

### Editor's Page

Editor (Violet Loeffler)- Hi LJHS!! We hope you enjoy this issue! Look at pages 4-38 for the Valentine's Day shoutouts!

Assistant Editor (Deanna Vincent)- Hi LJHS!!! The Circuit Rider staff has worked very hard on this issue! Look at pages 48-54 for information on the speaker that came into class!

### Staff Page

Editor - Violet Loeffler

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Sponsor of the Circuit Rider:

Mrs. Workman

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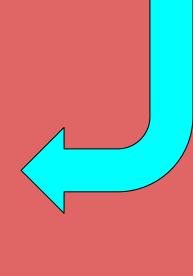
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#### Find the Flowers!

For this month's Circuit Rider, find the Rose! It's the same as last month; after you count them all, go to Mrs. Workman, room 314 with your answers!







#### Calendar of Events

Feb 1, 1:45 Dismissal

Feb 1, Volleyball at Home

Feb 2, Wrestling at Home

Feb 6, Mid Term Reports

Feb 6, Volleyball at Mt. Zion

Feb 7, Wrestling at Prairie Central

Feb 7, Volleyball at Home

Feb 8, Volleyball at Metcalf

Feb 9, Volleyball at home

Feb 11, Wrestling at Chatham

Feb 14, Wrestling at Mahomet

Feb 14, Volleyball at Home

Feb 15, Wrestling at Porta

#### Calendar of Events

Feb 16, Volleyball at Home

Feb 17, No School

Feb. 18, 7th Grade Volleyball

tourney at Champain

Feb. 20, No School President's Day

Feb. 21, Volleyball at Home

Feb. 23, Volleyball at Mt. Pulaski

Feb. 24, Spirit Day

Feb. 24, IGSMA Solo/Ensemble

Contest

Feb. 25, John Welsh Memorial

**Basketball Tournament** 

#### Calendar of Events

Feb. 25, 8th Grade Volleyball Tourney at Champain Feb. 26, John Welsh Memorial Basketball Tournament

#### Valentine's Kindness Shoutouts

From 8th Graders
Mr President, You're the bestest friend
of mine. -Riley Eilertson
Faith Doolin, Thank you for being there
when I needed you the most -Riley
Eilertson

Kaylee Tyus, You're a really nice person and you're the best, and I'm thankful for our friendship. -Anonymous

Braxton Eilertson, Happy Valentine's Day!! I hope you have a great day. -Love, Kyra Schriber.

Bailey Tungate, You have the best style ever, and I love our friendship. Happy Valentine's Day!! -Lena

Cynthia, In 8th grade, Happy Valentine's Day! I hope I made 2022 special for you<3 - Ruby Thomas

Dear Faith Doolin, You are beautiful and kind.-Brileigh Striplen

Dear Mckinley Striplen, Happy Valentine's Day and keep up the good work.-Brileigh Striplen

Dear Paige Striplen, Happy Valentine's Day.-Brileigh Striplen

Kaylee Tyus, Happy Valentine's! Skylee Dvorak and Allie Korte,

Thank you for being my 4lifer. Love u.

Happy Valentine's Day, and thanks for our friendship.- Anonymous.

Amya Pusey, Happy Valentine's Day! Thanks for being a good friend.-Your pal

### Valentine's Shoutouts From 8th Graders

Annaleecia Hurley and Allie Korte, Thank you for our friendship and Happy Valentine's Day, and have a good day- Anonymous.

Shyann Beck and Savanna Vinyard, I love y'all so much, and you guys are great friends- Anonymous.

