

<b>CAPITAL PUNISHMENT ORGANIZER</b>		
<b>FOCUS QUESTION: Is the use of capital punishment in America today justified?</b>		
<b>CRITERIA</b>	<b>ALTERNATIVES</b>	
	<b>Yes – It was justified</b>	<b>No – It was not justified</b>
<b>Social</b>  [4]	(a) the ultimate deterrent, a killer cannot kill again. (3) (b) imprisonment is a flawed alternative with early release, puts society at risk. (2) (c) deters professional criminals from carrying weapons and committing crimes of violence. (1) (d) protects police and prison officials and deters the use of force in avoiding arrest. (2) (e) threat of death is the most effective deterrent. (2) (f) has eugenic value, prevents passing on genetic tendency to violence. (1)  <b>[4x11=44]</b>	(a) deterrence has not been proven (3) (b) a life sentence is enough deterrent to a potential murderer who stops to think. (2) (c) removal of death penalty from robbery, forgery, and rape, decreased incidences of these crimes. (2) (d) execution removes the possibility of rehabilitating a convicted murderer. (1) (e) death penalty brutalizes prisoners, staff, and society at large. (1) (f) instances of people committing murder in order to be executed themselves (2) (g) convicted murderers are less violent in prison or after release than any other type of prisoner. (3)  <b>[4x14=56]</b>
<b>Intellectual</b>  [5]	(g) the only just punishment for an unpardonable crime. (2) (h) life imprisonment with no hope of release is more cruel than execution. (2) (i) statistics that do not show the deterrent effect of execution are usually biased and provided by opponents. (2) (j) lack of justice could cause an enraged community to resort to private vengeance. (2) (k) the benefits of deterrence outweigh the execution of an innocent person. (1)  <b>[5x9=45]</b>	(h) danger of executing an innocent person, miscarriage of justice (3) (i) bungled executions are very inhumane (2) (j) the state should set the example recognizing the sanctity of human life (2) (k) act of collective vengeance, is an obsolete legal principle (2) (l) a guilty person may be freed by a jury intimidated by the death penalty (3) (m) execution is not instantaneous nor painless, cruel and inhumane (2) (n) execution is unjust because of the negative repercussions suffered by close relatives of the criminal (2) (o) death penalty is applied unequally from the social and racial perspectives (3)  <b>[5x19=95]</b>
<b>Political</b>  [2]	(l) political necessity to protect society and the social order (2) (m) public opinion, police, and prison officials are in support, therefore the majority view should prevail in a democracy (3)  <b>[2x5=10]</b>	<b>[2x0 = 0]</b>
<b>Economic</b>  [3]	(n) execution is more economical for the taxpayer than life imprisonment (3)  <b>[3x3=9]</b>	(p) legal costs involved in capital trials and the subsequent series of appeals counter balance the costs of imprisonment (3)  <b>[3x3=9]</b>
<b>Religious</b>  [1]	(o) Old Testament in the Bible supports execution – “a life for a life” – the word of God (1)  <b>[1x1=1]</b>	(q) society has no right to take away life – the gift of the Creator (1)  <b>[1x1=1]</b>
<b>Grand Totals</b>	109	161
<b>Top Three Criteria</b>	98	160