

IDEAS FOR ACTION

SPEAKERS. Many of the organizations listed in this packet have a speakers list. Contact your local non-student NLG chapter or the National Office to see if there is a local NLG attorney or legal worker who handles capital cases. “Live from Death Row” events can be set up through Campaign to End the Death Penalty where a death row inmate calls in to your discussion. Witness To Innocence does speaking engagements as well. Arrange a debate between professors at your school or local politicians or activists. If you need suggestions for speakers please contact the NLG National Office.

TABLING. This is a great way to talk to people about the death penalty individually, as well as offer fact-sheets and other materials available from the organizations listed in this packet.

STICKERS AND RIBBONS. Pass out black ribbons for students and professors to wear to show their solidarity with SDADP. Stickers are available from the NLG National Office.

STATE-ORIENTED ACTIVISM. Does your state have the death penalty? Is there a statewide effort under way for a moratorium or legislation to end the use of the death penalty? Your chapter could help collect signatures, demonstrate, and write an op-ed, and further pushing your state government toward abolition.

CASE-ORIENTED ACTIVISM. Is there an execution scheduled in your state? Use the SDADP as an opportunity to mobilize people around this case. Petition the governor to grant clemency, write op-eds, issue statements against the execution, organize a demonstration, or pursue other measures to build support for the person in peril and opposition to capital punishment.

MORATORIUM. Connect with efforts to get a moratorium passed for your state. *Moratorium Now!* Has an amazing website that can point you in the right direction for this: www.quixote.org/ej/. You can get school organizations, students and professors, and state bar organizations, and others to sign on to support the moratorium. You can organize letter-writing campaigns or have everyone in your chapter call into politicians to pressure them to support moratorium legislation.

VIDEOS. A list of useful films appears in the Yellow Pages section. Be sure to organize a discussion or letter-writing session afterwards – don’t let people leave without taking action.

DEMONSTRATIONS.: If there is an execution scheduled in your state any time in the period around the day, stage a demonstration at the prison, courthouse, DA's office, or anywhere relevant that can increase awareness about that case. If there is not a current case, try demonstrating at a local legislator's office to push for a moratorium, or at your local city or town council to pressure for a moratorium or abolition resolution from their council.

BANNERS AND DISPLAYS. Make a banner or a creative display and hang it in a prominent place. You can use the NLG “ABOLITION NOW!” sticker image for your banner by downloading the image off of www.nlg.org or emailing Michel Martinez for a higher resolution copy (studentorg@nlg.org).

PRESS RELEASE/CONFERENCE. We have had luck in the past getting press coverage for SDADP. Use the sample press release in this packet as a template to issue a press release about the national SDADP with information about what is happening locally. If you are planning a large action, hold a press conference. If you are having a speaker, be sure to tape the event and ask your local public radio station to air it; if you contact them ahead of time, they may come and tape it themselves. Definitely send us any coverage you receive!

WORK WITH ALLIES. Use the date to start organizing law students to volunteer legal research and other services to local organizations that provide representation to death row inmates or work to abolish the death penalty.