Faith Doolin, Happy Valentine's Day!
Thank you for having such a
sweetheart and always being there for
me. Hope you have an awesome
day!- Jenay Hall

Thank you **Isabella Dea** for being a great friend. I am thankful I am in so many classes with you.-Anonymous

#### Valentine's Shoutouts

- From 8th Graders

  Kaniela Carvalo, Have a good day
  and Happy Valentine's-Anonymous
- Matt Sebastian, You smell like poptarts.- Anonymous
- **Kaylign Cunningham**, Always to your best, and if you need help, ask someone.-Daniel Hibbs
- Sean Renolds, Have a great year, and do your best.- Daniel Hibbs
- Faith Doolin, You have done so much for me. Never give up! Happy Valentine's Day!-Anonymous
- Colin Crombie, Happy Valentine's Day to my special person, Colin Crombie, you are so nice to me and respectful.-Anonymous

Cole Wichmann, You are very fun and chill! - Anonymous

Paisley Baker, You are a great friend. You make me laugh even when you're not trying to. I'm thankful to have you in my life. - Anonymous

Alayna Gannon, Happy Valentine's Day! Thank you for being my best friend, and thank you for everything you do! - Jenay Hall Daniel Beck, I really appreciate you, and I want you to know that you're awesome. - Colin Crombie

Mr. Lanning's son, You're a really good sub... and cute...

-Anonymous

**Kaylynn Horney**, Have a great day. -Anonymous

Savanna Vinyard, You are so pretty and such an amazing cousin. You are so kind and always there for me. I know I can always count on you to talk to or watch my games. You mean the world to me, and I love you so much. You are like actually bae. - Ava Cook Daisee Jackson, I love how you are always here for me no matter what. I love your hugs, and you are so good at cheer, volleyball, and band - Love, Bella Wilham

Braiden, I was forced to write a Valentine's Day card to a friend, so Happy Valentine's Day. - Larry

Alexis Reed, You have been a good friend and a good person, and you always make me laugh; you make everybody's day. - Someone in first hour....

Christopher Fry, You're my best friend....someone who has helped me through my rough times and someone who helps me with my problems. I'm glad to say you're my best friend. -Anonymous

**Skylee Dvorak**, You are a great friend, and I'm glad I met you. You have always been there for me since day one, and I love you for that.-Allie

Trevore Miller, Thank you for being there for me, Happy Valentine's Day.- anonymous

**Dallin Maddox**, Thank you for being there for me, Happy Valentine's Day.-Anonymous

**Izzak Winebrinner**, Shoutout to you for being cracked at Fortnite and also being a really good friend; we need to facetime and play Fortnite or something. You are funny too.-Anonymous

Ava B. Cook, I love you so much; you're one of my bsf, and I'm gonna make you be in my life forever because... just because... I love you and you're so pretty, and I'll never leave you, and I need to come to your house again and bully Abram, and, yeah, there's a lot more, but I'm lazy.- Love, your fav cousin

Sebastian

### Valentine's Kindness Shoutouts From 8th Graders

**Serenity Cronin,** Roses are red, violets are blue, Happy Valentine's Day. I love you!!-Heaven Lee

Chase March, Your hair looks weird, Happy Valentine's Day.- Logan Brant Carson Anderson, Thank you Carson for giving this paper to write on.-Anonymous Adison Shehan, We are all going to miss you; have fun in Washington.- Matthew

Luca Massena, You make lunch time exciting and happy. I really like you, Luca, and I hope you like me back. When you grew out your hair, it was so cute and charming! Luca, I have one question, will you be my Valentine?- Your Special Someone.

Ryan Lile, Thanks for being my friend!-Anonymous

Ruby Thomas, You are a very kind person that cares dearly about your friends, I hope the world treats you as nice as you treat it. - Pookie

Lexie Chambers, Love you ,and you're cool. Love you, bestie - Anonymous

Meghan DeVore, Love you, sis, you're so fire and cool and you're so amazing. -Anonymous

Aby Shaub, You're so amazing and cool, and I love you! - Anonymous

**Kyra,** You have been very nice and kind to me all the time. You always make my day because you're such a good person to be around. I love you so much!- Braxton

Faith Doolin, You are an amazing person; keep up the good work!- Anonymous

Savanna Vinyard, I am glad to have met you, and you're an amazing person- Anonymous

My students, I love you all; thanks for working hard and being such wonderful learners. - Mrs Workman Matt Sebastian, Thank you for being there when I need you. You have always helped me the best you could. - Trevore

