Cruel and Unusual Punishment: Joseph Anthony Melusky 2003-01-01 In one of the lengthiest, noisiest, and hottest legal debates in U.S. history, Cruel and Unusual Punishment stands out as a levelheaded, even-handed, and thorough analysis of the issue. * A focused list of primary source documents includes the Magna Carta, the Northwest Ordinance, the 5th, 8th, and 14th Amendments, and excerpts from the Federalist Papers. Appendices include tables and charts on public opinion on the death penalty, state statistics, federal sentencing guidelines, and a bibliography

Cruel and Unusual: Brian Jarvis 2004-01-20 From the excesses of Puritan patriarchy to the barbarism of slavery and on into the prison-industrial complex, punishment in the US has a long and gruesome history. In the post-Vietnam era, the prison population has increased tenfold and the death penalty has enjoyed a renaissance. Cruel and Unusual offers an exploration of the history of punishment as mediated in American culture. Grounding his analysis in Marxist theory, psychoanalysis and Foucault’s influential work on discipline, Brian Jarvis examines a range of cultural texts, from seventeenth century execution sermons to twenty-first century prison films, to uncover the politics, economics and erotics of punishment. This wide-ranging and interdisciplinary survey constructs a genealogy of cruelty through close reading of novels by Hawthorne and Melville, fictional accounts of the Rosenberg execution by Coover and Doctorow, slave narratives and prison writings by African Americans and the critically neglected genre of American prison films.

The Story of Cruel and Unusual: Colin Dayan 2007-03-16 A searing indictment of the American penal system that finds the roots of the recent prisoner abuse at Abu Ghraib and Guantánamo in the steady dismantling of the Eighth Amendment’s prohibition of “cruel and unusual” punishment. The revelations of prisoner abuse and torture at Abu Ghraib and more recently at Guantánamo were shocking to most Americans. And those who condemned the treatment of prisoners abroad have focused on U.S. military procedures and abuses of executive powers in the war on terror, or, more specifically, on the now-famous White House legal counsel memos on the acceptable limits of torture. But in The Story of Cruel and Unusual, Colin Dayan argues that anyone who has followed U.S. Supreme Court decisions regarding the Eighth Amendment prohibition of “cruel and unusual” punishment would recognize the prisoners’ treatment at Abu Ghraib and Guantánamo as a natural extension of the language of our courts and practices in U.S. prisons. In fact, it was no coincidence that White House legal counsel referred to a series of Supreme Court decisions in the 1980s and 1990s in making its case for torture. Dayan traces the roots of “acceptable” torture to slave codes of the nineteenth century that deeply embedded the dehumanization of the incarcerated in our legal system. Although the Eighth Amendment was interpreted generously during the prisoners’ rights movement of the late 1960s and 1970s, this period of judicial concern was an anomaly. Over the last thirty years, Supreme Court decisions have once again dismantled Eighth Amendment protections and rendered such words as “cruel” and “inhuman” meaningless when applied to conditions of confinement and treatment during detention. Prisoners’ actual pain and suffering have been explained away in a rhetorical haze—with rationalizations, for example, that measure cruelty not by the pain or suffering inflicted, but by the intent of the person who inflicted it. The Story of Cruel and Unusual is a stunningly original work of legal scholarship, and a searing indictment of the U.S. penal system.

Cruel and Unusual: Anne-Marie Cusac 2009-03-17 The statistics are startling. Since 1973, America’s imprisonment rate has multiplied over five times to become the highest in the world. More than two million inmates reside in state and federal prisons. What does this say about our attitudes toward criminals and punishment? What does it say about us? This book explores the cultural evolution of punishment practices in the United States. Anne-Marie Cusac first looks at punishment in the nation’s early days, when Americans repudiated Old World cruelty toward criminals and emphasized rehabilitation over retribution. This attitude persisted for some 200 years, but in recent decades we have abandoned it. Cusac shows. She discusses the dramatic rise in the use of torture and restraint, corporal and capital punishment, and punitive physical pain. And she links this new climate of punishment to shifts in other aspects of American culture, including changes in dominant religious beliefs, child-rearing practices, politics, television shows, movies, and more. America now punishes harder and longer and with methods we would have rejected as cruel and unusual not long ago. These changes are profound, their impact affects all our lives, and we have yet to understand the full consequences.

