

CENTRE FOR COMPARATIVE AND PUBLIC LAW (CCPL)
&
ASIAN INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL LAW (AIIFL)
FACULTY OF LAW, UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG

**The Death Penalty:
A Crisis in Human Rights?**

Friday, 26 September 2003, 3:00 – 5:00 p.m.

Reception following at 5:00 p.m.

Council Chamber, 8/F Meng Wah Complex, University of Hong Kong

Critics of the death penalty argue that it fails to deter crime and cannot be administered fairly. Nonetheless, the death penalty is still widely used, particularly in China and the United States. China's use of the death penalty is especially controversial, due to the lack of procedural safeguards. However, the American Bar Association has also deemed it a 'crisis' in the American justice system, not only because of the large number of people awaiting execution but also because of the lack of competent attorneys representing defendants in capital cases.

The speakers will discuss certain myths surrounding the death penalty, the risk of errors in conviction, and the difficulty in securing competent representation for post-conviction appeals. The seminar will also consider the impact of international law and the human rights movement on the campaign to abolish the death penalty. Ms. Robin Maher will also comment on her recent trip to Beijing and Shanghai, where she participated in programmes on reform of the death penalty and the role of defense lawyers in the United States.

Speakers:

Professor Jerome Cohen, School of Law, New York University

Ms. Robin Maher, Director, ABA Death Penalty Representation Project, American Bar Association

2 CPD points are available. There is an administrative fee of HK\$500 for attendees requiring 2 CPD points. Admission is free to all attendees who do not require CPD credits.

Registration Form – 26 September 2003

please fax to 2549-8495 to reserve a place

Title: _____ First Name: _____ Surname: _____

Company: _____ Position: _____

Address: _____

Tel: _____ Fax: _____ Email: _____

Please tick if you require Hong Kong Law Society ; New York Bar; California Bar CPD points and send a cheque to the address below payable to "University of Hong Kong". Fee is non-refundable.

RSVP: Ms. Flora Leung, Faculty of Law, The University of Hong Kong, 4/F KK Leung Building,
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