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AGAINST CAPITAL PUNISHMENT



BENJAMIN S. YOST

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Against Capital Punishment develops an innovative argument against the death penalty that sidesteps questions about the morality of execution itself. Yost argues that the irrevocability of the death penalty calls for its abolition. In so doing, he explores the extent of legal institutions' responsibility to remedy their mistakes and solves the problems that sabotage other versions of procedural abolitionism.

FEATURES

- Develops the first comprehensive argument against capital punishment that uses the irrevocability of execution to support its abolition
- Provides a comprehensive overview and reexamination of the range of proceduralist arguments against the death penalty and their particular challenges and flaws
- Illuminates pressing concerns about procedural injustices in the legal system
- Reconstructs the best retributivist arguments in favor of execution

“Philosophically, this book is to date the most sophisticated presentation of the proceduralist case for abolishing capital punishment. Opponents of the death penalty will be able to draw with profit upon Benjamin Yost’s nuanced arguments, and supporters of the death penalty will need to come to grips with those arguments in order to counter them.”—Matthew H. Kramer, Professor of Legal and Political Philosophy, Cambridge

Benjamin S. Yost is Associate Professor of Philosophy at Providence College.

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