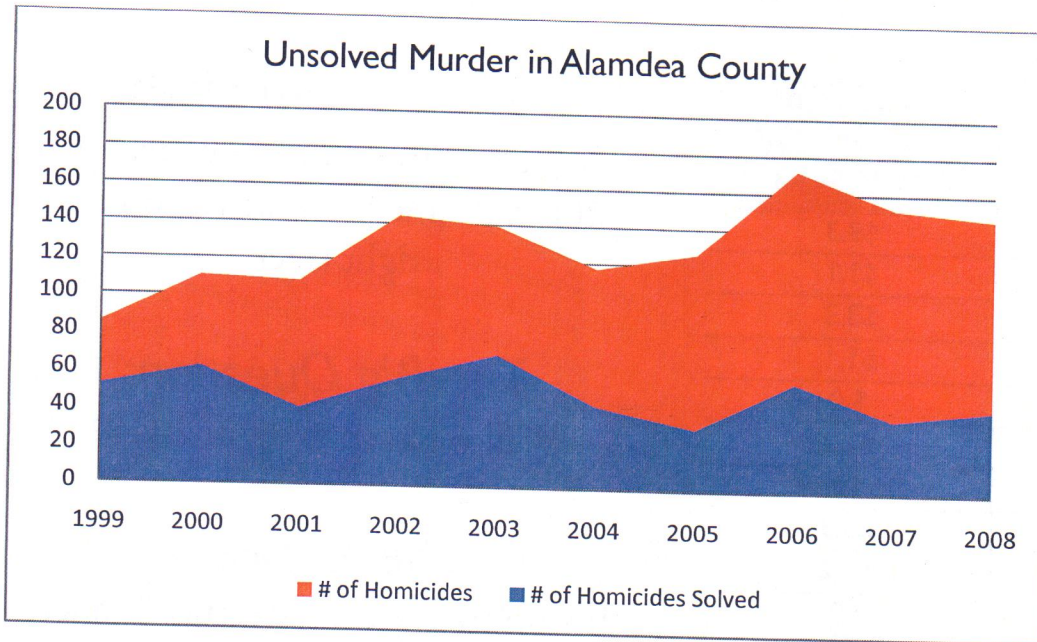


The Impact of the Death Penalty on Murder Victims Family



799
 Unsolved Murders
 =
 799 murders
 continue to walk
 the streets

"If the government really wanted to end the violence, it would take the millions of dollars it is wasting on the death penalty in California and use it for violence prevention for youth and rehabilitation and victim services."

Lorrain Taylor, mother of twin sons, Albade and Obadiah Taylor, who were murdered in East Oakland. They were 22 years old.

"The District Attorney assured me that the execution of the man responsible for Catherine's murder would help me heal, and for many years I believed him. But now I know that having someone murdered by the government will not heal my pain. I beg the government not to murder in my name, and more important, not to tarnish the memory of my daughter with another senseless killing."

Aba Gayle, mother of Catherine Blount, who was murdered at the age of 19 in the fall of 1980.

"Many murder victim survivors, like me, are tired of being offered as a reason to use the death penalty even though we do not believe it serves us. By replacing the death penalty with permanent imprisonment, we could use our public safety resources on efforts that would actually benefit victims and keep our communities safe, such as solving cold cases. Unfortunately, like so many others, my brother's murder remains unsolved; the number of unsolved homicides in this country is appalling. In California alone, nearly 25,000 murders from the past 20 years remain unsolved."

Judy Kerr, sister of Bob Kerr, who was murdered in 2003.

Quotes taken from members of California Crime Victims for Alternatives to the Death Penalty: <http://californiacrimevictims.org/>

How much money will Alameda County spend on death penalty trials in 2010?

| Year | # of Death Sentences | \$\$ Spent on Trials (In Millions) |
|-------------|----------------------|------------------------------------|
| 2000 | 3 | \$3.3 |
| 2001 | 1 | \$1.1 |
| 2002 | 3 | \$3.3 |
| 2003 | 1 | \$1.1 |
| 2004 | 0 | \$ 0 |
| 2005 | 2 | \$2.2 |
| 2006 | 0 | \$0 |
| 2007 | 3 | \$3.3 |
| 2008 | 2 | \$2.2 |
| 2009 | 0 | \$0 |
| 2010 | ?? | ?? |

The Bottom Line:

With no new death sentences in 2009, Alameda County is on the right track.

The Big Question:

Will we keep it up in 2010?

The Answer:

It's up to District Attorney Nancy O'Malley to decide.

Here are some facts that may help her make her decision

Fact #1

Each death penalty trial costs Alameda County approximately **\$1.1 million more** than a murder trial where the defendant is condemned to permanent imprisonment.

♦ ♦ ♦

Fact #2

Since 1973, 138 people have been freed from death row in the U.S. based on evidence that they were innocent. The conviction of innocent people and other problems with the death penalty have led a majority of nations, most religions, and now 15 U.S. states to reject the death penalty.

♦ ♦ ♦

Fact #3

The death penalty, while failing to reduce crime, monopolizes vital public safety resources that could be used to keep our communities safer, create more jobs, and educates our children.

♦ ♦ ♦