Unusually Cruel: Marc Morjé Howard 2017-06-16 The United States incarcerates far more people than any other country in the world, at rates nearly ten times higher than other liberal democracies. Indeed, while the U.S. is home to 5 percent of the world’s population, it contains nearly 25
The mission, plotted out long before it was possible to imagine a day when the carceral state — its correctional agencies, its prison conditions, parole, and societal reentry — the U.S. is harsher and more punitive than other comparable countries. In Unusually Cruel, Marc Morje Howard argues that the American criminal justice and prison systems are exceptional — in a truly shameful way. Although other scholars have focused on the internal dynamics that have produced this massive carceral system, Howard provides the first systematic analysis that shows just how far the U.S. lies outside the norm of established democracies. And, by highlighting how other countries successfully apply less punitive and more productive policies, he provides plausible solutions to addressing America’s criminal justice quagmire.

Cruel and Unusual-Michael Mettsner 2011-07-23 The true and gripping account of the nine-year struggle by a small band of lawyers to abolish the death penalty in the United States. Its new edition features a 2011 Foreword by death-penalty author Evan Mandery of CUNY’s John Jay College of Criminal Justice, as well as a new Preface by the author. The mission, plotted out long before it was possible to imagine a day when the carceral state — its correctional agencies, its prison conditions, parole, and societal reentry — the U.S. is harsher and more punitive than other comparable countries. In Unusually Cruel, Marc Morje Howard argues that the American criminal justice and prison systems are exceptional — in a truly shameful way. Although other scholars have focused on the internal dynamics that have produced this massive carceral system, Howard provides the first systematic analysis that shows just how far the U.S. lies outside the norm of established democracies. And, by highlighting how other countries successfully apply less punitive and more productive policies, he provides plausible solutions to addressing America’s criminal justice quagmire.

Evoking Standards of Decency-Vincent James Strickler 1997

Usual Cruelty-Alec Karakatsanis 2019-10-29 From an award-winning civil rights lawyer, a profound challenge to our society’s normalization of the caging of human beings, and the role of the legal profession in perpetuating it. Alec Karakatsanis is interested in what we choose to punish. For example, it is a crime in most of America for poor people to wager in the streets over dice; dice-wagers can be seized, searched, have their assets forfeited, and be locked in cages. It’s perfectly fine, by contrast, for people to wager over international currencies, mortgages, or the global supply of wheat; wheat-wagers become names on the wings of hospitals and museums. He is also troubled by how the legal system works when it is trying to punish people. The bail system, for example, is meant to ensure that people return for court dates. But it has morphed into a way to lock up poor people who have not been convicted of anything. He’s so concerned about this that he has personally sued court systems across the country, resulting in literally tens of thousands of people being released from jail when their money bail was found to be unconstitutional. Karakatsanis doesn’t think people who have gone to law school, passed the bar, and sworn to uphold the Constitution should be so concerned about the morality of the criminal justice system. He spends his life reading almost every major book ever written about the death penalty in America. This is the best and the most important. Every serious scholar who wants to advance an argument about capital punishment in the United States—whether it is abolitionist or in favor of the death penalty, or merely a tactical assessment—cites this book. It is open and supremely accessible.” And the author’s “constitutional vision was years ahead of its time. His book is timeless.” Part of the Legal History and Biography Series from Yale Pro Books. The structure and embedded pagination from previous editions (consistent with the new paperback edition as well) allow continuity in all formats), active TOC and endnotes, and quality digital formatting.

Preventing Cruel and Unusual Punishment-Hallie Murray 2017-07-15 The Founding Fathers created the Eighth Amendment to protect the people from the kind of abuse they had seen while the colonies were under British rule. But to this day, Americans continue to argue about what exactly [cruel and unusual], [excessive bail,] and [excessive fines] mean. Through full-color and black-and-white photos, engaging text, and primary sources, students will examine the events leading up to the Eighth Amendment’s creation, how it has been defined throughout the centuries, and how it is interpreted today. In addition, informative sidebars and a further reading section with books and websites encourage students to explore the people and events of this time in history in more depth.

