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IMPOSITION OF DEATH SENTENCES UPON FEMALE OFFENDERS,
JANUARY 1, 1973, THROUGH OCTOBER 1, 1990
(5th edition)

by

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My research continues on the imposition of death sentences and the actual execution of female offenders throughout American history. Preliminary findings indicate that actual execution of female offenders is quite rare, with only 398 documented instances, beginning with the first one in 1632. And the incidence of execution of females has declined considerably in the twentieth century as compared to earlier centuries. For a more complete history of this practice, please see Streib, "Death Penalty for Female Offenders," 58 U. CIN. L. REV. 845 (1990).

This report focuses upon the pronouncement of the death sentence for female offenders during the post-Furman era of the death penalty. While the period covered begins with the date Furman was decided (June 29, 1972), no women were sentenced to death until 1973 and after. The data currently verified for some of the early years are incomplete and are still being researched. Consistent with these findings as to the rarity of actual executions of female offenders, the annual death sentencing rate for female offenders is remarkably low.

<u>Year</u>	<u>Total Death Sentences</u>	<u>Female Death Sentences</u>	<u>Portion of Total</u>
1973	42	2	4.8%
1974	151	1	0.7%
1975	301	6	2.0%
1976	234	4	1.7%
1977	141	1	0.7%
1978	188	4	2.1%
1979	158	4	2.5%
1980	186	2	1.1%
1981	239	3	1.3%
1982	277	5	1.8%
1983	262	4	1.5%
1984	294	8	2.7%
1985	291	5	1.7%
1986	315	3	1.0%
1987	304	5	1.6%
1988	296	5	1.7%
1989	300*	10	3.3%
1990	225*	3	1.3%
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Totals:	4,204	75	1.8%

*Estimate for 1989 and first three-quarters of 1990.

I have no explanation whatsoever as to why the annual sentencing rate for women doubled in 1989 and then returned to normal this year. Of these seventy-five death sentences imposed upon female offenders, only thirty women remain on death row under thirty-one death sentences (Debra Brown is under sentences of death both in Indiana and Ohio).

Some brief information concerning these female offenders follows. Although the data are incomplete for some entries, it is known that a female was sentenced to death in that state in that year. Research continues to fill in the blank spaces.

<u>YEAR</u>	<u>OFFENDER'S NAME</u>	<u>RACE</u>	<u>STATE</u>	<u>DATE OF CRIME</u>	<u>DATE OF SENTENCE</u>	<u>CURRENT STATUS</u>
1973	Ward, Mamie Lee	W	N.C.	?	9-?-73	reversed in 1976
	?	?	Ga.	?	-73	reversed in 19??
1974	Hunt, Rozell O.	AI	N.C.	?	6-?-74	reversed in 1976
1975	Boykin, Margie	W	N.C.	?	12-?-75	reversed in 1977
	Lockett, Sandra	B	Ohio	1-15-75	4- -75	reversed in 1978
	Osborne, Alberta	W	Ohio	12-15-74	- -75	reversed in 1978
	Sanders, Janet (AKA Miller)	W	Okla.	2-24-75	8-26-75	reversed in 1977
	Smith, Rebecca	W	Ga.	8-31-74	1-30-75	reversed in 1983
	?	?	Cal.	?	-75	reversed in 1977
1976	Brown, Faye B.	B	N.C.	?	1-?-76	reversed in 1977
	Jacobs, Sonia	W	Fla.	2-20-76	8-20-76	reversed in 1981
	Wernert, Patricia	W	Ohio	11- -75	11- -76	reversed in 1978
	?	?	Cal.	?	-76	reversed in 1977
1977	Smith, Benita	B	Ohio	?	12- -77	reversed in 1978
1978	Anderson, Mary	W	Texas	1-3-78	8-29-78	reversed in 1982?
	Barfield, Velma	W	N.C.	2-1-78	12-2-78	executed 11-2-84
	Bracewell, Debra	W	Ala.	8-15-77	5-17-78	reversed in 1981
	Detter, Rebecca	W	N.C.	6-2-77	9-26-78	reversed in 1979
1979	Binsz, Michelle	W	Okla.	?	10-23-79	reversed in 1984
	Burnett, Linda	W	Texas	6-01-78	3-20-79	reversed in 1983
	Cunningham, Emma	W	Ga.	1-1-79	10-26-79	reversed in 1983
	Tyler, Shirley	B	Ga.	10-22-79	12-04-79	reversed in 1986

(continued)

