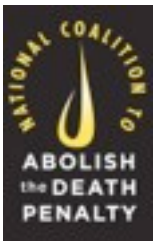
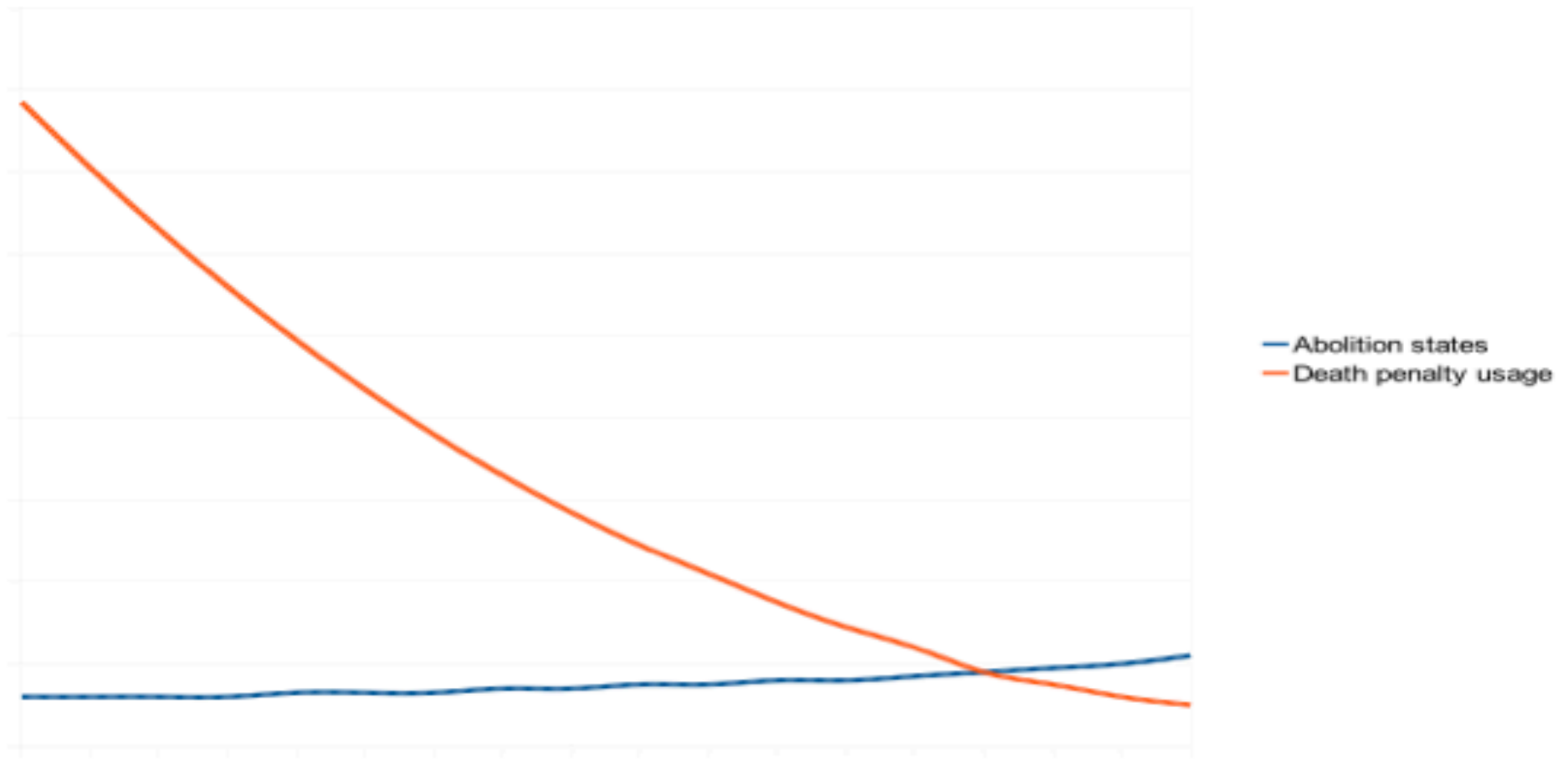


KCADP TRAINING!

