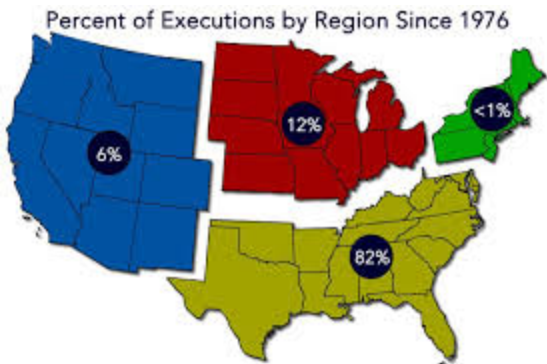
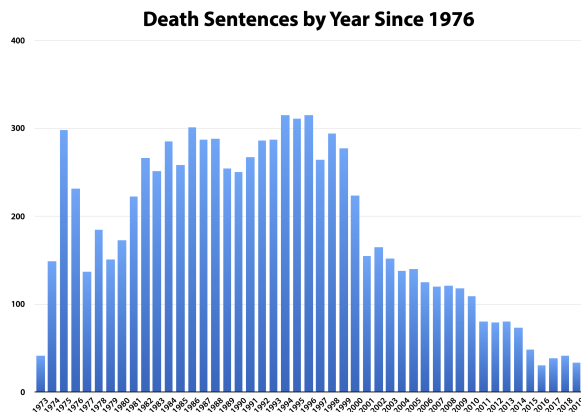


Modern Capital Punishment (since 1976)

By Rebekah Bennett



Beginnings

Before 1976, capital punishment had been considered not to be an appropriate punishment for some years. However, the Supreme Court case of Gregg vs. Georgia ruled that capital punishment was a constitutional method of punishment. All states have used capital punishment at least once, but states in the South have carried out capital punishment on a way larger scale than any other region in the US.

Methods

There have been 1526 executions done in the US since 1976. 1346 of them have been done with lethal injection. 163 of them have been done by electrocution. 11 executions have been done with lethal gas. And finally, 3 executions were with hanging, and the final 3 were with a firing squad.

Complications

Since 1976, a few states declared in law that capital punishment is unconstitutional. If there were people on death row, they would resentence them to life in prison.

Another complication was about the legality of lethal injection. Since health professionals take the Hippocratic Oath, they cannot administer lethal injection. Therefore, the people administering the dose are not trained very well. Also, many drugs used in lethal injection have been declared illegal in the US, which means that the states have to change the drugs, which could affect how effective they are. This makes the executions even more tricky.

Sources: Homepage. (2020, September 15). Retrieved October 24, 2020, from <https://deathpenaltyinfo.org/> , "Death Penalty Fast Facts." CNN, Cable News Network, 4 Aug. 2020, www.cnn.com/2013/07/19/us/death-penalty-fast-facts/index.html , Executions in the U.S. since 1976. (2014, September <https://www.latimes.com/nation/nationnow/la-na-g-us-death-penalty-executions-capital-punishment-htmlstory.html>