
This book is a case study of nine states--Michigan, Wisconsin, Maine, Minnesota, North Dakota, Hawaii, Alaska, Iowa, and West Virginia--that have legislatively abolished the death penalty. Three other states--Massachusetts, Rhode Island, and Vermont--in which the death penalty has been banned as a result of court decisions, and the District of Columbia, which has resisted repeated pressure from congressional lawmakers to reinstate the death penalty, are also briefly discussed. Each case is analyzed with reference to six guiding research questions focusing on the influence of murder rates and the history of executions, economic crises, public sentiment, population diversity, the mass media, and actions of political, social, and economic elites. The authors utilize data from newspaper articles and editorials, government documents, and personal interviews to gain insight into...
year for an average of 50 years. The cost of trial and appeals will come in at about $75,000. The death penalty in America is color blind! Abolitionists claim that white lives are accorded more value than black because the vast majority (82%) of all death penalty murder victims are white and only 13% black. Black deaths, so the argument goes, are simply not deserving of the death penalty. The death penalty – or capital punishment – is a government-sanctioned punishment for committing a crime. If someone is convicted and given the death penalty, that person will be executed, or put to death, as a punishment for that crime. Only people that are convicted of committing capital crimes and offenses are eligible to receive the death penalty. Crimes that fall into this category include murder, espionage, war crimes, crimes against humanity, genocide, and treason. A person that has been convicted of a crime and sentenced to the death penalty is sent to death row. This is a part of a pr