From Lynch Mobs to the Killing State: Race and the Death Penalty in America (The Charles Hamilton Houston Institute Series on Race and Justice)

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Since 1976, over forty percent of prisoners executed in American jails have been African American or Hispanic. This trend shows little evidence of diminishing, and follows a larger pattern of the violent criminalization of African American populations that has marked the country's history of punishment.

In a bold attempt to tackle the looming question of how and why the connection between race and the death penalty has been so strong throughout American history, Ogletree and Sarat headline an interdisciplinary cast of experts in reflecting on this disturbing issue. Insightful original essays approach the topic from legal, historical, cultural, and social science perspectives to show the ways that the death penalty is racialized, the places in the death penalty process where race makes a difference, and the ways that meanings of race in the United States are constructed in and through our practices of capital punishment.

From Lynch Mobs to the Killing State not only uncovers the ways that race influences capital punishment, but also attempts to situate the linkage between race and the death penalty in the history of this country, in particular the history of lynching. In its probing examination of how and why the connection between race and the death penalty has been so strong throughout American history, this book forces us to consider how the death penalty gives meaning to race as well as why the racialization of the death penalty is uniquely American.

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From reader reviews:

Scott Roche:

Spent a free time and energy to be fun activity to do! A lot of people spent their down time with their family, or their friends. Usually they accomplishing activity like watching television, about to beach, or picnic in the park. They actually doing same every week. Do you feel it? Do you wish to something different to fill your personal free time/ holiday? Might be reading a book is usually option to fill your cost-free time/ holiday. The first thing that you ask may be what kinds of book that you should read. If you want to consider look for book, may be the reserve untitled From Lynch Mobs to the Killing State: Race and the Death Penalty in America (The Charles Hamilton Houston Institute Series on Race and Justice) can be very good book to read. May be it is usually best activity to you.

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