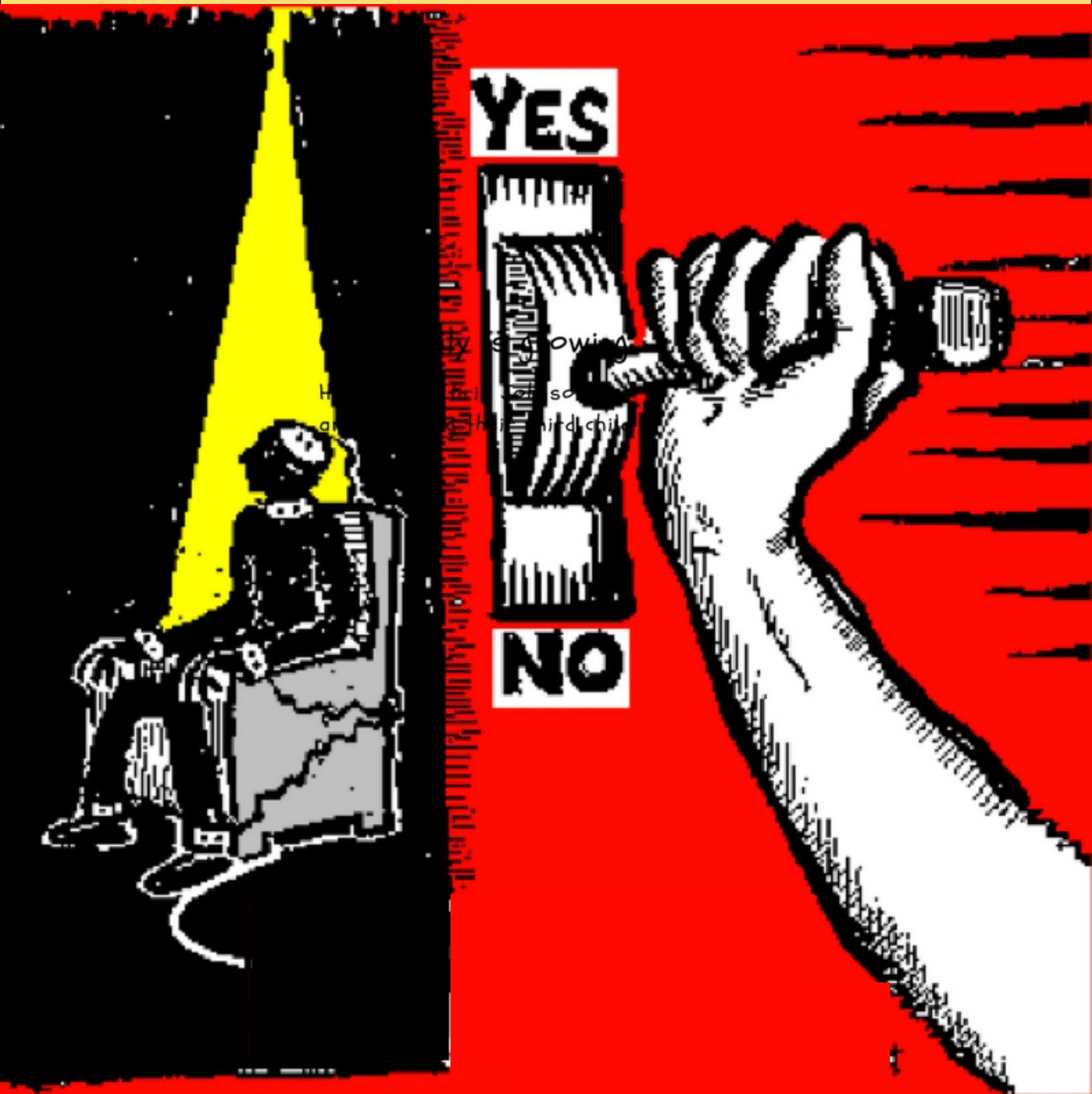
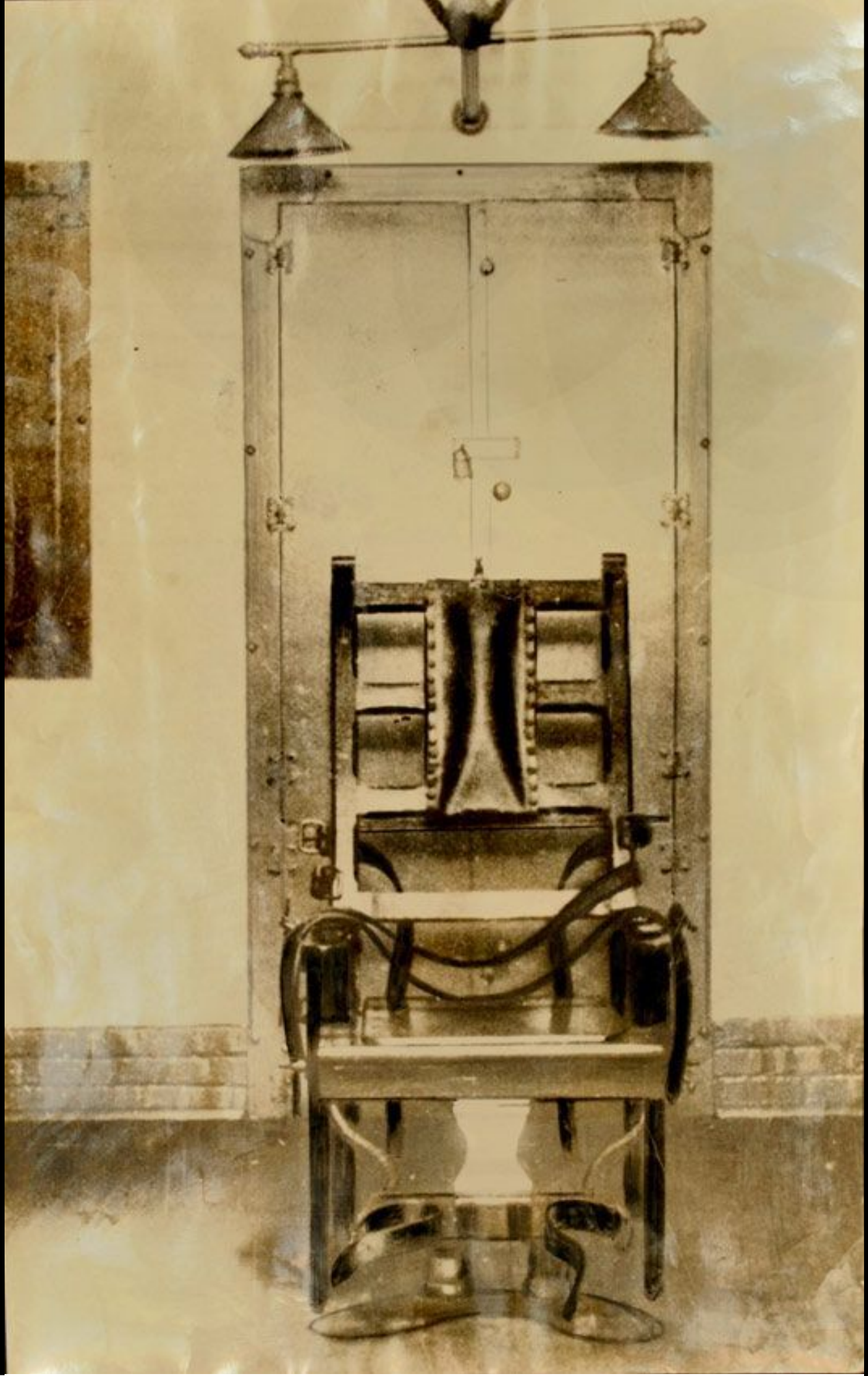


