

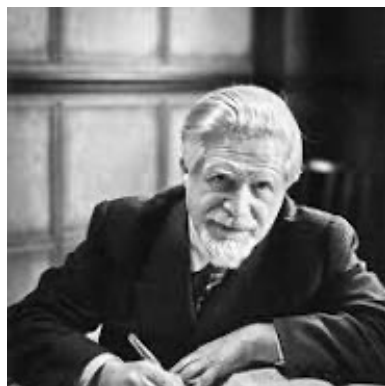
My research project concerned the existence of the death penalty in the UK. I was under the impression that EU Membership triggered the abolition of capital punishment. Thus, post-Brexit, I was concerned whether the UK might return to a capital criminal justice system, where the maximum penalty was death. As a result, my project was twofold. First, I had to understand the abolitionist movement and determine if there was any connection to the European Union. Then, I had to consider today's political climate and whether there is overwhelming support for the return of the death penalty. I have concluded that it is improbable for capital punishment to be reintroduced into the UK in the 21st century. This poster highlights different elements of my research: public executions, media reports, key abolitionist figures and, of course, Bertolt Brecht for my short play - *A Capital Reset*.



Public executions were expensive and required a high provision of police to manage the crowd, intended to be a display of justice and a crime deterrent simultaneously.

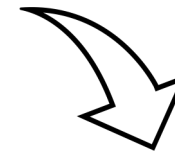


Bertolt Brecht, a German poet and playwright. Due to the absence of the 'fourth wall,' his art style did not maintain a conventional relationship between the characters and their audience. Brecht's theatre served to critique Hitler's regime, rather than to create new worlds. In other words, his art did not allow you to escape; it forced you to wake up.



Sydney Silverman's Private Member's bill abolished the death penalty for murder. The 1965 Act replaced the Homicide Act 1957, which arose out of an unsavoury compromise between the abolitionist Commons and the retentionist Lords.

- John Bednell, aged 14
- Mary Easthope, aged 14
- Thomas Easthope, aged 9
- James Fisher, aged 22
- James Marshall, aged 14
- Eliza Percival, aged 13
- Melicent Shaw, aged 20
- Eliza Hannah Shuttleworth, aged 12
- Susannah Smedley, aged 14
- Eliza Smithhurst, aged 19
- Mary Stevenson, aged 23
- Thomas Watson, aged 14



The lack of crowd control at the execution of William Saville (murderer) caused many casualties, including 12 young people. Executions were normalised enough that children as young as 9 would watch them, presumably with their families. Justice was not private, but entertainment and the media would embrace the publicity of criminals.