Coach Dan, You always make practice fun. You are really funny, and I wish we had you for another year. - Anonymous

Brenan, Thanks, Zaza Man. - Dex

to give it. I love you! - Lexie Chambers

Mrs. Ramlow, I enjoyed having you as my teacher this year. I had fun in your class and liked how you always smiled when I walked to your class. - Anonymous

Emma Hutchison, I love you so much!! You're my favorite singing buddy! - Luci Stolzenburg

Deanna Vincent, I love you so much!! Thank you for always being there for me!! - Luci Stolzenburg Megan Devore, Hi Meggy! I just wanted to say thank you for everything you do. There has never been a time where I needed your help and you weren't there

Alexis Reed, You're a good friend.

-Anonymous

**Angeli Johnson**, Thanks for being a good friend these past years. I hope you have a good Valentine's Day! - Isabella Dea

Coach Molly and Amanda, Thank you for being amazing coaches and making me a better volleyball player. - Anonymous

**Kyan Hassebrock,** Thanks for being my friend for all these years. - Ryne Manuel

Logan Brant, Your short. P.S. You'remean, but you're a good friend. - Anonymous

Riley Eilertson, You are a good friend and Spanish is fun. - Izzak Winebrinner

Alayna Gannon, You're a slay. I appreciate you of course. I love you. Have a good day. Feliz Navi Da. - Anonymous

Amaya Richmond, Elliott Lynch, Daniel Hibbs, Kyan Hassenbrock, Thank you guys for being great friends. - Anthony White Regan Kutz, I love you so much!! You are the best!! - Luci Stoltzenburg

Ava B. Cook, I love you so much!! You're the best ever!! - Luci Stoltzenburg

**Donyvan Lawson,** Happy Valentine's Day. - Anonymous

Dear Colin, I think about you everyday. I think you're very cute. You make me feel happy. I really love you, and I hope you love me too. Would you like to go to the dance with me? Meet me at Central the night of the dance. - Your Secret Admirer

**Heaven Lee,** I hope you have good day... I guess. - Leah Marten

Amaya Richmond, You're the best in the world. - Anonymous Precious, Thank you for always being a good friend. You are a wonderful person, and I wish for your happiness and kindness. - Michael Thompson

Miley Hurley, I am very happy to have you as a friend. - Violet Loeffler

Mrs. Workman, Thank you for always trying to stay positive and patient with us; you're a great teacher. - Anonymous

Mr. Luken, Thank you for being such a great teacher and really brightening up my year. - Anonymous

Mrs. Brummett, Thank you for being so positive and kind to all of us. - Anonymous

Mr. Boutcher, Thank you for being such a great teacher and always being so positive and kind. - Anonymous

Paycen Schaefer, Thank you for being such a great friend and always being there for me. - Anonymous

Kaniela Carvalho, Thanks for being someone who always believes in me. Happy Valentines Day gang!!! - Lena

**Dearest Adric Wampler,** You look quite beautiful. PS. I Love You. - Your secret admirer xoxo

**Emily**, You are a great friend, and I'm glad I met you. You have always been there for me since day one, and I love you for that. - Allie

To my 1st hour Language Arts Class, Thanks for being a great class to get things started in the mornings. You guys are awesome!! Mrs. Nevius and I really love teaching you all!!. Thank you, Mrs. Workman

To my 2nd hour Language Arts Class, I love you all's energy and good natured personalities. Thanks for being a great class and really good kids to get along with and teach. Mrs. Workman

To my 3rd hour Language Arts Class, I love the way you all are on task and always willing to learn and listen. Thanks for being an awesome class. You are all great kids. Mrs. Workman

To my 5th hour Language Arts Class, Thanks for being such great kids; I love the way you all are willing to get down to work right after lunch. Thanks for being a great class of kids to teach!! I enjoy teaching you!! Mrs. Workman

To my 6th hour Language Arts Class, You guys are great students; I love how - still at the end of the day when you are getting tired - you are willing to listen and learn. I appreciate you!! Mrs. Workman