ABOLISH THE DEATH PENALTY!



America is among the few countries left today who have not abolished the death penalty. Call your representatives and tell them to vote yes on bill 5857.



DEATH IS FOREVER

One in every twenty five inmates on the death row is innocent of their accused crimes. Of these people, almost twice as many are executed before their chance of exoneration. The death penalty gives little chance for a falsely accused inmate to be given justice before they are forever robbed of their constitutional right of life, liberty, and pursuit of happiness.



Meet Nicholas Yarris, a man who spent twenty two years on death row for a murder he didn't commit. Nicholas was arrested in 1981, when he was caught riding in a stolen car with a friend. When cops began to suspect him of murdering a young women named Linda Craig, he was pressured into a confession, and then put onto death row. Nicholas wasn't executed immediately because the state of Pennsylvania was undergoing a study about the effectiveness of the death penalty, but if he hadn't had those circumstances he would have been killed. Nicholas was exonerated in 2003 when a DNA test of the killer's glove proved him to be not guilty.

The Flaws of the Justice System

The U.S. justice system has repeatedly shown itself to be biased towards the rich. Nearly all death row inmates are poor men who were unable to afford a good lawyer to defend themselves in court.

The justice system is also three times as likely to recommend the death if the defendant is black vs a white defendant. Seventy-six percent of the victims in death penalty cases are white, even though nationally only about fifty percent of homicide victims are white.





The Ryen family, all were murdered except for Josh Ryan (top left).

THE FLAWS OF THE JUSTICE SYSTEM

PART TWO

KEVIN COOPER AND THE MURDER OF THE RYEN FAMILY

In June, 1983, five members of the Ryens family were found on the ground in their bloody house by a neighbor. All were dead except for eight year old Josh Ryen, who had suffered a skull fracture and was bleeding out from a throat slash. As the investigation commenced, police contacted the girlfriend of a convicted murderer in the area who had recently been released from prison. She suspected him of the murder, and gave his bloody clothing to the police. The police then ignored this, threw the clothing away and charged a black man named Kevin Cooper for the murders. This was all despite the fact that Josh Ryen identified the murderers as three white men, and the fact that brown and blond hairs were found at the scene. Kevin's hair is black. Despite all the evidence of his innocence, Kevin Cooper is still on death row and could be led to the chambers within the next year, and the governor of California refuses to DNA test evidence such as the hair strands left at the scene.

Get Involved!

Time is running out before the vote, find your white house representatives at

<https://www.house.gov/representatives/>

find-your-representative

and tell them to vote yes on bill 5857.



