

The Jurist's Journal

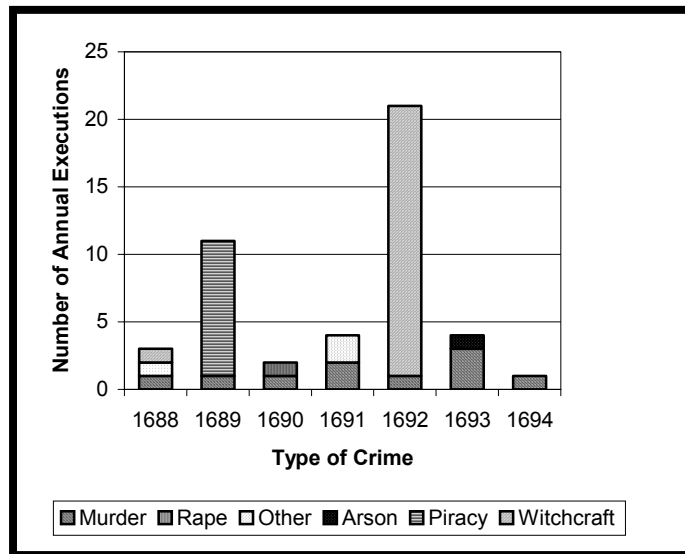
Seaholm High School

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Piracy Spikes Death Penalty Cases

A recent discussion of the death penalty in the Law & You class included a historic analysis into the types of crime that could lead to the death penalty. We graphed some of the data in the Espy file (<http://www.deathpenaltyinfo.org/ESPY.html>), and discovered a 1689 spike due to piracy. Although we expected to find a 1692 spike due to the Salem Witchcraft trials, the 1689 increase surprised us. This is the same year that Governor Andros of the Massachusetts Bay Colony was deposed, so we hypothesized that the temporary lack of government might have contributed to more piracy.

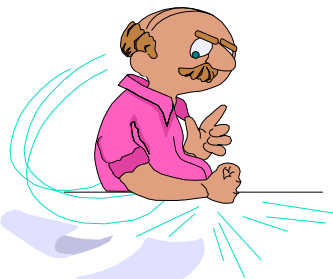


U.S. Death Penalty Cases, 1688-1694

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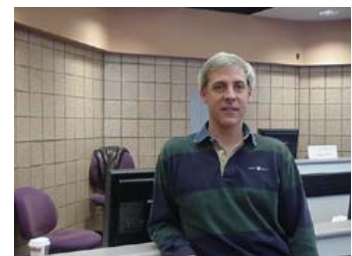
Opinion Corner: Was OJ Simpson Guilty?



Yes! He had a long history of beating his wife. Of course he killed Nicole. The jury let him go free.



No! The LAPD framed him. Mark Furman was a lying, racist cop. And the DA's office was scared about another riot after the Rodney King case.



Who knows if he was guilty? The evidence was such a mess that it created reasonable doubt. The jury made the right decision.