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Exploratory Paper

The death penalty is a widely debated topic, especially in the United States. While in a few states the death penalty has been outlawed, the majority of states still support it. Now, while the issue can be debated, as it stands, it is still being used throughout the country, which poses the question of who should be responsible for ordering the death of a fellow human? Should it be a jury of his peers that sentences him to death or should the judge pass final judgement? In most cases, the decision is left up to the judge, however, state law dictates who will ultimately make the decision.

In the digital age of today, a basic right of ours is being lost and that is our right to privacy. Thanks to the CIA, NSA, and other government associations or programs, we are constantly being tracked, watched and recorded. At the airport our whole bodies are scanned and seen by the security. We’re told it is for our safety and that it is necessary to prevent terrorism or other violent actions against us but that does that make it excusable? The outcry against banning or imposing stricter gun laws is tremendous so why do not make the same outcry towards our right to privacy being violated.

Stigma is something that is seen in all parts of the world, for a myriad of different reasons, as long as something is disapproved of or goes against cultural norms, those people will be socially excluded or shunned for it. In Africa, Aids and HIV is a huge issue and the stigma that comes with having these diseases. Most people try to prevent others from knowing about them. Being outcast, losing your job or home, or having a family member or loved one attacked can be caused by others knowing that you have Aids or HIV. This leads to people avoiding treatment as that would expose them and instead continue to spread the disease all around. In order to prevent this disease from its continuous spread and allow more people to be treated, this stigma needs to be combated.