



Peculiar Institution: America's Death Penalty in an Age of Abolition (Hardback)

By David Garland

Oxford University Press, United Kingdom, 2010. Hardback. Condition: New. Language: English . Brand New Book. For many Europeans, the persistence of America's death penalty is a stark reminder of American otherness. The practice of state killing is an archaic relic, a hollow symbol that accomplishes nothing but reflects a puritanical, punitive culture - bloodthirsty in its pursuit of retribution. In debating capital punishment, the usual rhetoric points to America's deviance from the western norm: civilized abolition and barbaric retention; us and them . This remarkable new study by a leading social thinker sweeps aside the familiar story and offers a compelling interpretation of the culture of American punishment. It shows that the same forces that led to the death penalty's abolition in Europe once made America a pioneer of reform. That democracy and civilization are not the enemies of capital punishment, though liberalism and humanitarianism are. Making sense of today's differences requires a better understanding of American society and its punishments than the standard rhetoric allows. Taking us deep inside the world of capital punishment, the book offers a detailed picture of a peculiar institution - its cultural meaning and symbolic force for supporters and abolitionists,...



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Reviews

Basically no phrases to clarify. It really is rally fascinating throgh reading time. Once you begin to read the book, it is extremely difficult to leave it before concluding.

-- **Anabel Zemplak**

Very good electronic book and useful one. it absolutely was writtern extremely completely and useful. You will not feel monotony at at any moment of your respective time (that's what catalogs are for relating to when you question me).

-- **Prof. Noah Zemplak DDS**