



# **Capital Punishment on Trial: Furman v. Georgia and the Death Penalty in Modern America (Landmark Law Cases and American Society) (Landmark Law Cases & American Society)**

*David M. Oshinsky*

Download now

[Click here](#) if your download doesn't start automatically

# Capital Punishment on Trial: Furman v. Georgia and the Death Penalty in Modern America (Landmark Law Cases and American Society) (Landmark Law Cases & American Society)

David M. Oshinsky

**Capital Punishment on Trial: Furman v. Georgia and the Death Penalty in Modern America (Landmark Law Cases and American Society) (Landmark Law Cases & American Society)** David M. Oshinsky

In his first book since the Pulitzer Prize-winning *Polio: An American Story*, renowned historian David Oshinsky takes a new and closer look at the Supreme Court's controversial and much-debated stances on capital punishment-in the landmark case of *Furman v. Georgia*.

Career criminal William Furman shot and killed a homeowner during a 1967 burglary in Savannah, Georgia. Because it was a "black-on-white" crime in the racially troubled South, it also was an open-and-shut case. The trial took less than a day, and the nearly all-white jury rendered a death sentence. Aided by the NAACP's Legal Defense Fund, Furman's African-American attorney, Bobby Mayfield, doggedly appealed the verdict all the way to the U.S. Supreme Court, which in 1972 overturned Furman's sentence by a narrow 5-4 vote, ruling that Georgia's capital punishment statute, and by implication all other state death-penalty laws, was so arbitrary and capricious as to violate the Eighth Amendment's prohibition against "cruel and unusual punishment."

Furman effectively, if temporarily, halted capital punishment in the United States. Every death row inmate across the nation was resentenced to life in prison. The decision, however, did not rule the death penalty *per se* to be unconstitutional; rather, it struck down the laws that currently governed its application, leaving the states free to devise new ones that the Court might find acceptable. And this is exactly what happened. In the coming years, the Supreme Court would uphold an avalanche of state legislation endorsing the death penalty. Capital punishment would return stronger than ever, with many more defendants sentenced to death and eventually executed.

Oshinsky demonstrates the troubling roles played by race and class and region in capital punishment. And he concludes by considering the most recent Supreme Court death-penalty cases involving minors and the mentally ill, as well as the impact of international opinion. Compact and engaging, Oshinsky's masterful study reflects a gift for empathy, an eye for the telling anecdote and portrait, and a talent for clarifying the complex and often confusing legal issues surrounding capital punishment.

 [Download Capital Punishment on Trial: Furman v. Georgia and ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online Capital Punishment on Trial: Furman v. Georgia a ...pdf](#)

## **Download and Read Free Online Capital Punishment on Trial: Furman v. Georgia and the Death Penalty in Modern America (Landmark Law Cases and American Society) (Landmark Law Cases & American Society) David M. Oshinsky**

---

### **From reader reviews:**

#### **Charles Alexander:**

In other case, little individuals like to read book Capital Punishment on Trial: Furman v. Georgia and the Death Penalty in Modern America (Landmark Law Cases and American Society) (Landmark Law Cases & American Society). You can choose the best book if you like reading a book. As long as we know about how is important some sort of book Capital Punishment on Trial: Furman v. Georgia and the Death Penalty in Modern America (Landmark Law Cases and American Society) (Landmark Law Cases & American Society). You can add knowledge and of course you can around the world by just a book. Absolutely right, because from book you can understand everything! From your country until finally foreign or abroad you may be known. About simple factor until wonderful thing you are able to know that. In this era, you can open a book or perhaps searching by internet product. It is called e-book. You may use it when you feel bored to go to the library. Let's read.

#### **Brandon Jenkins:**

Do you have something that that suits you such as book? The guide lovers usually prefer to pick book like comic, small story and the biggest you are novel. Now, why not attempting Capital Punishment on Trial: Furman v. Georgia and the Death Penalty in Modern America (Landmark Law Cases and American Society) (Landmark Law Cases & American Society) that give your pleasure preference will be satisfied by simply reading this book. Reading addiction all over the world can be said as the means for people to know world a great deal better then how they react when it comes to the world. It can't be said constantly that reading habit only for the geeky individual but for all of you who wants to always be success person. So , for all you who want to start looking at as your good habit, you can pick Capital Punishment on Trial: Furman v. Georgia and the Death Penalty in Modern America (Landmark Law Cases and American Society) (Landmark Law Cases & American Society) become your starter.

#### **Jennifer Chambers:**

As we know that book is important thing to add our expertise for everything. By a publication we can know everything we want. A book is a group of written, printed, illustrated or blank sheet. Every year was exactly added. This reserve Capital Punishment on Trial: Furman v. Georgia and the Death Penalty in Modern America (Landmark Law Cases and American Society) (Landmark Law Cases & American Society) was filled regarding science. Spend your spare time to add your knowledge about your scientific research competence. Some people has various feel when they reading any book. If you know how big good thing about a book, you can truly feel enjoy to read a reserve. In the modern era like currently, many ways to get book that you wanted.

**Randolph Urban:**

As a student exactly feel bored to reading. If their teacher inquired them to go to the library in order to make summary for some book, they are complained. Just minor students that has reading's heart or real their passion. They just do what the educator want, like asked to the library. They go to presently there but nothing reading critically. Any students feel that reading is not important, boring along with can't see colorful pictures on there. Yeah, it is to become complicated. Book is very important for you personally. As we know that on this period of time, many ways to get whatever we wish. Likewise word says, many ways to reach Chinese's country. So , this Capital Punishment on Trial: Furman v. Georgia and the Death Penalty in Modern America (Landmark Law Cases and American Society) (Landmark Law Cases & American Society) can make you experience more interested to read.

**Download and Read Online Capital Punishment on Trial: Furman v. Georgia and the Death Penalty in Modern America (Landmark Law Cases and American Society) (Landmark Law Cases & American Society) David M. Oshinsky #PL3IGVWU5OT**

# **Read Capital Punishment on Trial: Furman v. Georgia and the Death Penalty in Modern America (Landmark Law Cases and American Society) (Landmark Law Cases & American Society) by David M. Oshinsky for online ebook**

Capital Punishment on Trial: Furman v. Georgia and the Death Penalty in Modern America (Landmark Law Cases and American Society) (Landmark Law Cases & American Society) by David M. Oshinsky Free PDF d0wnl0ad, audio books, books to read, good books to read, cheap books, good books, online books, books online, book reviews epub, read books online, books to read online, online library, greatbooks to read, PDF best books to read, top books to read Capital Punishment on Trial: Furman v. Georgia and the Death Penalty in Modern America (Landmark Law Cases and American Society) (Landmark Law Cases & American Society) by David M. Oshinsky books to read online.

## **Online Capital Punishment on Trial: Furman v. Georgia and the Death Penalty in Modern America (Landmark Law Cases and American Society) (Landmark Law Cases & American Society) by David M. Oshinsky ebook PDF download**

**Capital Punishment on Trial: Furman v. Georgia and the Death Penalty in Modern America (Landmark Law Cases and American Society) (Landmark Law Cases & American Society) by David M. Oshinsky Doc**

**Capital Punishment on Trial: Furman v. Georgia and the Death Penalty in Modern America (Landmark Law Cases and American Society) (Landmark Law Cases & American Society) by David M. Oshinsky Mobipocket**

**Capital Punishment on Trial: Furman v. Georgia and the Death Penalty in Modern America (Landmark Law Cases and American Society) (Landmark Law Cases & American Society) by David M. Oshinsky EPub**