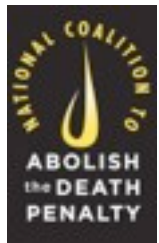
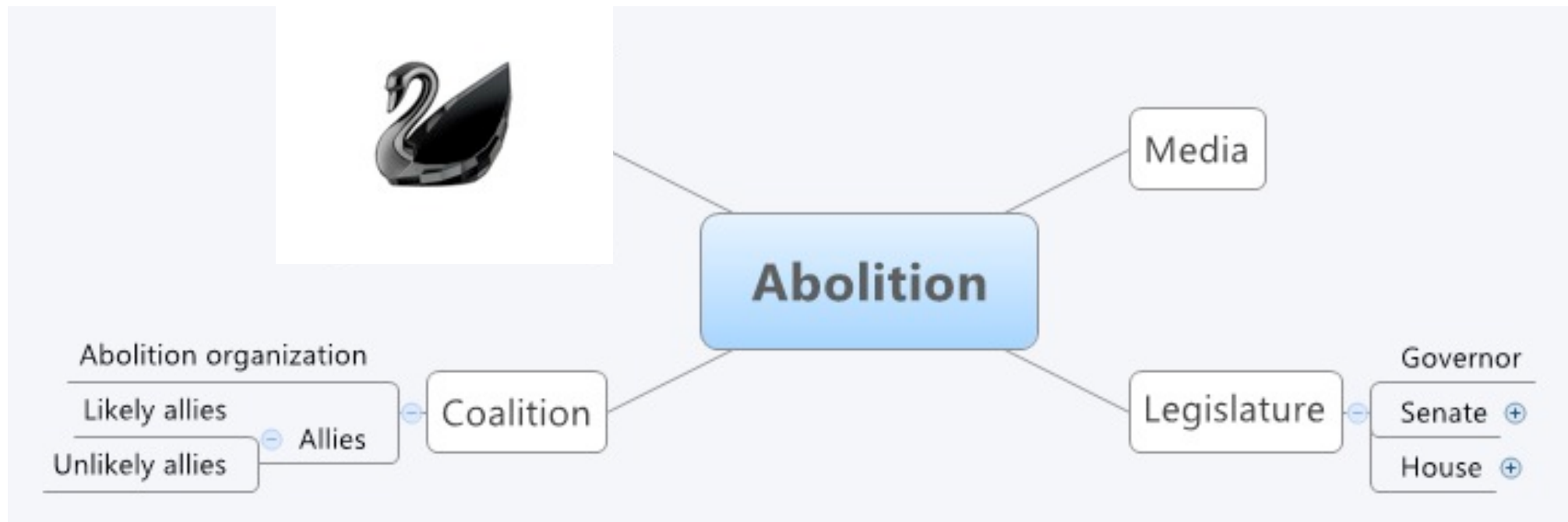
Welcome to the
Kansas Coalition Against the Death Penalty
Advocacy Training Webinar
March 9, 2013