Against the Death Penalty-Stephen Breyer 2016-08-23 A landmark dissenting opinion arguing against the death penalty. Does the death penalty violate the Constitution? In Against the Death Penalty, Justice Stephen G. Breyer argues that in the country’s history and in its jurisprudence, the death penalty is carried out in an inhumane way, and thus invalidates the ban on “cruel and unusual punishments” specified by the Eighth Amendment to the Constitution. “Today’s administration of the death penalty,” Breyer writes, “violates three fundamental constitutional defects: (1) serious unreliability, (2) arbitrariness in application, and (3) unconscionably long delays that undermine the death penalty’s penological purpose. Perhaps as a result, (4) most places within the United States have abandoned its use.” This volume contains Breyer’s dissent in the case of Glossip v. Gross, which involved a successful challenge to Oklahoma’s use of a lethal-injection drug because it might cause severe pain. Justice Breyer’s legal citations have been edited to make them understandable to a general audience, but the text retains the full force of his powerful argument that the time has come for the Supreme Court to revisit the constitutionality of the death penalty. Breyer was joined in his dissent from the bench by Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg. Their passionate argument has been cited by many legal experts — including fellow Justice Antonin Scalia — as signaling an eventual Court ruling striking down the death penalty. A similar dissent in 1963 by Breyer’s mentor, Justice Arthur J. Goldberg, helped set the stage for a later ruling, imposing what turned out to be a four-year moratorium on executions.

The Cruelty Is the Point-Adam Serwer 2021-06-29 NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER • From an award-winning journalist at The Atlantic, these searing essays make a powerful case that “real hope lies not in a sunny nostalgia for American greatness but in seeing this history plain—in all of its brutality, unadorned by euphemism” (The New York Times). NAMED ONE OF THE BEST BOOKS OF THE YEAR BY NPR • "No writer better demonstrates how American democracy is so often sabotaged by American history. Adam Serwer is essential.” —Ta-Nehisi Coates "Trump summoned the most treacherous forces in American history and conducted them with the ease of a grand maestro.” Like many of us, Adam Serwer didn’t know that Donald Trump would win the 2016 election. But over the four years that followed, the Atlantic staff writer became one of our most astute analysts of the Trump presidency and the volatile powers it harnessed. The shock that greeted Trump’s victory, and the subsequent cruelty of his presidency, represented a failure to confront elements of the American past long thought vanquished. In this searing collection, Serwer chronicles the Trump administration not as an aberration but as an outgrowth of the inequalities the United States was founded on. Serwer is less interested in the presidential spectacle than in the ideological and structural currents behind Trump’s rise—including a media that was often blinded by the ugly realities of what the administration represented and how it came to be. While deeply engaged with the moment, Serwer’s writing is also haunted by the ghosts of an unresolved American past, a past that torments the present. In bringing new essays and previously published works, he explores white nationalism, myths about migration, the political power of police unions, and the many faces of anti-Semitism. For all the dynamics he examines, cruelty is the glue, the binding agent of a movement fueled by fear and exclusion. Serwer argues that rather than pretending these four years didn’t happen or dismissing them as a brief moment of madness, we must face what made them possible and continues to endure. Unless we confront these toxic legacies, the fragile dream of American multiracial democracy will remain vulnerable to the forces that have nearly destroyed it time and again.
Freedom from Cruel and Unusual Punishment-Kristin O'Donnell Tubb 2005 Discusses the history of the Eighth Amendment and capital punishment, offering court cases and essays to explore various points of view.

The Eighth Amendment-Greg Boza 2011-01-15 This book is an introduction to the Eighth Amendment which empowers the people as it guarantees protection of basic rights of citizens accused of a crime.

No Cruel or Unusual Punishment-David Machajewski 2018-12-15 When the U.S. Constitution was ratified in 1787, it had a major flaw: it failed to acknowledge individual rights. Early Americans were not pleased. They didn't believe their new government was respecting their freedoms. Thus, the Bill of Rights was created. Readers will explore the history, significance, and controversy surrounding the Eighth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, which prohibits cruel or unusual punishment. Primary sources, sidebars, and compelling stories, demonstrate how the amendment protects, and potentially harms, criminals. Historic and present-day examples of long-standing debates about the amendment's controversial "cruel and unusual" clause further illustrate the amendment's importance.