Carleigh Davis, Thank you for being a good friend! I hope you have an amazing year! - Faith Doolin

Jenay Hall, You are very pretty and sweet! Thank you for being a great friend. - Faith Doolin

Riley Eilertson, Thank you for being there for me! I wish you the best wrestling year! - Faith Doolin

Dear Mr. Luken, You are the most tech bound old guy I know. - Logan Miller Deb Rodgers, Thanks for being a great coach. - Hutch

Jazlynn Legendre, Thank you for being my best friend. You helped me through hard times. - Anonymous

Maya Spiroff, I love your smile - Anonymous

Lexie Chambers, Thank you for being such a great friend and always being there for me. - Anonymous

Maya Spiroff, Thank you for always being there for me. You can always put a smile on my face even on my worst days. Thank you for being my friend! - Alayna Gannon

Daniel Beck, You are a good friend, and you make me laugh at lunch. - Izzak Winebrinner

Luci Stolzenburg, You're the best of friends, thank you so much! I love you! You're so pretty. - Deanna Vincent

Jenay Hall, Thank you for being my best friend, even though everything we have gone through. I really truly am glad I have you in my life. - Alayna Gannon

Ajah Gibson, Thank you for being my bestest friend that I've ever had. I know we had some ups and downs, but I just want to say that I love you more than you know, and I don't like how we would fight, but I can't believe we have been friends for 2 whole years!! But just know, no matter what, I'll still love you.- Kam



Larry, You are a good friend, yet you are also a horse in case you didn't know. Congrats on your seventh birthday. - Anonymous

Boston Tomlinson, I heard you're doing well with drums, and I am very proud of you! You are very smart, and I'd really like to see you play some time! Maybe we can start a band.Elizabeth Tapper

Mrs. Ramlow, Thanks for all you do as a teacher! - Bailey T.

Larry, Have a good day; thanks for being mean to me.- Anonymous

Chase March, Thank you for everything! You're the best! I love you! - Anonymous

Alayna Gannon, I like how you always make me laugh. You are a good friend. - Anonymous

Makayla Curry & Ryann Lile, You guys are great friends! You are always so bright and cheerful! - Miley Hurley

Adriana Menzel, Thank you for always bringing a smile to my face!

- Miley Hurley

Violet Loeffler, You are so kind and one of the best people I know!

- Miley Hurley

Emma Hutchison, You're a great friend. I love you. - Anonymous

Savanna Vineyard, Happy Valentine's Day. I love you so much. - Anonymous

**Seth Durbin,** Happy Valentine's, Seth. P.S. Your hair looks nice curled. - Logan Brant

Leah Martin, I just wanted to say thank you for being my best friend.

- Ella Johnson-Neibuhr

Syrenity Cronin, I hope you have a good day! - A'mya Pusey

**Kyla Johnson**, Thanks for being such an amazing friend. - Anonymous

**Isabella Morales,** You're weird. Happy Valentine's Day. - Cynthia Flener

Deanna Vincent, You're such a sweet person who always makes people laugh and brightens others people's day. You never let mean comments get to you, and you always have something positive to say. (Plus you and Chase are really cute together) - Anonymous

Mr. Workman - Thanks for all you do as our school principal!! - CR staff

Sean Reynolds, Daniel Hibbs, & Ayden Gesner-Park, Hello. - Anonymous

Mrs. Ramlow, You are a very sweet person, and I hope you enjoy your year. - Emily Stamm

**Leland Jackson**, Thank you for all the fun times we had. - Cameron Bell

Thank you to our wonderful school Secretaries, RD and DS, you guys are awesome. Thanks for all you do! - CR Staff

Mr. Bainter, Thanks for your hard work and dedication. - CR Staff

Addison Dutz, You are so kind and a really cool person. - Alyssa

Addison Dutz, You are my best friend. I love you so much!!!! - Carleigh Davis

Layla Diberardino, You are super funny and cool. - Anonymous

Isabella Morales, You are super cool and an amazing person! - Alyssa Lamb

Deron Weeler, You are the best friend one could ask for. Keep your head up. - Your Best Buddy, Hunter

