

TRIT Sample for Controversial Issue Research Paper

The Rodriguezs are one couple who are opposed to capital punishment. They object to this practice because they believe it does not really help anyone. They express their opinion in a Letter to the Editor of the *New York Times* on January 4, 2002. In this letter as they respond to a previous new article about the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks in New York, they also explain that they lost their 31 years old son, Greg. Yet, as they consider whether the death penalty is the right thing for convicted terrorists, the Rodriguezs write, "Nothing will erase the pain and loss that we must learn to live with, and causing others pain can only make it worse" (A3). What Orlando and Phyllis Rodriguez seem to be arguing is, executing terrorist only adds to the suffering of innocent people. Not only would the terrorists suffer, but so would the family members and perhaps friends of the terrorists, and in the end their son Greg would still be gone. Killing a terrorist might seem right, but in the end no one seems to really win. And, it is this belief that causes the Orlando and Phyllis Rodriguez to oppose capital punishment. But, an argument takes more than one side.

Comment [P1]: Person

Comment [P2]: Position

Comment [P3]: Definition--why

Comment [P4]: Context

Comment [P5]: Coherence device

Comment [P6]: Quotes

Comment [P7]: interpretation

Comment [P8]: return to definition

Comment [P9]: return to person

Comment [P10]: return to position

Comment [P11]: transition