Cruel and Usual Punishment-Nonnie Darwin 2009-01-04 Nonnie Darwin lived for thirty years in a majority Muslim nation. Everything about her life?family, sexuality, hygiene, business, banking, contracts, economics, politics, social issues, everything?was dictated by the Islamic law code known as Sharia. But Sharia isn't staying in majority Muslim nations. Darwin now lives in the West and brings a warning; the goal of radical Islam is to bring Sharia law to your country. If that happens, the fabric of Western law and liberty will be ripped in two. Under Sharia law: A woman can be beaten for talking to men who are not her relatives and flogged for not wearing a headdress. Daughters, sisters, and wives can be legally killed by the men in their family. Non-Muslims can be beheaded, and their Muslim killers will not receive the death penalty. Certain kinds of child molestation are allowed. The husband of a "rebellious" wife can deny her medical care or place her under house arrest. Think it can't happen? In 2008, England once the seat of Western liberty and now the home of many Muslim immigrants?declared that Sharia courts in Britain have the force of law. When Muslim populations reach as little as 1 or 2 percent, says Darwin, they begin making demands of the larger community, such as foot-level faucets for washing before praying in public schools, businesses, and airports. "Airports in Kansas City, Phoenix, and Indianapolis are among those who have already installed foot baths for Muslim cab drivers," writes Darwin. These demands test how far Westerners will go in accommodating the Muslim minority. How far will they push? The Organization of the Islamic Conference works to Islamize international human rights laws and apply Sharia "standards" for blasphemy to all nations. The penalty for blasphemy? Death. Weaving personal experience together with extensive documentation and research, Darwin exposes the facts and reveals the global threat posed by Sharia law. Anyone concerned about Western rights and liberties ignores her warning and analysis at their peril.

The Evolution of the Cruel and Unusual Punishment Clause and Its Three Most Common Applications in American Law-Stephanie B. Spiegel 1987

Litigating Morality-Wayne C. Bartee 1992 This volume is a thematic study in legal history that uses past and present landmark court cases to analyze the legal and historical development of moral regulatory policies in America and resulting debates. Using a critical variable approach, the book demonstrates how different elements of the legal process have historically influenced the litigation of various moral issues. Five moral policies are included: abortion, sodomy, pornography, criminal insanity, and the death penalty. The book's framework for analysis uses examples from English legal history and links them to American cases, demonstrating how moral regulatory policies are impacted by the legal process: by laws, by judges and juries, by legal scholars, and by attorneys. Following a brief introduction, Chapter 1 examines how protagonists in the bitter moral and controversy surrounding the Eighth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution is a guide for anyone seeking to properly mine the past to find traditions and sources of moral values for justifying or criticizing current laws and policies.

Facing the Death Penalty-Michael Radelet 2011-02-07 An in-depth examination of what life under a sentence of death is like.

Cruel and Unusual Punishment-Raphael Tikley Ahiem 1999

We Are Not Slaves-Robert T. Chase 2019-11-21 In the early twentieth century, the brutality of southern prisons became a national scandal. Prisoners toiled in grueling, violent conditions while housed in crude dormitories on what were effectively slave plantations. This system persisted until the 1940s when, led by Texas, southern states adopted northern prison design reform. Texas presented the reforms to the public as modern, efficient, and disciplined. Inside prisons, however, the transition to penitentiary cells only made the endemic violence more secretive, intensifying the labor division that privileged some prisoners with the power to accelerate state-orchestrated brutality and the internal sex trade. Reformers' efforts had only made things worse—now it was up to the prisoners to fight for change. Drawing from three decades of legal documents compiled by prisoners, Robert T. Chase narrates the struggle to change prison from within. Prisoners forged an alliance with the NAACP to contest the constitutionality of Texas prisons. Behind bars, a prisoner coalition of Chicano Movement and Black Power organizations publicized their deplorable conditions as "slaves of the state" and initiated a prison-made civil rights revolution and labor protest movement. These insurgents won epochal legal victories that declared conditions in many southern prisons to be cruel and unusual—but their movement was overwhelmed by the increasing militarization of the prison system and empowerment of white supremacist gangs that, together, declared war on prison organizers. Told from the vantage point of the prisoners themselves, this book weaves together untold but devastatingly important truths from the histories of labor, civil rights, and politics in the United States as it narrates the transition from prison plantations of the past to the mass incarceration of today.


Mass Incarceration on Trial-Jonathan Simon 2014 For nearly 40 years the United States has been gripped by policies that have placed more than 2.5 million Americans in jails and prisons designed to hold a fraction of that number of inmates. Our prisons are not only vast and overcrowded, they are degrading. Mass Incarceration on Trial examines a series of landmark decisions about prison conditions that has opened an unexpected escape route from this trap of tough on crime' politics. This set of rulings points toward values that could restore legitimate order to American prisons and lead to the end of mass incarceration.'