Alyssa Lamb

# Valentine's Kindness Shoutouts from 6th and 7th grade

Chase March, Happy Valentine's Day. You're very good at dodgeball. - Anonymous Addison Dutz, Happy Valentine's, girlie. You're really good at cheer. - Anonymous Ava B, You have been there for me all year, and you're one of my best friends. In cheer, you help me with the dances. Thank you for being my best friend. - Anonymous Zoe Shaub, You are my best friend. I am so glad to have you in my life. - Alyssa Lamb Meghan Devore, I love you so much, and we should hang out soon! - Dookie (Lexi) Jade Polen, You are the best cousin I could ever ask for. You are like a sister to me. -

## Valentine's Kindness Shoutouts From 6th & 7th Graders

Maliyna Jones, You are an amazing artist and an amazing friend! - Alyssa Lamb

Jersi Boitnott, Happy Valentine's Day, Jersi. We should definitely hang out soon because why not? Anyway, have a good day. - Layla Diberardino Emma Hutchison, I just wanted to say that you are really pretty, you are also good at basketball, and you are really nice. - from a 6th grader Isiara Scott, I want to say you are a

Isiara Scott, I want to say you are a really good friend and also really pretty. - Jersi

#### Valentine's Kindness Shoutouts From 6th and 7th Graders

Charlene Sullivan, I still think CJ would be cute. - Anonymous

Carleigh Davis, Happy Valentine's Day; we should become better friends, and, to be honest, you are really good at dancing for poms. - Layla

Chase March, Taco Bell. - Anonymous

Anthony White, You're good at basketball and a good friend. - Anonymous

Reese Duffer, You are a really nice friend and you are always there for me. You help me through a lot, and I'm very thankful for you. - Brooke Meister

Paycen Shaffer, You are one of my favorite 8th graders, and I hope you do well in volleyball. I love you so much!! - Lexi Whitehead

### Valentine's Kindness Shoutouts From 6th and 7th Graders

Zach Stamm, Fortnite. - Anonymous Mr. Luken, You're an amazing, supportive, loving, caring, cool, nice teacher in the school. - Falcon

Kaifa Scott, Thank you for always being my friend through all this drama. I am so thankful to call you a friend. I love you. - Raeleigh Alexander

**Devon Wheeler,** I hope you have a good day. - Your Secret Admirer

Brookelynn Cabit, You're doing great! Keep it up. - Haley

#### Valentine's Kindness Shoutouts From 6th & 7th Graders

Corbin Letterle, Have a good day!

- Anonymous

Peyton A, I know we have not been friends for that long, but every time I am down, you are there for me. That's why you're my friend. -Anonymous

Liana Herrara, You are so cool! - Precious

Faith Doolin, You are really cool, and you always help me. I love you so much. - Carleigh Davis

Carleigh Davis, Thank you for being my friend and for being there for me when I was down. - Addison

### Valentine's Kindness Shoutouts From 6th & 7th Graders

Tianyu Zheng, You're a very funny and smart friend. I appreciate your help with homework when I'm confused. My favorite names to call you are Timmy Turner, Timothy, or just Timmy. Happy Valentine's Day! - Layla DiBerardino

Elliana Turner, Have a great Valentine's Day. I hope we can hang out soon. You're a very funny person! You're also very energetic and a great friend! - Layla DiBerardino

## Valentine's Kindness Shoutouts From 6th & 7th Grades

Elliana Turner, You are an amazing person and an awesome cousin. - Alyssa Lamb

Madison Heintz, You are super fashionable. You are also super kind and funny. - Alyssa Lamb

**1st Hour Reading**, You get my day off to a great start! I appreciate your hard work. - Miss. Boehme

**2nd Hour Reading**, You have improved your reading skills a lot this year. Keep it up! You are a fun class! - Miss. Boehme

3rd Hour Reading, I can always count on you to complete assignments on time.
Great job! Keep going! You do a super job!

