

## Films on the Death Penalty

There are many films on the death penalty; this list is not exclusive. Most of these films can be obtained on Netflix, in a video store or ordered directly from the production company.

**70 x 7 the Forgiveness Equation**, (Documentary, 2008, 36 min.) - thrusts viewers into the turmoil between two sisters, Sue Norton and Maudie Hills, whose family members are murdered by an ex-con. The film goes on to relive the horrific Oklahoma City terrorist attack in which Bud Welch's young daughter was killed. His story reveals a bitter struggle and unorthodox relationship with the father of the convicted killer, Timothy McVeigh. Available through <http://www.justiceproductions.org/>.

**After Innocence**, (Documentary, 2005) - tells the compelling true life stories of exonerated prisoners and the trials and tribulations waiting for them after their release. It examines the U.S. justice system and the flaws that led to the wrongful conviction of these men. Available from [www.afterinnocence.com](http://www.afterinnocence.com), in stores or from Netflix.

**At the Death House Door**, (Documentary, 2008, 94 min.), - An investigation of the wrongful death of Carlos DeLuna who was executed in Texas on December 7, 1989, after prosecutors ignored evidence inculpatating a man, who bragged to friends about committing the crimes of which DeLuna was convicted. Available in stores, from Netflix or online at Amazon.

**Dead Man Walking**, (1995, 122 min.) This acclaimed film traces the relationship between a death row inmate and the nun to whom he turns for spiritual guidance in the days leading up to his scheduled execution. This film is available in stores or from Netflix.

**Incendiary: The Willingham Case**, (Documentary, 2011, 99 min.), - In 1991, Cameron Todd Willingham's three daughters died in a house fire. Tried and convicted for their arson murders, Willingham was executed in February 2004 despite overwhelming expert criticism of the prosecution's arson evidence. Equal parts murder mystery, forensic investigation and political drama, Incendiary documents the haunted legacy of a prosecution built on "folklore." Available through <http://incendiarymovie.com>.

**Love Lived on Death Row**, (Documentary, 2007, 83 min.) - Tells the story of four siblings whose family was torn apart when their Father murdered their Mother. Upon the impending execution of their father, the children decide to visit him on death row and a story of forgiveness and healing so powerful emerges. Available for purchase at <http://www.lovelivedondeathrow.com/>

**Race to Execution**, (Documentary, 2006) - this film follows the stories of two death row inmates and exposes how race infects America's death penalty system. More information and film available at <http://www.racetoexecution.com/>.

**Redemption: The Stan "Tookie" Williams Story**, (2004. 95 min.) - tells the story of Stan "Tookie" Williams, founder of the Crips (an L.A. street gang). The story follows his fall into gang-banging, his prison term, and his work writing children's novels encouraging peace and anti-violence resolutions which earned him multiple Nobel Peace Prize nominations. Tookie was executed by lethal injection at San Quentin State Prison, California. Available in stores and online on Amazon.

**The Closure Myth**, (Documentary, 2007, 43 min.) - traces one woman's dramatic transformation from being consumed by desire to seek the death penalty as revenge for her daughter's murder to her realization that only in forgiveness would she find closure. Available at <http://www.closuremyth.com/>

**The Confessions**, (Documentary, 2010, 84 min.) - goes inside the incredible saga of the Norfolk Four – a case that cracks open the justice system to reveal almost everything that goes wrong when innocent people get convicted. Produced by PBS Frontline and can be viewed online at <http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/pages/frontline/the-confessions/>.

**The Empty Chair**, (Documentary, 2003, 52 min.) - Four stories of murder victim's families reliving the crimes and confronting the loss of loved ones. Reactions range from revenge and desire for punishment to searching for forgiveness and healing. Available from [www.justiceproductions.org](http://www.justiceproductions.org).

**The Execution of Wanda Jean**, (Documentary, 2004, 90 min.) - An unflinching investigation of the role that poverty, mental health, race, and sexuality play within the criminal justice system. Wanda Jean Allen was an attractive, young, African-American, lesbian whose low IQ indicated borderline retardation. By the age of 29, Wanda Jean had killed twice - and would become one of the most controversial death-row inmates in recent history. This film is available in stores, from Netflix, or online at Amazon.

**The Exonerated**, (2005, 90 min) - Susan Sarandon and Danny Glover star in this film based upon the stage play of the same name. Actual court depositions, transcripts, letters, and interviews comprise the chilling and moving script that chronicles the stories of six wrongly convicted death row inmates. This film is available in stores, from Netflix, or online at Amazon.

**Too Flawed to Fix**, (Documentary, 2002, 75 min.) - explores and exposes the irreparable flaws in the criminal justice system by examining the 13 individuals who were wrongfully convicted and released from Illinois' death row. To order the video email: [tooflawedtofix@hotmail.com](mailto:tooflawedtofix@hotmail.com). A study guide is also available.

**The Life of David Gale**, (2003, 131) - A respected death penalty opponent, finds himself on death row for the rape and murder of fellow activist Constance Hallaway. With only three days before his scheduled execution, Gale, in an effort to reveal the truth, agrees to give reporter Bitsey Bloom an exclusive interview that ends with a terrible discovery. This film is available through in stores, from Netflix, or online at Amazon.

**The Trials of Daryl Hunt**, (Documentary, 2006, 106 min.) - offers a deeply personal story of a wrongfully convicted man who spent twenty years in prison in North Carolina for a crime he did not commit. Available for purchase at <http://www.breakthrufilms.org/> or from Netflix.

**The Thin Blue Line**, (Documentary, 1988, 101 min) - Through the use of reenactments of the crime, photo montages, film clips, and interviews, this is a reconstruction and investigation of the 1976 murder of a Dallas policeman and the subsequent arrest and sentencing to death of a man who claims to be innocent. This film is available in stores, or online at Amazon.