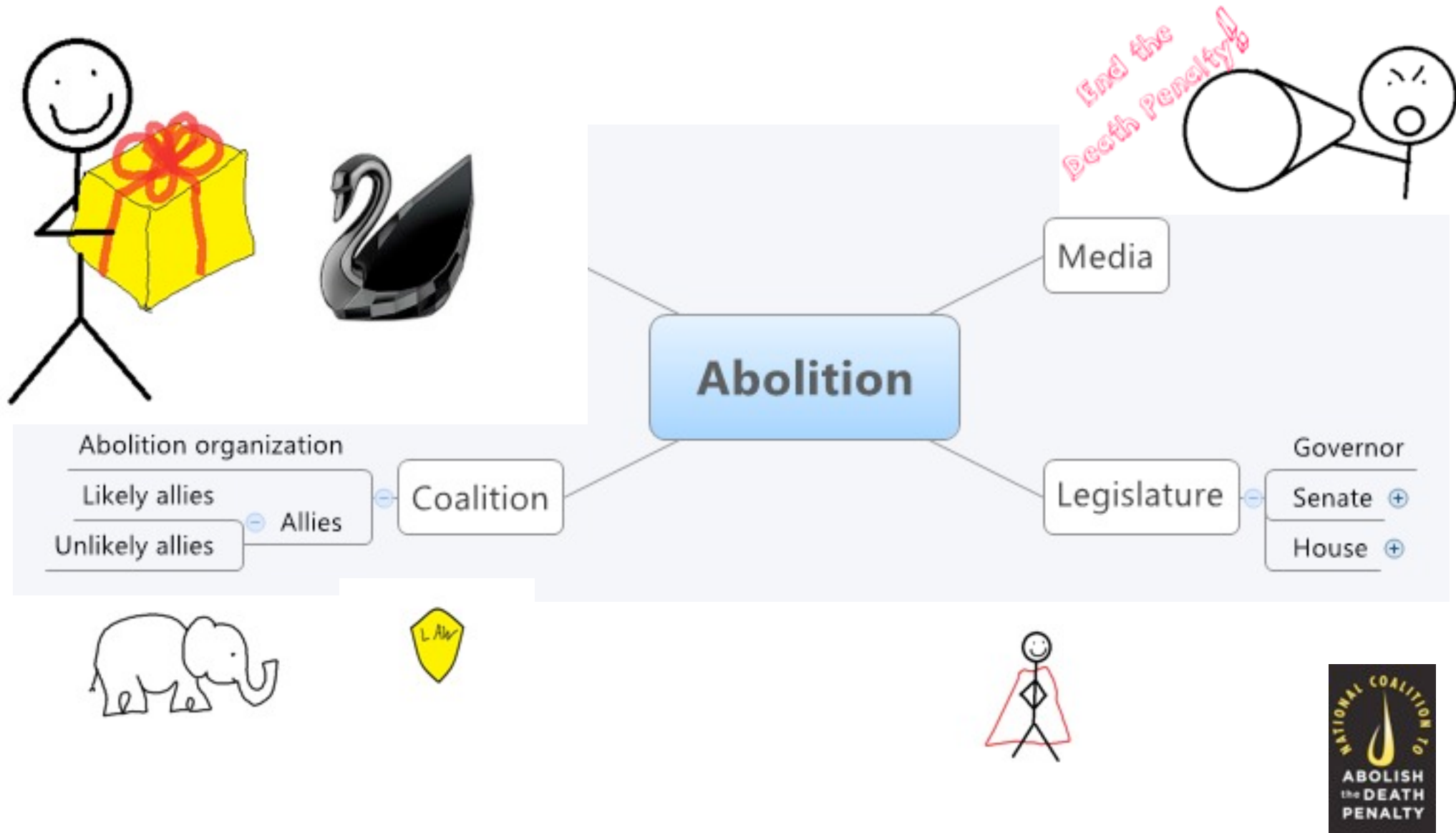
National Strategy on Abolition



National Strategy on Abolition



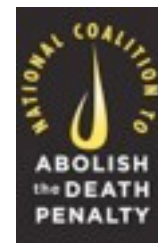
National Strategy on Abolition



Kansas!

A bit of history:

- The state's first death penalty law was abolished by the legislature on January 30, 1907; for that reason, January 30 is celebrated by KCADP as Abolition Day in Kansas.
- The state had no death penalty until 1935, when a new statute became law, likely impacted by criminals like Bonnie & Clyde and Pretty Boy Floyd roamed the Midwest. Hanging was the method of death.
- The last executions in Kansas took place on June 22, 1965
- In 1972 the Supreme Court struck down the death penalty since it could not agree on fair & humane
- In 1976 the Supreme Court determined death penalty was not unconstitutional if states followed certain procedural reforms including a two-phase trial and automatic appeals.
- It took Kansas 18 years – 1994 – before then Governor Joan Finey neither vetoed nor signed the bill
- Since July 1, 2004 the harshest sentence for murder under Kansas law is life in prison without parole.

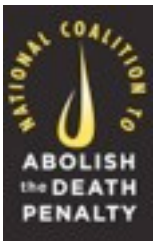


Kansas Law

The state of the death penalty in KS

The Law Now

- The law passed in 1994 by a slim margin and narrows the death penalty to murders in different categories and under certain circumstances
- **The law** prohibits death sentences for people under 18 at the time of the crime or who are mentally retarded.
- There are **two phases to the prosecution**, 1 to determine guilt or innocence, and 1 to decide penalty, considering mitigating or aggravating circumstances
- Upon conviction, the case is automatically reviewed by the Kansas Supreme Court.

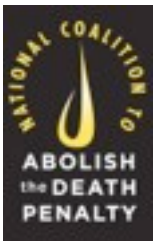


Kansas Process

Changing the Law In Kansas

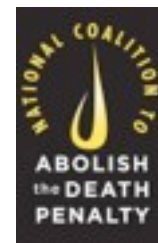
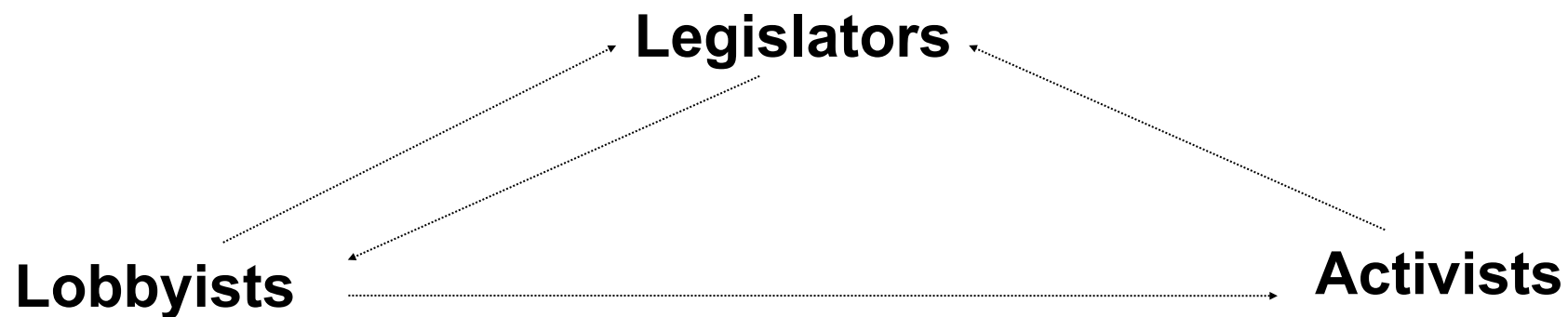
- Ending the death penalty in Kansas requires that the House and Senate pass a legislation to repeal with a simple majority:
 - **63 votes in the House**
 - **21 in the Senate**
- The Governor can veto the legislation but is not required to sign the bill for it to become law. The legislature can override a veto
- In 2010, the Kansas State Senate debated a bill to repeal the death penalty and it was narrowly defeated in a 20 – 20 tie vote