The Words That Made Us-Akhil Reed Amar 2021-05-04 A history of the American Constitution's formative decades from a preeminent legal scholar When the US Constitution won popular approval in 1788, it was the culmination of thirty years of passionate argument over the nature of government. But ratification hardly ended the conversation. For the next half century, ordinary Americans and statesmen alike continued to wrestle with weighty questions in the halls of government and in the pages of newspapers. Should the nation's borders be expanded? Should America allow slavery to spread westward? What rights should Indian nations hold? What was the proper role of the judicial branch? In The Words that Made Us, Akhil Reed Amar unites history and law in a vivid narrative of the biggest constitutional questions early Americans confronted, and he expertly assesses the answers they offered. His account of the document's origins and consolidation is a guide for anyone seeking to properly understand America's Constitution today.
Cruel and Unusual-Punishment Within Our Prison System
Mark Crispin Miller 2004 In Cruel and Unusual, ”
Mark Crispin Miller exposes what he calls the Bush Republicans’ contempt for
democratic practice, their bullying religiosity, their reckless militarism,
and their apocalyptic views of the economy and the planet.

Cruel and Unusual Laurence O. Michalak 1984
An Evil Day in Georgia Robert Neil Smith 2015-04-15 "Follows a homicide
case committed in Georgia in 1927 from the crime to the executions of those
convicted of the crime almost a year later. Along the way, the narrative
highlights a number of key developments in both the political and juridical
process, many of which are still relevant in the modern era of capital punishment in the
United States ... Moreover, the case in question illustrates a range of
themes prevalent in post-Progressive Georgia and brings them together to create
a broader narrative. Thus, issues of race, class, and gender emerge from
what was supposed to be a neutral process; ... demonstrates that capital
punishment cannot be administered in an un tainted fashion, but its
finality demands that it must be”–From Athenaeum@UGA website.

Let the Lord Sort Them Maurice Chammah 2021-01-26 NEW YORK
TIMES EDITORS’ CHOICE • A deeply reported, searingly honest portrait of the
death penalty in Texas—and what it tells us about crime and punishment in America “If you’re one of those people who despair that nothing changes,
and dream that something can, this is a story of how it does.”–Anand
ANTHONY LUKAS AWARD In 1972, the United States Supreme Court made a
surprising ruling: the country’s death penalty system violated the
Constitution. The backlash was swift, especially in Texas, where executions
were considered part of the cultural fabric, and a dark history of lynching
was masked by gauzy visions of a tough-on-crime frontier. When executions resumed, Texas quickly became the nationwide leader in carrying out the
punishment. Then, amid a larger wave of criminal justice reform, came the
death penalty’s decline. It is so durable that even in Texas the punishment appears again close to extinction. In Let the Lord Sort Them, Maurice Chammah charts the rise and fall of capital punishment through
the eyes of those it touched. We meet Elsa Alcala, the orphaned daughter of a
Mexican American family who found her calling as a prosecutor in the
nation’s death penalty capital, before becoming a judge on the state’s highest court. We meet Danalynn Recer, a lawyer who became obsessively
dedicated to unearthing the life stories of men who committed terrible crimes,
and fought for mercy in courtrooms across the state. We meet death row
prisoners—many of them once-famous figures like Henry Lee Lucas, Gary
Graham, and Karla Faye Tucker—along with their families and the families
of their victims. And we meet the executioners, who struggle openly with
whether society has any right to put them to work. In tracing the rise and fall
against the rise of mass incarceration in Texas and the country as a whole,
Chammah explores what the persistence of the death penalty tells us about
forgiveness and retribution, fairness and justice, history and myth. Written
with intimacy and grace, Let the Lord Sort Them is the definitive portrait of
a particularly American institution.

Cruel and Unusual Punishment, the Death Penalty, and the Influence of Foreign Law on U.S. Constitutional Jurisprudence-Joan Young Hee
Kim 2016 The death penalty has a long and established history inclusive of
almost every society since the beginning of time. As society advanced, so
did the way people came to understand capital punishment. This thesis
explores that change in sentiment within the American context and
advances a prediction: the Supreme Court of the United States will abolish the
death penalty under the Cruel and Unusual Punishment Clause of the
Eighth Amendment. The plausibility of this prediction is substantiated by a
case method investigation on the influence of foreign law on United States
Supreme Court’s decisions interpreting cruel and unusual standards and the
degree to which this clause constrains the death penalty. The resolute
position capital punishment has commanded in American politics, law, and
society as well as the standards governing its imposition has evolved.
Concurrently, a growing majority of independent countries in the
international community have chosen to utilize different methods to
deter crime, a position the United States has not taken—yet. The two are not
mutually exclusive, as developments in the international community are
increasingly affecting American culture and values. The direct and indirect
reliance of foreign materials by the court in informing their legal reasonings
and decisions has ushered in a new era of death penalty jurisprudence—its
movement towards abolition.

