# Template for Lesson Plans Classroom Activities Ethics Curriculum Project Modules

Activity # 2, Utilitarian Arguments for Capital Punishment

Module Name: Capital Punishment

Class type: ESOL ESE Regular Gifted Honors Inclusion All

## Objectives for activity:

- 1. Understanding the fundamental ethical value of individuality
- 2. Understanding, identifying and distinguishing different arguments *for* and *against* capital punishment
- 3. Understanding and identifying the difference between *moral* and *legal* arguments for and against capital punishment

## Materials Needed (texts, props, special supplies)

- 1. copies for each student of excerpts from "The Collapse of the Case Against Capital Punishment" by Ernest Van Den Haag
- 2. computer or pen and paper to write essay

## Procedures for Teachers-What You Need to Know/Do

- 1. Read the excerpt from "The Collapse of the Case Against Capital Punishment" by Ernest Van Den Haag
- 2. Review the issues to be discussed in a classroom discussion (See Activity #2 in the main text of this module.).
- 3. Conduct classroom discussion.
- 4. Ask students to write a short essay describing the differences between Van Den Haag's and identify Kant's views on Capital Punishment and the differences between utilitarian and retributivist justifications for Capital Punishment.

Activity Type -Discussion Questions, Compositions, Small Group, etc.-What Students Need to Do

- 1. Classroom discussion of excerpt.
- 2. Student essay.

#### Assessment

- 1. Class participation in discussion of excerpt.
- 2. Completion of individual writing project and evaluation of by teacher.