

Supreme Court Decisions: Execution Too Much For Child Rapists?

Tonight we discussed the case of a man who had been convicted and sentenced to death in 2003 for raping his 8-year-old stepdaughter. The Supreme Court overturned the sentence with a 5-4 vote, saying that the death penalty is an unconstitutional punishment for the rape of a child.

Tom Carr, who was also formerly the Bureau Chief in the Special Victims Unit in Rensselaer County, explained how this decision can be seen as a step toward moving to eradicate capital punishment altogether. He told us some disturbing news - that based on his experiences the average penalty for raping a child is a maximum of 15 years. They aren't getting life in prison, not even close. Personally, I am in favor of the death penalty for child rapists, cop killers, and those who commit treason, and while they got it right on the gun ban, the Supreme Court got it wrong with this decision.

This ruling also supports my view that the next president is going to be critical to the continued success of the American Government. Presidents can pack the judges depending on their party affiliations, which can mean the deciding vote in high profile cases that are so close, such as this one.