- Miss. Boehme

# Valentine's Kindness Shoutouts From 6th & 7th Grades 4th Hour Reading, You work hard on IXL everyday. I'm proud of you! You push yourselves to be the best readers you can be. You are a wonderful class! - Miss. Boehme

6th Hour Reading, You are so smart! You work to be your best always. Keep reading, and keep making me smile! - Miss. Boehme

7th Hour Reading, Your class is a great way to end my day! Keep working and be your best! - Miss. Boehme

Cameron Wilmert, I am not lying when I tell you I love you. - Anonymous

Ella Crank, I'm bananas for you! - Your Secret Admirer

#### Word Scramble

aeevntslin	
pdciu	_
loev	
hetar	
anlge	
lorfswe	
hotcaoecl	
sreo ptsela	
amedri	
elrov	
cdeuld	
tdea	
husg	
ssikes	

#### Jokes

Q: Who always has a date on Valentine's Day?

A: A calendar

Q: Why did the magnet hit on the refrigerator?

A: He found her to be very attractive.

Q: What did on piece of toast say to the other.

A: You're my butter half.

Q: What kind of flowers shouldn't you gift your girlfriend?

A: Cauliflowers.

#### Jokes Continued

Q: What did the stamp say to the envelope on Valentine's Day?

A: I'm stuck on you.

Q: Why did all the other fruit ask the banana to be their Valentine?

A: She was very a-peel-ing.

Q: What can get you in trouble with the law on Valentine's Day?

A: Stealing too many hearts.

Q: What do pieces of fruit write to each other in their Valentine's Day cards?

A: I love you berry much!

#### History of Valentine's Day

Valentine's Day was originally a mix of Christian and ancient Roman traditions. Valentine's Day celebrates the death or killing of Saint Valentine's. Before Valentine's Day became associated with love, it was known to be beginning of birds mating season.



## Spotlight for New Teachers for 2022-2023 School Year

Mrs. Brummett

**Angeli:** How do you like teaching at Lincoln Jr High School?

Mrs. Brummett: "I really enjoy teaching at LJHS; I like how I get to see so many different students each day."

Angeli: Where did you teach before?

Mrs. Brummett: "I taught 2nd grade at Washington-Monroe."

Angeli: What do you like about teaching physical science?

Mrs. Brummett: "I like that there is so much to learn about in physical science. My favorite part will be when we get to learn about chemical elements!"

## Spotlight for New Teachers for 2022-2023 School Year

#### Mrs. Stricklin

**Angeli:** How do you like teaching at Lincoln Jr. High School?

Mrs. Stricklin: "I love teaching at LJHS! The students and staff are so friendly and helpful."

Angeli: Where did you teach before?

Mrs. Stricklin: "I taught 21 years in Mattoon, Illinois. We then moved north, and I taught 3 years in Odell, Illinois. I have spent the last 4 years teaching in Normal, Illinois."

**Angeli:** What do you like about teaching 7th grade math?

Mrs. Stricklen: "I have always liked math more than any other subject. I like the topics in 7th grade math too; you get to do a little bit of everything."

## Spotlight for New Teachers for 2022-2023 School Year

Next month's issue will feature the continuation of our spotlight on new teachers.



#### Word Search

#### **FEBRUARY**

GOHD ORGT CIDERP OCOHC S A C N WHWE YNC F S RMC L ADO E HN R E SE E Y T HNCNLCD T S SWH G 0 ٧ T C N G L D DONNPVNOOTH

Spring Mail Card Lincoln Predict Candy Shadow Myth Cupid Presidents Chocolate Love

Weather Flowers Washington Arrow Valentine Groundhog

## Valentine's Day Drawings

8th grade student Miley Hurley has drawn an adorably-lovable drawing to share with you all this February!

Check it out below!