So, what is our road ahead?



The Kansas Strategy

Inside Outside Strategy

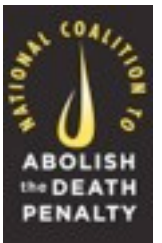


The Kansas Strategy

You

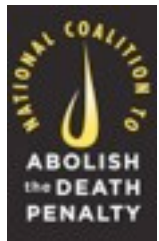
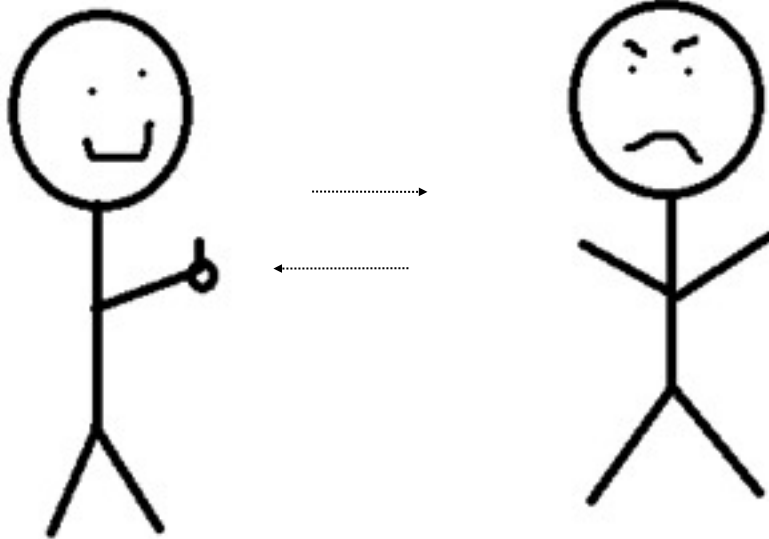


Legislator



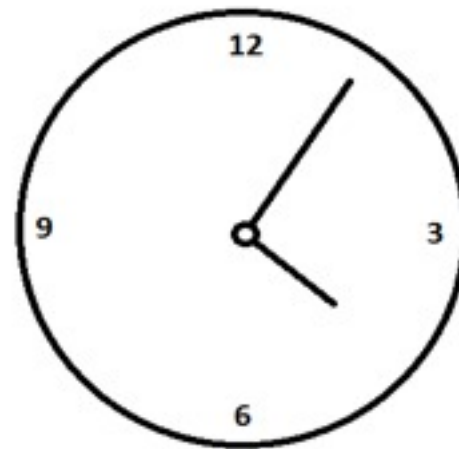
The Kansas Strategy

Lobbying takes TIME!



The Kansas Strategy

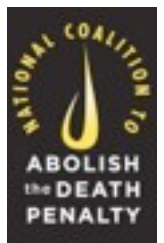
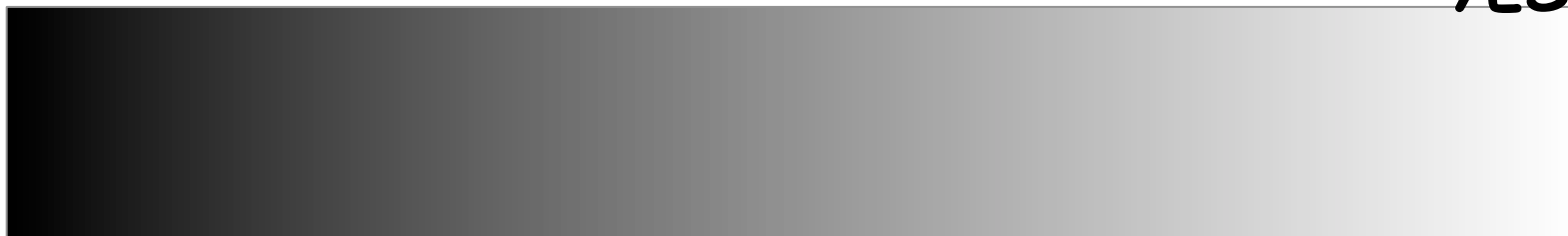
Time to determine where the legislator is and time to move them to YES



NO!!!

