David Kaczynski, who works as the successful executive director of New Yorkers for Alternatives to the Death Penalty (NYADP), was not always involved with capital punishment. Kaczynski is also the brother of the infamous Unabomber, Ted Kaczynski. David Kaczynski recognized his brother's writing style in his manifesto and turned him in to government officials, even though he knew that his brother might be executed for his crimes. After Kaczynski's direct experience with the death penalty, he became involved with NYADP. By leading NYADP and by giving speeches and writing articles, David Kaczynski has shown the United States the faults of the death penalty and has influenced the government of New York to abolish the death penalty.

Kaczynski became involved with the death penalty when his brother, known as the Unabomber, killed three people and injured 23 others through a series of bombings over a span of 17 years (David Kaczynski Recounts His Story of Unabomber, Adam Geller). Turning in a family member to the government can be extremely difficult, especially when dealing with the potential for capital punishment. Despite a difficult decision, Kaczynski knew that turning his brother in to the FBI was the right choice. After he turned his brother in, Kaczynski spent two years working on the case so his brother would not be executed (The Death Penalty as a Personal Thing, William Glaberson). When Kaczynski turned his brother in, he was also determined to remain anonymous. Unfortunately, his name was leaked to the press and Kaczynski became a hero. Later in 1998, when the Kaczynski's were given 1 million dollars as a reward for turning in the most wanted Unabomber, they donated the money, aside from legal fees, to the families
and victims of Ted Kaczynski (David Kaczynski Recount His Story of Unabomber, Adam Geller). By turning his brother in to the government, Kaczynski saved numerous people from a questionable fate. No one can be sure what Ted Kaczynski was capable of and many more people were surely in danger if he was left free.

Kaczynski used the publicity he gained from his brother's case to draw attention to the faults of the death penalty. He joined New Yorkers for Alternatives to the Death Penalty, which is an organization that successfully campaigned to end the death penalty in New York. Now NYADP works to educate others and stop violence before it leads to capital punishment (www.nyadp.org). According to the NYADP website, they lobbied for the end of the death penalty because it is more expensive than life without parole, not a deterrent to crime, and does not bring closure to the victim's family. They also point out that it is difficult to fairly execute a criminal due to racial and economic biases. NYADP worked to end the death penalty in New York by talking to small groups, educating through churches and schools, and persuading the legislature to lobby against it (David Kaczynski, Interview). Kaczynski has always been against the death penalty, but after his direct experience he felt even more strongly about its faults (David Kaczynski, Interview). As Kaczynski said in a New York Times article, "Violence is not an antidote to violence." The death penalty does not prevent violence. As the executive director of NYADP, Kaczynski focuses the organization on addressing the causes of violence and providing much needed assistance to those affected (www.nyadp.com). In 2009, the organization donated $4 million to SNUG (David Kaczynski, Interview). SNUG, guns spelled backwards, is an organization using celebrities and public awareness to decrease gang action and street violence (www.operationsnug.org). By donating money to SNUG, NYADP is helping to prevent crime.
Along with working with NYADP, Kaczynski also independently works to educate others about the death penalty. Before Kaczynski recognized his brother as the Unabomber, he was living an anonymous life working as the director of the Equinox shelter for runaway and homeless children in Albany (www.nyadp.org). After experiencing the death penalty in direct relation to his life, Kaczynski began to individually make speeches and write articles to educate students and adults about the problems with the death penalty. In just one year, 2005, Kaczynski made over 130 public speeches (David Kaczynski, Interview). He also has written many short stories, some of which were published. For example, "Building a Bridge" and "Missing Parts" appear in the books Wounds That Do Not Bind and Brothers respectively. Kaczynski has written many articles published in magazines and newspapers. Through these writings, Kaczynski has taught people that there are numerous problems with the death penalty and usually it is not the best option. This education has influenced how the citizens of the United States view capital punishment.

David Kaczynski has made an impact on the United States government after his direct experience with the procedure of capital punishment. By turning in his brother, he made the right decision and saved countless numbers of people. Through working with citizens, he has educated large numbers of people about the flaws of the capital punishment system. Finally, from his position as the executive director of NYADP, he has influenced the legislative decision to abolish the death penalty in New York. His experience with the death penalty gave him a new purpose in life, transforming him into a well-known leader who has changed the face of the United States forever.
Works Cited


<http://davidkaczynski.com/about/>.


Geller, Adam. "David Kaczynski Recounts His Story of Unabomber - Page 2 - SFGate."