## Death Penalty Speaker - Judge Workman in 8th Grade Classroom

For Mrs. Workman's classes, the 8th graders asked questions of Judge Workman about the death penalty, his career, and the justice system. The 8th graders also wrote argumentative essays. Check out the video of Judge Workman speaking to one of Mrs.

Workman's classes.





## Argumentative Essay Against the Death Penalty

Riley Eilertson 8th Grade Language Arts Mrs. Workman Jan. 27, 2023

#### Death Penalty Is Not Right

Do you think that the death penalty is right? Do you think that taking someone's life that they get to choose to have is correct? The articles, "The Pros and Cons of the Death Penalty," and "Pro / Con: Should we keep the death penalty?," give good evidence on both sides of the argument. Some people think that it is good for people who kill other people to get what they give. Other people think that it is good for the people who kill to sit for years on end and think about what they did. I'm here to explain that the death penalty should be abolished in the United States.

The death penalty does not discourage the number of death sentences at all, this is another reason why the death sentence should be abolished. In the article "Pro / Con: Should we keep the death penalty?," it states that the death penalty is not a deterrent to the number of homicide cases. In the text it states, "For example, one international study analyzing data from 110 nations over a period of 74 years found in fact, the death penalty has failed to significantly affect murder rates." This statement does in fact prove that the number of murder cases have not diminished even though the death penalty is in use. Since the death penalty doesn't seem to be working as a deterrent, why would we still use it today? However, some people say we should keep it because getting rid of that one single threat will save other people's lives. In the article, "Pro / Con: Should we keep the death penalty?," it states, "... but capital punishment acts as an effective deterrent to murder, thus saving countless lives in the

## Argumentative Essay Against the Death Penalty

process." On the other hand, there are countless studies that claim that the death penalty doesn't work in the case of lowering the amount of murder cases; the death penalty proves to have shown that it cannot lower the amount of murder cases so why would we keep going on with it?

The death penalty is not a good way of trying to diminish the number of murder cases because some victims could be wrongfully convicted and there is no turning back. In the article, "Pro / Con: Should we keep the death penalty?," it states, "A 2014 study in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences found that "at least 4.1% of all defendants sentenced to death in the US in the modern era [since 1973] are innocent." There would be no turning back on killing an innocent person for something they didn't do. Some people claim that the death penalty is a very necessary option for a punishment because it gives closure to the co-victim family members. There is a study that says that it gives closure to the family of the victim. In the text it states, "A whole 22 years later, Darla Jones was able to watch the execution of her sister's assailant and her mother's murderer ... she planned to look at the screen "to physically see him there, just so I'll know it's real." ... "She's ready for it to be done," her husband, Darrin Seal told CNN. "It's going to bring some closure to the entire family." Although this might work for some families the statistics say otherwise. There is a study that says that only about 2.5% found closure in their assailant's. In the article it states, "In fact, a University of Minnesota study, found that 2.5% of co-victims said they found closure in their assailant's execution, but 20.1% said the capital punishment didn't help them heal." There are people who say that the death penalty should stay because if the murderer of the victim is killed it would bring closure to the families of the victims. However, this

## Argumentative Essay Against the Death Penalty

has been proven to be wrong and if we keep on going with the death penalty we could keep killing innocent people and we wouldn't even have the chance to free them.

Time and time again the death penalty has proven to be a misleading way of punishment. One last reason that the death penalty is a misleading way of punishment is why would you have someone take the easy way out when you could instead have them sit in prison and think about what they did. In the article, "The Pros and Cons of the Death Penalty," It says that a life spent in prison is a worse punishment and an execution. In the text it states, "A life sentence prisoner has many years to endure their punishment, as well as experience remorse and reflect on his or her crimes." This statement can make killing a person for their crimes seem unreasonable, although others would say that it's better to get rid of the threat so they are no longer a worry about there being a threat. It would be better for the death penalty to go away and we could just have them suffer in their subconscious and have a strong feeling of guilt.