Maybe

YES!!

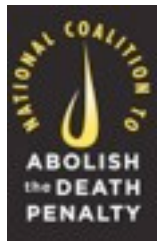


The Kansas Strategy

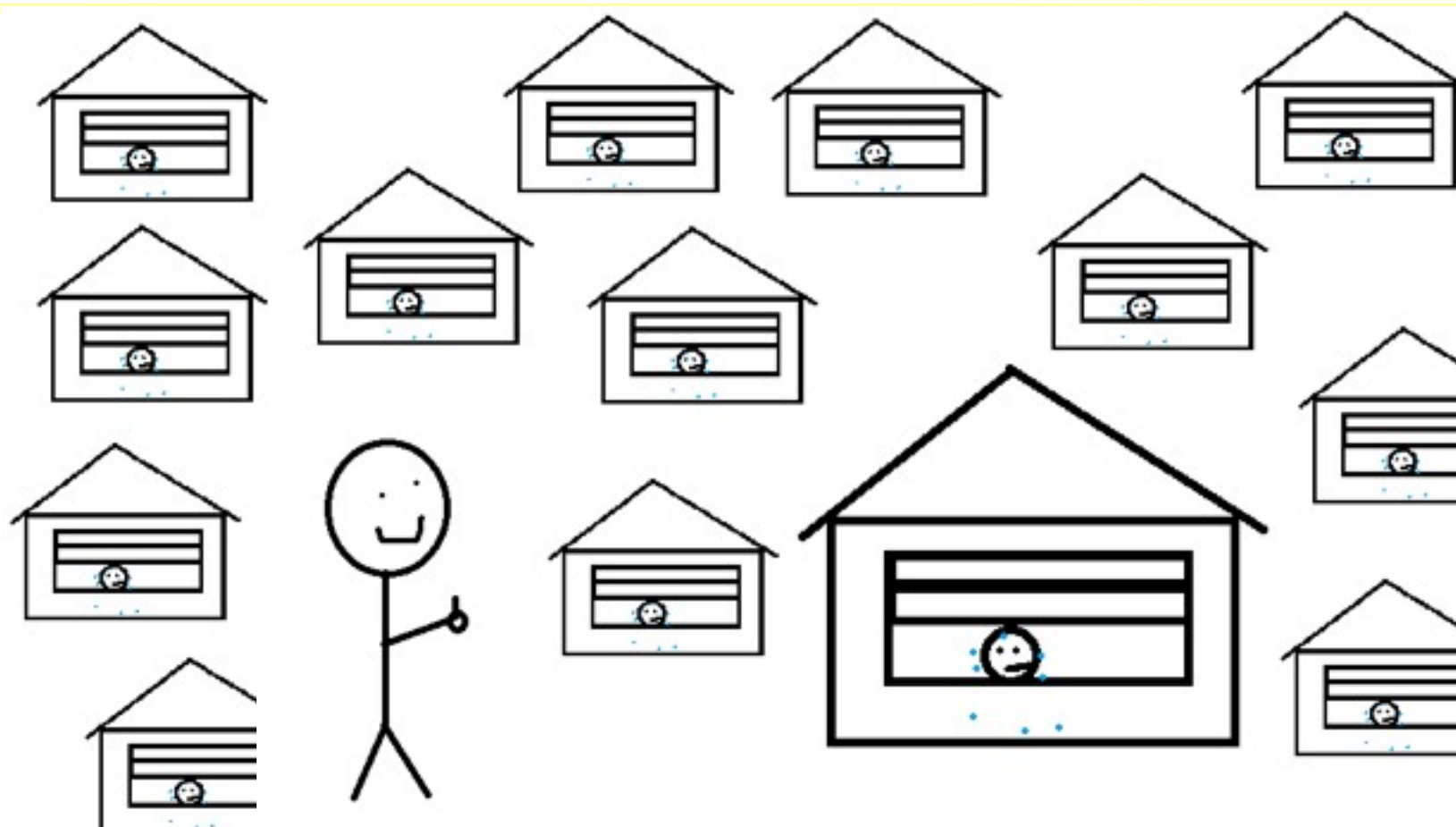
LOCAL
ACTIVIST WHO
LIVES IN
DISTRICT



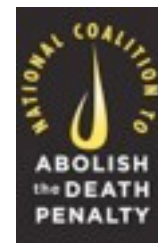
LEGISLATOR IN THEIR
OFFICE



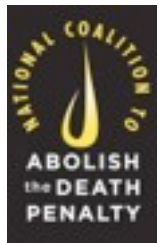
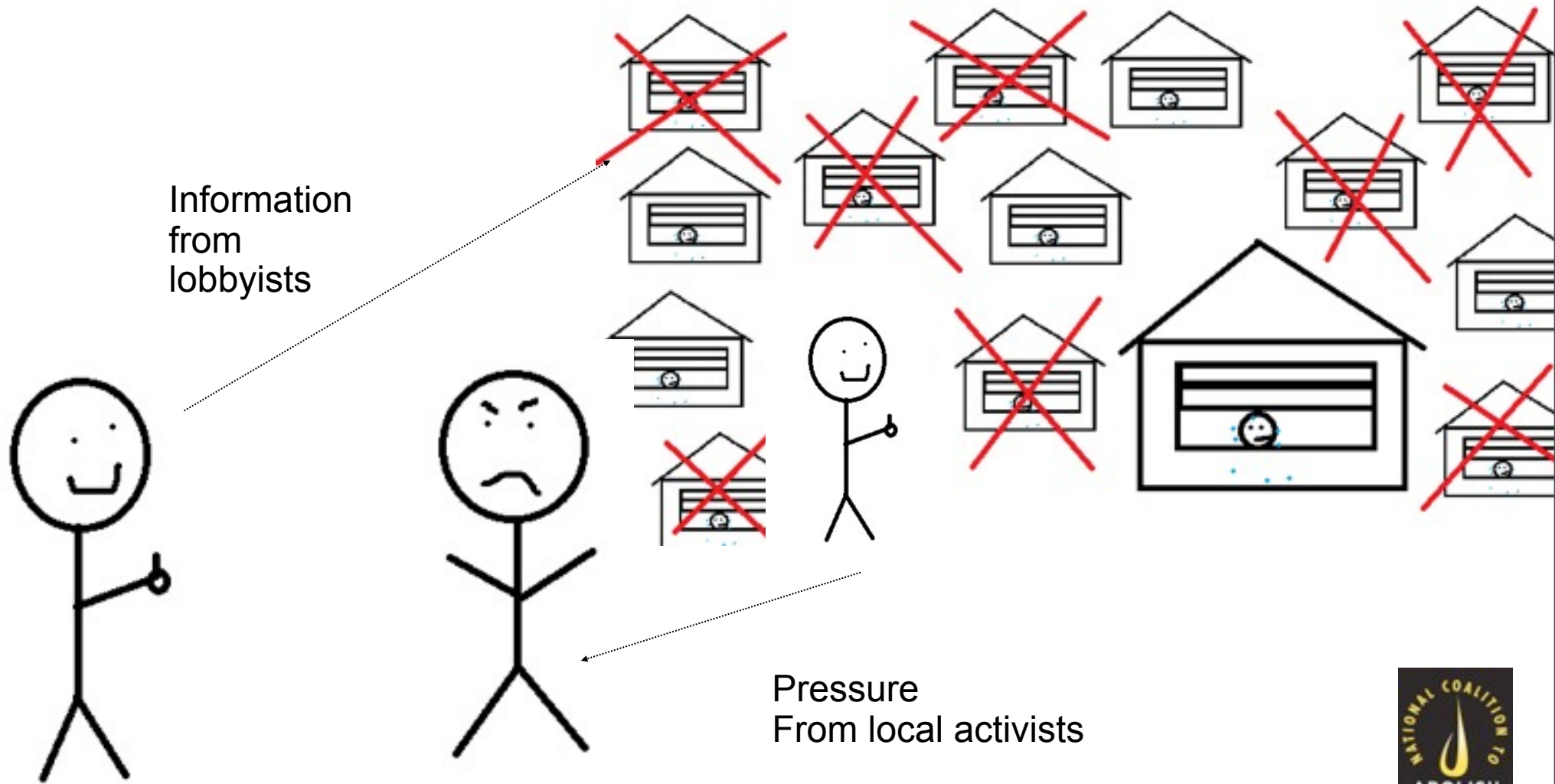
The Kansas Strategy



TOO MUCH WORK TO GET EVERY DISTRICT



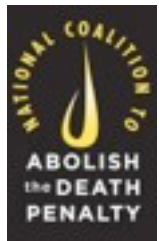
The Kansas Strategy



Getting Your Points Across!

Repetition, repetition, repetition.....repetition....

- What's up with the number 3?
- And how about the “Rule of Seven”?

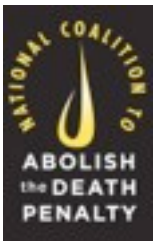


Kansas Messaging

What Moves Kansans?

