

The Death Penalty in Japan

Mai Sato examines public attitudes to the death penalty in Japan, focusing on knowledge and attitudinal factors relating to support for, and opposition to, the death penalty. She uses a mixed-method approach and mounts quantitative and qualitative surveys to assess Japanese death penalty attitudes. The author's main findings show that death penalty attitudes are not fixed but fluid. Information has a significant impact on reducing support for the death penalty while retributive attitudes are associated with support. This book offers a new conceptual framework in understanding the death penalty without relying on the usual human rights approach, which can be widely applied not just to Japan but to other retentionist countries.

Contents

- Public Attitudes towards the Death Penalty
- Critical Examination of the Japanese Government Survey
- Experimental Survey Examining the Impact of Information on Support for the Death Penalty

Target Groups

- Researchers and students in the fields of sociology, law, political sciences, criminology, socio-legal studies, Japan studies and Asian studies
- NGOs, policymakers, civil society

The Author

Mai Sato completed her PhD at King's College London in 2011. She is currently a Research Fellow at the Institute for Criminal Policy Research, Birkbeck, University of London, and a Research Officer at the Centre for Criminology, University of Oxford.