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IMPOSITION OF DEATH SENTENCES FOR JUVENILE OFFENSES,
JANUARY 1, 1982, THROUGH JULY 15, 1989
(10th edition)

by

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July 19, 1989

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1989

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The pace at which judges and juries sentence persons to death for crimes committed while under the age of eighteen remains extremely low. Accurate accounting of such sentences began in 1982, with only partial data available for years before 1982. The number of such juvenile death sentences, compared to total death sentences, for 1982 through the present is as follows:

<u>Year</u>	<u>Total Death Sentences</u>	<u>Juvenile Death Sentences</u> (Age at Crime)			<u>Totals</u>
		<u>Age 15</u>	<u>Age 16</u>	<u>Age 17</u>	
1982	276	0	0	11	11
1983	262	0	5	4	9
1984	295	3	0	3	6
1985	289	1	1	4	6
1986	310	1	3	3	7
1987	299	1	0	1	2
1988	300*	0	0	5	5
1989	150*	0	0	1	1
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Total:	2,181	6	9	32	47

*Estimates for 1988 and first half of 1989.

These 47 juvenile death sentences since 1982 are only 2% of the total (2,181) and in the last few years have fallen to around 1% of the total. In essence, total death sentences imposed have risen to and leveled off at about 300 each year, while juvenile death sentences have fallen to about 3 each year. This decline in juvenile death sentences may have resulted from the United States Supreme Court decision in Thompson v. Oklahoma (108 S.Ct. 2685 (1988)) but may be reversed somewhat by that Court's decision in Stanford v. Kentucky and Wilkins v. Missouri (57 U.S.L.W. 4973 (1989)).

As of July 15, 1989, twenty-eight persons remained on death row for crimes committed while under the age of eighteen. The last juvenile death sentence imposed, and the only one so far in 1989, was that of Richard Wayne Joyner on May 25, 1989, in North Carolina. Apparently still only 17-years-old, Joyner is the youngest person on death row. Also of note is the July 13, 1989, reversal of the death sentence of Paula Cooper in Indiana, only 15 at the time of her crime.

The juvenile death sentences for January 1, 1982, through July 15, 1989, are listed on the following pages. While the sources of this information are many, the major source is the outstanding research effort of the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund, Inc., and their newsletter, Death Row, U.S.A..

<u>Year</u>	<u>Offender's Name</u>	<u>Age at Crime</u>	<u>Race</u>	<u>State</u>	<u>Current Status</u>
1982	Barrow, Lee Roy	17	W	TX	reversed in 1985
	Cannon, Joseph J.	17	W	TX	now on death row
	Carter, Robert A.	17	B	TX	now on death row
	Garrett, Johnny F.	17	W	TX	now on death row
	Johnson, Lawrence	17	B	MD	reversed twice; resentenced to death in 1983 and 1984; reversed in 1988
	Lashley, Frederick	17	B	MO	now on death row
	Legare, Andrew	17	W	GA	reversed in 1983; resentenced to death in 1984; reversed in 1986
	Stanford, Kevin	17	B	KY	now on death row
	Stokes, Freddie	17	B	NC	reversed in 1982; resentenced to death in 1983; reversed in 1987
	Thompson, Jay	17	W	IN	reversed in 1986
	Trimble, James	17	W	MD	now on death row
1983	Bey, Marko	17	B	NJ	reversed in 1988
	Cannaday, Attina	16	W	MS	reversed in 1984
	Harris, Curtis P.	17	B	TX	now on death row
	Harvey, Frederick	16	B	NV	reversed in 1984
	Hughes, Kevin	16	B	PA	now on death row
	Johnson, Lawrence	17	B	MD	reversed in 1983; resentenced to death in 1984; reversed in 1988
	Lynn, Frederick	16	B	AL	reversed in 1985; resentenced to death in 1986

(continued)

<u>Year</u>	<u>Offender's Name</u>	<u>Age at Crime</u>	<u>Race</u>	<u>State</u>	<u>Current Status</u>
	Mhoon, James	16	B	MS	reversed in 1985
	Stokes, Freddie	17	B	NC	reversed in 1987
1984	Aulisio, Joseph	15	W	PA	reversed in 1987
	Brown, Leon	15	B	NC	reversed in 1988
	Johnson, Lawrence	17	B	MD	reversed in 1988
	Legare, Andrew	17	W	GA	reversed in 1986
	Patton, Keith	17	B	IN	reversed in 1987
	Thompson, W. Wayne	15	W	OK	reversed in 1988
1985	Cantu, Ruben	17	H	TX	now on death row
	Livingston, Jesse	17	B	FL	reversed in 1988
	Morgan, James	16	W	FL	reversed in 1989
	Ward, Ronald	15	B	AR	reversed in 1987
	Williams, Raymond	17	B	PA	reversed in 1987
	Wills, Bobby Joe	17	B	TX	now on death row
1986	Comeaux, Adam	17	B	LA	reversed in 1987
	Cooper, Paula R.	15	B	IN	reversed in 1989
	LeCroy, Cleo	17	W	FL	now on death row
	Lynn, Frederick	16	B	AL	now on death row
	Sellers, Sean	16	W	OK	now on death row
	Wilkins, Heath	16	W	MO	now on death row
	Williams, Alexander	17	B	GA	now on death row
1987	Dugar, Troy	15	B	LA	now on death row
	Lamb, Wilbur Aaron	17	W	FL	reversed in 1988

(continued)

<u>Year</u>	<u>Offender's Name</u>	<u>Age at Crime</u>	<u>Race</u>	<u>State</u>	<u>Current Status</u>
1988	Adams, Thomas	17	W	NC	now on death row
	Hain, Scott Allan	17	W	OK	now on death row
	Hegwood, Bernell	17	B	FL	now on death row
	Jimenez, Jesus	17	H	AZ	now on death row
	Lee, Percy	17	B	PA	now on death row
1989*	Joyner, Richard	17	W	NC	now on death row

* As of July 15, 1989