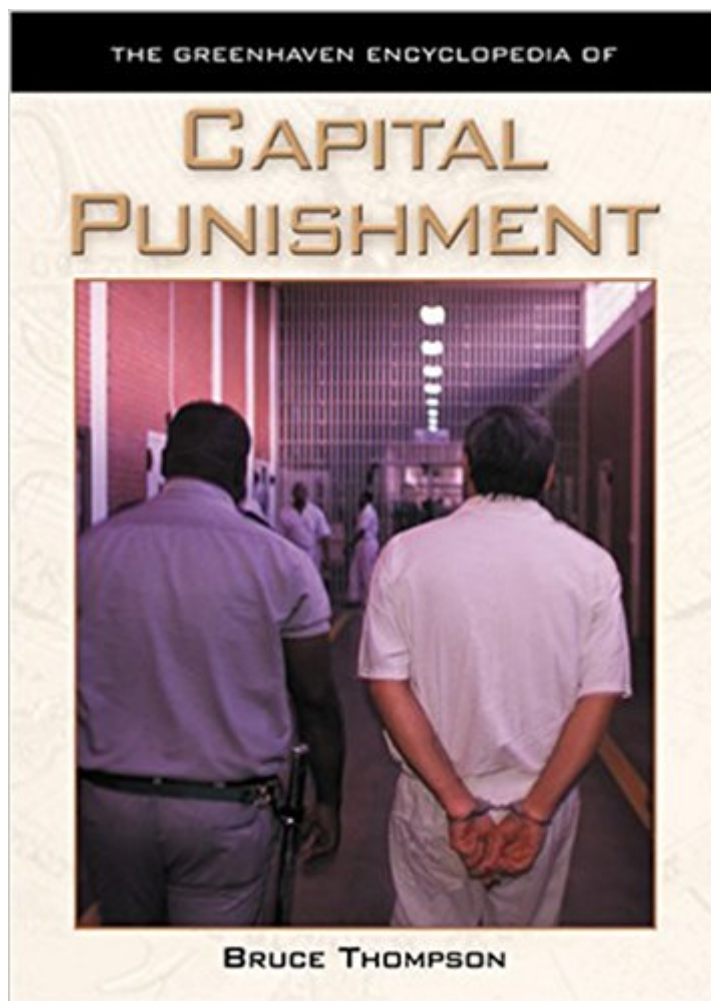


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Synopsis

Use of capital punishment has declined in the United States and around the world over the centuries. However, for the most serious of crimes, capital punishment is still an option in most states, and a majority of U. S. citizens support its continued use. From methods of execution to the legal principles behind Supreme Court decisions, this encyclopedia provides the background needed to understand this complex issue.

Book Information

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Grade 9 Up-This excellent resource offers historical, legal, and biographical entries related to the subject. Students will learn which Bible verses are most quoted in arguments for and against the death penalty; read about Monsieur New York, one of history's most skilled hangmen; and find out about the role of DNA analysis in exoneration, among other topics. Each state entry describes its past and present policy on capital punishment. Statistics are included within entries, and some charts and graphs are provided. In some cases these detail figures through 2005; in other cases, they are likely to send students to more up-to-date resources. Average-quality, black-and-white photographs and reproductions are found throughout the volume. A useful resource that can be used in conjunction with titles in the *Opposing Viewpoints* series (Gale).-Cass Kvenild, University of Wyoming, Laramie Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.

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