Areas of messaging that can be effective in Kansas:

- Preventing victims' families from reliving trauma
- Ensure just application of the law to every case
- Protect innocent people from being executed for crimes they did not commit
- Not a deterrent (lower crime rates in states without the dp)



Replacing the death penalty will ensure that the law is justly and uniformly applied to every case. The death penalty is used so inconsistently that justice is different for each victim's family.

- The likelihood of a person receiving a death sentence varies depending on where they live, their economic status, their gender or their racial/ethnic background.
- In Kansas, half of the 14 death sentences since 1994 have been handed down in one county: Sedgwick. A similar crime committed in another part of the state is far less likely to receive a death sentence.
- The death penalty only addresses part of the problem--punishing a few individuals in the aftermath of a crime. The high costs of death penalty cases actually divert needed resources from crime prevention and victims' services.

The death penalty only prolongs the pain and trauma of losing a loved one for the families of murder victims.

- Non-death penalty cases are usually settled at the initial trial, while death penalty appeals typically last over a decade. A life without parole sentence begins as soon as the victims' families leave the courtroom.
- The death penalty ignores the real needs of victims' families, diverting essential resources from critical services like grief counseling and support. These services are sorely lacking in Kansas.

We Should Protect Kansans By Replacing The Death Penalty With Life Without The Possibility Of Parole.

This Will Keep Kansans Safe From Violent Criminals Without Risking The Harmful Effects Of The Death Penalty

Despite the best intentions, mistakes can and will happen. In a death penalty case, even one small mistake can risk executing an innocent person.

- Since 1973, 140 people nationwide have been exonerated because new evidence came to light after they were sentenced to die for a crime they did not commit.
- Mistakes happen in Kansas cases. Four death sentences have been overturned by the Kansas Supreme Court due to errors made during trials.
- In 2002, Eddie Lowery, who had been wrongfully convicted of rape in 1982, was exonerated by DNA evidence. In 2010, The City of Manhattan and Riley County settled a \$7.5 million civil suit for his wrongful conviction.

The death penalty does not prevent violent crime from happening in Kansas. Death penalty cases can cost up to 70% more than non-death penalty cases, diverting scarce resources from crime prevention or victims' services to focus on punishing a few individuals.

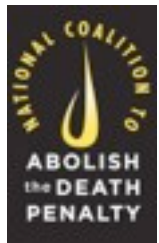
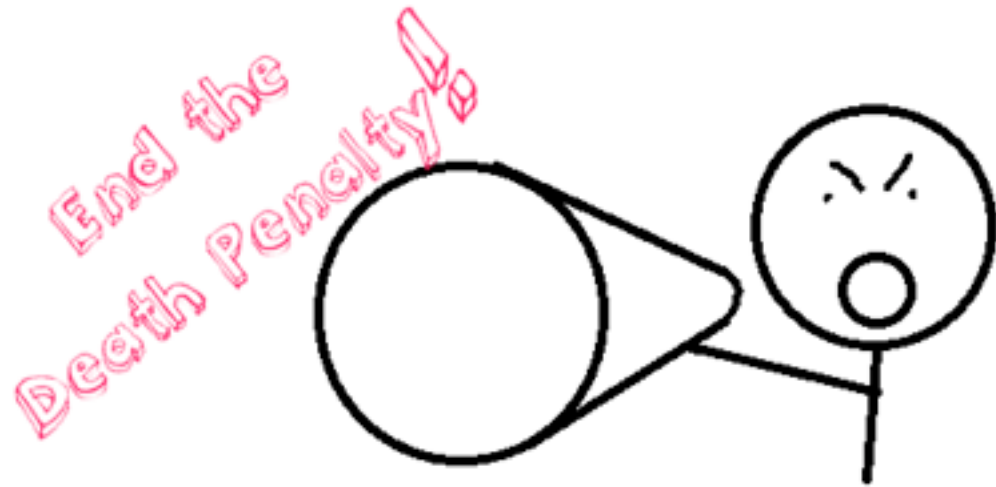
- Law enforcement officials recognize that the death penalty is not a deterrent to crime. Surveys show they prefer funds be spent by adding police or reducing drug abuse.
- A key study found that the costs of the death penalty are covered primarily by increasing taxes and cutting services like police and highway funding.
- States that have replaced the death penalty with life without parole have lower violent crime rates than states with the death penalty. In New Jersey, the murder rate dropped two years in a row after the death penalty was replaced.