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1980	O'Bryan, LaVerne	W	Ky.	7-5-79	9-12-80	reversed in 1982
	Perillo, Pamela	W	Texas	2-24-80	9-2-80 & 11-13-84	now on death row
1981	Buttrum, Janice	W	Ga.	9-3-80	8-31-81	reversed in 1989
	Stebbing, Annette	W	Md.	4-9-80	4-30-81	reversed in 1985
	Thomas, Patricia	B	Ala.	2-28-81	12-28-81	now on death row
1982	Cannaday, Attina	W	Miss.	6-3-82	9-23-82	reversed in 1984
	Ford, Priscilla	B	Nev.	11-27-80	4-29-82	now on death row
	Foster, Doris	AI	Md.	1-29-81	2-8-82 & 4-4-84	reversed in 1987?
	Smith, Nadean	W	Okla.	7-4-82	12-29-82	now on death row
	Whittington, Teresa	W	Ga.	1-2-82	5-7-82	reversed in 1984
1983	Grant, Rosalie	B	Ohio	4-1-83	10-21-83	now on death row
	Neelley, Judith	W	Ala.	9-23-82	4-18-83	now on death row
	Summers, Sheila	W	Nev.	9-14-82	12-20-83	reversed in 1986
	Young, Sharon	W	Ohio	6-12-83	9-30-83	reversed in 1986
1984	Foster, Doris	A.I.	Md.	1-29-81	4-4-84 & 2-8-82	reversed in 1986?
	Hendrickson, Pat.	W	Ark.	3-10-83	4-13-84	reversed in 1985
	Jackson, Andrea	B	Fla.	5-16-83	2-10-84	reversed in 1990
	Moore, Marie	W	N.J.	1- -83	11-19-84	reversed in 1988
	Perillo, Pamela	W	Texas	2-24-80	11-13-84 & 9-2-80	now on death row
	Tucker, Karla	W	Texas	6-13-83	4-25-84	now on death row
	Williamson, Celia	W	Miss.	3-23-82	3-14-84	reversed in 1987
	Windsor, Karla	W	Idaho	9-6-83	2-28-84	reversed in 1985?

(continued)

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1985	Beets, Betty	W	Texas	8-6-83	10-14-85	now on death row
	Brown, Debra	B	Ohio	7-13-84	6-18-85 & 6-23-86	now on death row
	Buenoano, Judi	W	Fla.	9-16-71	11-26-85	now on death row
	Houston, Judy	W	Miss.	6-03-84	11-30-85	reversed in 1988
	Thacker, Lois	W	Ind.	11-03-84	06-27-85	reversed in 1990
1986	Brown, Debra	B	Ind.	6-18-84	6-23-86 & 6-18-85	now on death row
	Cooper, Paula	B	Ind.	5-14-85	7-11-86	reversed in 1989
	Owens, Gaile	W	Tenn.	2-17-85	1-15-86	now on death row
1987	Caillier, Carla	W	Fla.	11-20-86	3-19-87	reversed in 1988
	Casteel, Dee Dyne	W	Fla.	8-20-83	9-16-87	reversed in 1990
	Cox, Sue	W	N.C.	7-12-86	10-30-87	now on death row
	Dudley, Kaysie	W	Fla.	9-30-85	1-27-87	reversed in 1989
	Foster, Lafonda	W	Ky.	3-9-86	4-24-87	now on death row
1988	Green, Elizabeth	B	Ohio	1-4-88	7-11-88	now on death row
	Haney, Judie	W	Ala.	1-1-84	11-18-88	now on death row
	Newton, Francis	B	Texas	4-7-87	11-17-88	now on death row
	Wacaser, Nila	W	Mo.	8-28-87	5-31-88	reversed in 1990
	Walker, Altione	W	Ala.	3-31-88	12-15-88	now on death row

(continued)

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1989	Allen, Wanda	B	Okla.	12- -88	4-26-89	now on death row
	Coffman, Cynthia	W	Cal.	11-7-86	8-30-89	now on death row
	Harris, Louise	B	Ala.	3-11-88	8-11-89	now on death row
	Jones, Patricia	W	Okla.	4- -88	12-7-89	now on death row
	Lampkin, Beatrice	B	Ohio	-88	4-26-89	now on death row
	Landress, Cindy	W	Ind.	4-23-88	6-26-89	now on death row
	Plantz, Marilyn	W	Okla.	8- -88	3-31-89	now on death row
	Rivers, Delores	B	Pa.	2-?-88	3-16-89	now on death row
	Stager, Barbara	W	N.C.	2-1-88	5-19-89	now on death row
	Twenter, Virginia	W	Mo.	5-4-88	1-6-89	now on death row
1990	Butler, Sabrina	B	Miss.	-90	6-?-90	now on death row
	Hunt, Deidre	W	Fla.	10-20-89	9-13-90	now on death row
	McDermott, Maureen	W	Cal.	4-28-85	6-15-90	now on death row