correlated with whether or not they got the death penalty.
- Studies show that the race of the victim had a strong effect on whether a defendant received the death penalty.
- “22% of black defendants who kill white victims are sentenced to death; 8% of white defendants who kill white victims are sentenced to death; 1% of black defendants who kill black victims are sentenced to death; and 3% of white defendants who kill black victims are sentenced to death.”

Does the death penalty save money?

- The cost of a trial that results in a death penalty is twice that of a life imprisonment verdict.
- Death penalty cases also have expensive appeals processes in addition to the expenses associated with the execution itself.
- The answer to the question depends on what costs you include in either case.
- By removing the possibility of the death penalty, prosecutors have an easier time getting defendants to accept guilty pleas.

Is the death penalty an effective deterrent to crime?

- <http://www.deathpenaltyinfo.org/deterrence-states-without-death-penalty-have-had-consistently-lower-murder-rates>

What happens if murderers get out of prison?

- Nationwide, 75% of people who were incarcerated for a crime went on to be arrested for another crime within 5 years and 55% were incarcerated again.
- In one study, a researcher found that 988 individuals convicted of murder were let out of prison in California over 20 years. 1% were arrested for new crimes. 0 committed another murder.

Solution for Prison Overpopulation?

- There are around 2,230,000 individuals incarcerated in the United States.
- 2,905 of those were on death row (people who received a death sentence for their crimes).
- If all were executed tomorrow, the prison population would decrease by around .1%.

Conclusions?

New Unit

- Do Now: What are some names of different political parties and political ideologies?
- What are the differences between them?
What are the central questions they disagree about?