

Before proceeding, answer the following question:

1. How do you feel about the death penalty?

Do a web search on ***The Innocence Project*** to find answers to the following questions.

Here are a couple of sites to get you started.

www.innocenceproject.org

<http://www.cbsnews.com/stories/2007/04/23/fyi/main2719227.shtml>

2. What is the Innocence Project? When did it begin?
3. Who started it and how did it get started?
4. How do innocent people end up in prison? What are some causes of wrongful convictions?
5. How many cases have been cleared by the Innocence Project? How many are pending? How many do cases do they take on each year?
6. What are some hurdles in bringing about an exoneration?
7. How does DNA evidence prove innocence? What does the testing process entail? How much does it cost?
8. How often do DNA tests prove innocence? Does testing ever prove guilt?
9. How many people have been exonerated through DNA testing?
10. How many innocent people are estimated to be in prison?
11. On average, how much time have the exonerees served in prison?
12. There are far fewer wrongful convictions

13. How many of the exonerees had criminal records before the wrongful conviction?

14. Do Americans have laws or rights that protect them from being wrongly convicted?

15. Do you think we need new laws? Why or why not?

16. How do you feel about the death penalty now? Has the information you learned in this exercise changed your mind?