Outreach to Policymakers

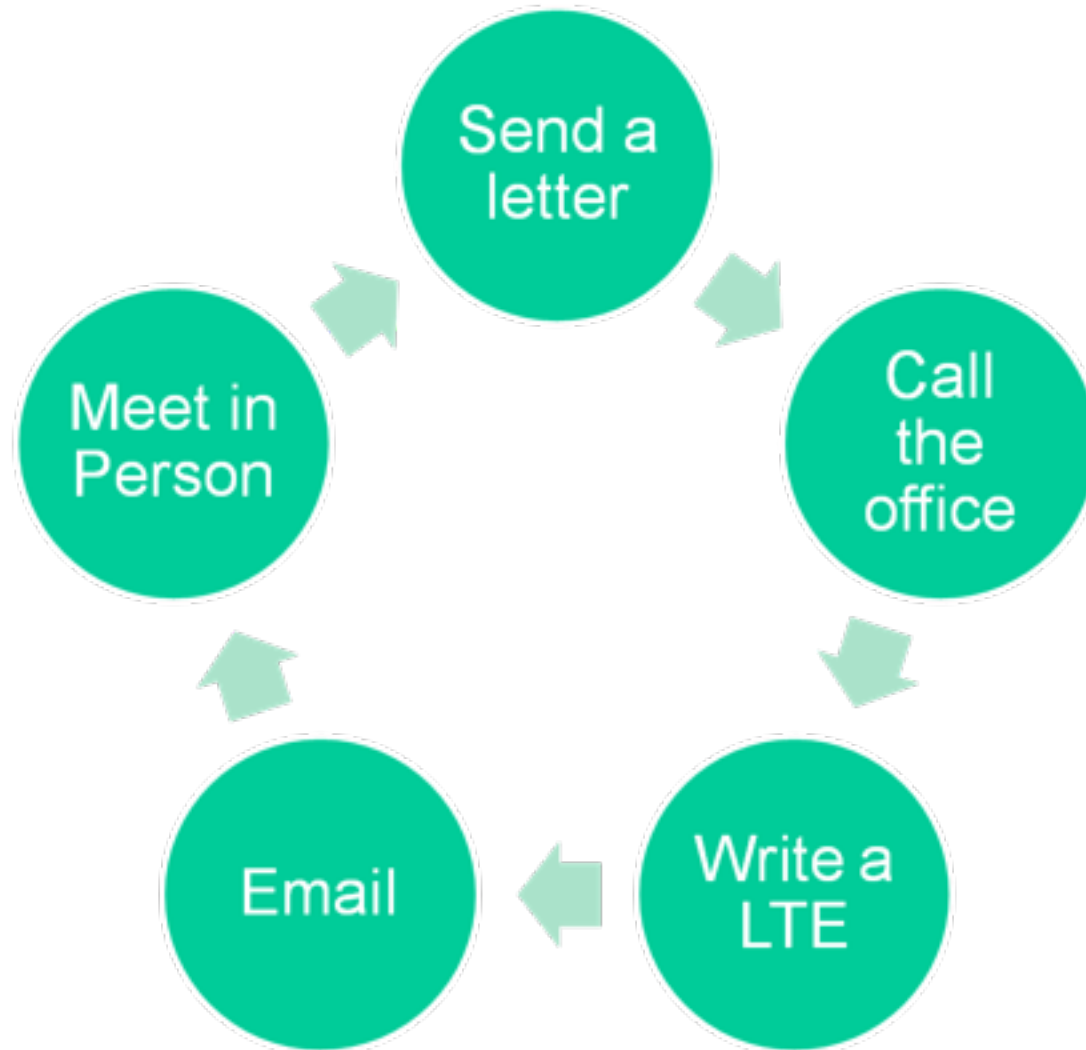
The Who and the How!

Approaching policymakers:

- What do we know?
- What matters?
- Who matters?
- Avoiding the edge!



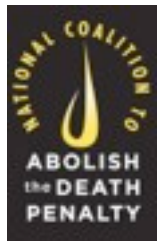
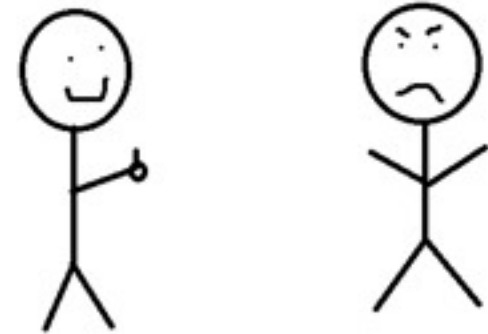
Communications Vehicles



Outreach to Others

Approaching opinion-makers and activists:

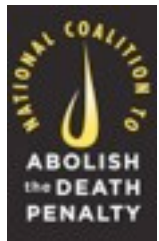
- Who do I know that can help?
- How might each help?
- How do I set priorities?
- How do I decide my method of contact?
- What is the “ask”?
- How do I follow up?
- Who needs to know what?



Next Steps

Make your plan

- Do I know what I need to know to help?
- If not, where do I go for the assistance I need?
- What's my message or messages?
- What is the best vehicle for communicating?
- What information should I relay and who needs to know?
- What else can I or others I know do to help?



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