The death penalty should be taken out of the United States justice system. It is not a reliable punishment and it doesn't help the statistics on the death penalty cases. There are many studies that show that the death penalty does not have an effect on the amount of homicide cases. There are also statements that show that if someone was innocent and were convicted there would be no turning back. It seems useless to keep the death penalty as a punishment in the justice system. That is why we should get rid of the death penalty.

## Argumentative Essay for the Death Penalty

Maya Spiroff 8th Grade Language Arts Mrs. Workman Jan. 27, 2023

**Death Penalty** 

The death penalty is one of the most controversial and highly debated topics throughout the U.S. In two recent articles, "Pros/Cons:Should we keep the death penalty?" and "Death Penalty Pros and Cons," we read many fair points as to why the death penalty is a correct and incorrect punishment. Yet, the controversial question still stands, should the death penalty be abolished? In my opinion, I believe the death penalty is a fair punishment for the harshest crimes.

I feel that the death penalty is a proper punishment for the right situation. One benefit of the death penalty is that, in the case that a murder is being sentenced to death penalty, the family of the victim can gain some type of closure from the murder being executed. If the murder was left to sit in jail, the family would have to sit with, not only their family member being dead, but the upsetting gut feeling that their family member's murder is still alive. Also, they would be among the taxpayers paying for the murder's housing and food. Closure is important in the healing process of losing a loved one, mentioned in the article "Pros/ Cons: Should we keep the death penalty?". It can help you make peace with your loss. I feel the families would want to feel

justice was served. If my family member's life was taken in such a harsh way, I feel I wouldn't be

#### Argumentative Essay for the Death Penalty

able to go on without some type of closure or sense of justice. Overall, I feel capital punishment will allow the victims' families to live without thinking about their loved one's killer still being out there; also, I believe the death penalty partly diminishes the sorrow felt by the family. In that regard, we need the death penalty as a punishment.

Capital punishment is a fair punishment. Yes, it is probable that the legal system makes a wrong decision, but this does not mean the death penalty is wrong. The legal system makes every effort to give death row prisoners a chance to challenge the court's decision. For example, there are many modern methods used to make sure innocent people are not being executed; in fact, crime detection and DNA testing are two main methods used to make sure no wrong decisions are made. Many argue that the death penalty isn't a fair punishment. They say that capital punishment is cruel and inhumane. Before modern methods of execution this statement may have been true, but we now have new methods that are quick and painless. Most of the time lethal injection is the way people on death row are executed, which is fast-acting, painless, and includes little to no struggle. Therefore, the statement that this punishment is cruel and unfair is simply invalid. In fact, I believe that capital punishment is fair and should be a punishment in our legal system.

Capital punishment is the appropriate option for the harshest crimes. It is a cost effective solution. Abolitionists will say that it costs more to execute someone than imprison them. This is not exactly true. When someone gets life in prison, a room and other necessities are required,

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which costs lots of money out of taxpayers' pockets. Capital punishment may be too costly now, but I believe we should reform the process instead of choosing to just get rid of it. The process of the death penalty just takes a long time; in fact, the death penalty would cost less if the process did not take a long time. If we reform the death penalty, it would cost a lot less than imprisoning someone for life. Thus, I think the death penalty is a good punishment, but it just needs some fixing.

The death penalty is the punishment we should use for the worst crimes. The death penalty brings closure to families of the victims of murder, it is humane and painless, there are many actions taken to make sure the person being executed isn't innocent, so it is fair, and it could be more cost effective. In light of this information, the death penalty is the best option for the harshest crimes.

### Valentine's Day Recipes

Here are some deliciously sweet recipes for you to make for YOUR Valentine! If you don't have one, enjoy it for yourself! Pick out which one you like best, and maybe try it at home! Just click on the dessert for the link to the recipe!

**Peppermint Meringue** 

**Heart Cookies** 

<u>Chocolate-Covered</u> <u>Strawberry Cheesecake</u>

## National Banana Bread Day

February 23rd is National Banana Bread Day! Stay at home with family or visit with friends and spend time baking some delicious banana bread! Down below is a perfectly delectable recipe that we're sure you'll enjoy!

Banana Bread Recipe



