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- **Further news:** Bosnia / Brazil / China / CPT / Ethics / India / Israel / Jordan / Sudan / Thailand / USA / Zimbabwe
- **Awards** Canadian HIV/AIDS Legal Network awards
- **Publications**

Amnesty International reports & statements

See the following press releases which are also available at: <http://web.amnesty.org/news/engindex>.

- 19 September [Guatemala: Legitimacy on the line: human rights and the 2003 elections](#) AMR 34/055/2003
- 19 September [India: Limited and dangerous proposals to reform the criminal justice](#) ASA 20/026/2003
- 18 September [Eritrea: Continued detention of prisoners of conscience and new arrests of members of religious groups](#) AFR 64/004/2003
- 17 September [Viet Nam: Refugee Monk's arrest -- a mockery of justice](#) ASA 41/030/2003
- 16 September [Algeria: No more promises but deeds](#) MDE 28/008/2003
- 15 September [Zimbabwe: Government's closure of independent newspaper gags press freedom](#) AFR 46/028/2003 (see also story below)
- 12 September [International Criminal Court's Trust Fund: Amnesty International welcomes the election of a Board of Directors](#) IOR 30/007/2003
- 12 September [Japan: Secret execution of a 42 year-old mentally-ill man - perpetuating a harsh, and arbitrary practice](#) ASA 22/003/2003
- 12 September [Nepal: National Human Rights Commission's findings must be published](#) ASA 31/031/2003
- 12 September [Rwanda: President Kagame's inauguration - an opportunity for strengthening human rights protection](#) AFR 47/013/2003

Other news

Bosnia - mass grave. The BBC reports (19 September) that forensic scientists say they have discovered the remains of almost 500 people in a mass grave in eastern Bosnia. It is reported to be the largest mass grave yet found. See <http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/europe/3120772.stm>

Brazil - prisons. The Brazilian Justice Minister, Marcio Thomaz Bastos, has called for a complete reform of the country's prison system which, according to the BBC, he labelled a disaster (9 September). <http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/world/americas/3091830.stm>

China - police. Chinese police have been told they can no longer torture prisoners for confessions, Chinese state media reported, according to the *Daily Telegraph* (UK), 11 September. See: <http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/main.jhtml?xml=/news/2003/09/11/wchin11.xml&sSheet=/news/2003/09/11/ixworld.html>

CPT standards. The Committee for the Prevention of Torture has published an updated version of its "standards" -- the substantive sections of CPT general reports (15 September). See: <http://www.cpt.coe.int/en/docsstandards.htm>. The CPT's 13th general report, published 10 September is available at: <http://www.cpt.coe.int/en/annual/press/2003-09-10-eng.htm>. It includes standards on the deportation of foreign nationals by air.

Ethics - Declaration of Helsinki. The *Lancet* and *BMJ* report (20 September) that the World Medical Association has deferred adoption of the revised Declaration of Helsinki on research involving human subjects. See: <http://www.thelancet.com/journal/vol362/iss9388/full/llan.362.9388.news.27251.1>; <http://bmj.bmjournals.com/cgi/content/full/327/7416/642-e>

India - prenatal sex checks. The Indian authorities have been ordered by the Supreme Court to enforce laws designed to stop the abortion of female foetuses, reports the BBC. See: 'India confronts foetal sex checks' (11 September)
http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/world/south_asia/3097604.stm

Israel/Occupied Territories - delayed obstetric care. *Haaretz* reports (12 September) on the case of a Palestinian woman forced to give birth at a road block. See:
<http://www.haaretz.com/hasen/spages/338937.html>

Jordan - "honour" crimes. The Jordanian parliament has rejected a bill to increase penalties against men who commit "honour" crimes. See BBC (8 September): http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/world/middle_east/3088828.stm; the following day, two women were hacked to death by their brothers for reason of "honour"; see BBC 10 September: ; http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/world/middle_east/3097728.stm and http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/middle_east/3094736.stm. See also the Gendercide Watch web-site: http://www.gendercide.org/case_honour.html

Sudan - FGM. Sudan will tighten its law on female genital mutilation, reports the *BMJ* (13 September)
<http://bmj.bmjournals.com/cgi/content/full/327/7415/580-c>

