

EXILE IN PURGATORY: LET THEM VOLUNTEER

I recently heard an advocate for the Death Penalty argue that it is okay to kill one innocent person on Death Row in order to kill ten guilty people. My response is this:

Why don't you volunteer to be the innocent person then? By your logic, it does not matter who is guilty or innocent as long as someone dies. Then lets start with you. We'll leave you on Death Row to suffer for 20 years and then execute you for a crime someone else committed.

So, who will be the first volunteer?

Hundreds of people have been released from Death Row in the U.S. after evidence revealed they were innocent. Some within days of their execution. I personally remember one Oregon inmate who was released after evidence later proved not only was he innocent but, his girlfriend had lied and pinned the crime on him, after reading about it in the newspaper, to get back at him for a domestic dispute. The real killer, it was later revealed, was the infamous "Happy face killer", a serial killer who plied his trade in multiple states.

I suppose for most Death Penalty advocates it is easy to promote murder, like some mafia don, from a far, where you do not have to experience the consequences of your actions.

Men have been dragged to Texas death chambers screaming they were innocent. Maybe Death Penalty advocates should go live with the hundreds of vindicated prisoners. Maybe then they'd change their tune. If not, they could always volunteer.