Cruel and Unusual Punishment Within Our Prison System Anant
Kumar Tripathi 2020-04-07 This book looks into how the US Prison systems
imposes penalties and punishment on those who it prosecutes and shows
why the system violates ICCPR in ALL 52 states. Denying the indigent
equality of arms principlized sentencing what is an excessive sentence
consecutive sentences retroactivity.

Against Capital Punishment- Herbert H. Haines 1999-08-19 Built on in-
depth interviews with movement leaders and the records of key abolitionist
organizations, this work explores the struggle against capital punishment in
the United States since 1972. Haines reviews the legal battles that led to
the short-lived suspension of the death penalty and examines the
subsequent conservative turn in the courts that has forced death penalty
opponents to rely less on litigation strategies and more on political action.
Emphasizing social movement theory, he diagnoses the causes of the anti-
death penalty movement’s inability to mobilize widespread opposition to
executions, and he makes pointed recommendations for improving its
effectiveness. For this edition Haines has included a new Afterword in
which he summarizes developments in the movement since 1994.

The Death Penalty As Torture- John D. Bessler 2016-11-01 During the
Dark Ages and the Renaissance, Europe’s monarchs often resorted to
torture and executions. The pain inflicted by instruments of torture from
the thumbscrew and the rack to the Inquisition’s tools of torment was
eclipsed only by horrific methods of execution, from breaking on the wheel
crucifixion to drowning and quartering and burning at the stake. The
English Bloody Codei made more than 200 crimes punishable by death, and
judicial torture expressively authorized by law and used to extract
confessions i permeated continental European legal systems. Judges
regularly imposed death sentences and other harsh corporal punishments, from
the stocks and the pillory, to branding and ear cropping, to lashes at
public whipping posts. In the Enlightenment, the writ of habeas corpus
challenged the efficacy of torture and capital punishment. In 1764, the Italian
philosopher Cesare Beccaria, the father of the world’s anti-death penalty
movement, condemned both practices. And Montesquieu, like Beccaria
and others, concluded that any punishment that goes beyond absolute necessity is tyranny. Traditional torturers and Europe’s torturers have
simultaneously using capital punishment. The UN Convention Against
Torture strictly prohibits physical or psychological torture; not even war
or threat of war can be invoked to justify it. But under the guise of lawful
sanctions, i some countries continue to carry out executions even though
even though they bear the marks of torture. In The Death Penalty as Torture, Prof. John Bessler argues that death sentences and executions are medieval relics. In a
world in which i mock or simulated executions, as well as as a host of other
non-legal acts, are already considered to be torturous, he contends that
death sentences and executions should be classified under the rubric of
torture. Unlike in the Middle Ages, penitentiaries of some of the products of the Enlightenment, the Convention Against Torture is the global
standard against the global suffering of those condemned to death in
courts throughout the world. With the rise of life without parole sentences, and with more than four of
five nations no longer using executions, The Death Penalty as Torture calls
for the recognition of a peremptory, international law norm against the
death penalty’s use.

Capital Punishment- Kim Masters Evans 2010-04-09 “The Information Plus
Reference Series” provides statistical data on 32 of today’s most
controversial and most studied social issues. Each Information Plus title is a compilation of current and historical statistics – with analysis – on aspects
of one contemporary social or political issue, such as abortion, capital punishment, and genetic engineering. Each title is divided into chapters that are devoted to
a particular topic. The text provides a clear and comprehensive summary of
up-to-date research on the topic and is interspersed with the statistical
tables, charts, and graphs. Each table is directly referred to and carefully
explained in the text.

Civilizing Torture- W. Fitzhugh Brundage 2020-03-10 Over the centuries
Americans have turned to torture during moments of crisis, and have
debated its legitimacy and efficacy in defense of law and order. Tracing
these historical attempts to adapt torture to democratic values, Fitzhugh
Brundage reveals the recurring struggle over what limits Americans are
willing to impose on the power of the state.

Courting Death- Carol S. Steiker 2016-11-07 Refusing to eradicate the
death penalty, the U.S. has attempted to reform and rationalize capital
punishment through federal constitutional law. While execution chambers
remain active in several states, Carol Steiker and Jordan Steiker argue that
the fate of the American death penalty is likely to be sealed by this failed
judicial experiment.