Thailand - death penalty. The Thai government has said that it will implement a policy of lethal injection executions from 19 October 2003, reports the *Bangkok Post*, 8 September. See:
http://www.bangkokpost.com/080903_News/08Sep2003_news06.html

USA - execution. AP reports that the first white man executed in Texas for the murder of a black person was put to death earlier in September. Since executions resumed in the USA in 1977, only around 1% of executions have involved white perpetrators and black victims. See <http://news.mysanantonio.com/story.cfm?xla=saen&xlb=180&xlc=1055228>. (Associated Press, 15 September)

USA - death penalty. For an update on the American Bar Association's appeal for a death penalty moratorium (and related information) see: <http://www.abanet.org/moratorium/reportsandlaw.html>

USA - prisoners sue over 'torture'. Associated Press reports (12 September) that 22 prisoners in Florida are suing the authorities over the use of pepper spray and tear gas.
http://abcnews.go.com/wire/US/ap20030912_1588.html

Zimbabwe - torture. According to the *Daily News* (10 Sept) a Zimbabwean man is suing a police officer for his torture. See:
http://www.dailynews.co.zw/articles/2003/09/10/nat_10092003_474911.htm. (The *Daily News* was shut down by the police on 12 September but a court ruled that the newspaper could resume publishing. See: IRIN news (18 September): <http://www.irinnews.org/report.asp?ReportID=36693>)

Awards

Canada/South Africa. The AIDS Law Project at Wits University, Johannesburg, is the recipient of the 2003 international human rights award of the Canadian HIV/AIDS Legal Network.

<http://www.aidslaw.ca/Maincontent/awards/internationalrecipient2003.htm>. The national award was given to Lawrence Stocking, a Canadian prison activist who died in 1998.

Publications

Lancet Health and Human Rights:

Thorny issues in the ethics of AIDS vaccine trials by Seth Berkley

http://www.thelancet.com/journal/vol362/iss9388/full/lan.362.9388.health_and_human_rights.27205.1

Provision of treatment in HIV-1 vaccine trials in developing countries by Daniel W Fitzgerald, and colleagues

http://www.thelancet.com/journal/vol362/iss9388/full/lan.362.9388.health_and_human_rights.27206.1

HIV-1 care in resource-poor settings: a view from Haiti by Joia S Mukherjee

http://www.thelancet.com/journal/vol362/iss9388/full/lan.362.9388.health_and_human_rights.27207.1

Not if but how? Caring for HIV-1 vaccine trial participants in South Africa by T Tucker, C Slack

http://www.thelancet.com/journal/vol362/iss9388/full/lan.362.9388.health_and_human_rights.27208.1

Other publications

"The Truth About Torture" -- an interview with Mark Bowden, author of "The Dark Art of Interrogation" which appears in the current paper edition of *Atlantic Monthly* (October 2003). See:

<http://www.theatlantic.com/unbound/interviews/int2003-09-11.htm>

Belviso M et al. Positional Asphyxia: Reflection on 2 Cases. *American Journal of Forensic Medicine and Pathology* 2003; 24(3):292-297.

Cohen S. *The Wrong Men: America's Epidemic of Wrongful Death-Row Convictions*, New York: Carroll & Graf, October 2003, 256pp. See:

<http://www.pgw.com/catalog/catalog.asp?DBKey=99&CatalogKey=192921&Action=View&&Index=Page&Book=213453&Order=30>

Editorial. Have the police hijacked our DNA? *Lancet* 2003; 362:927.

http://www.thelancet.com/journal/vol362/iss9388/full/lan.362.9388.editorial_and_review.27247.1

Grein T et al. Mortality among displaced former UNITA members and their families in Angola: a retrospective cluster survey. *BMJ* 2003;327:650 (20 September)

<http://bmj.bmjournals.com/cgi/content/full/327/7416/650>

Hillman H. Electrical devices used by prison officers, police and security forces. *Medicine, Conflict and Survival*. 2003 Jul-Sep;19(3):197-204. hillmanh@breathemail.net

Horton R. Doctors in conflict: understanding Israel's despair. *Lancet* 2003; 362: 928-9

http://www.thelancet.com/journal/vol362/iss9388/full/lan.362.9388.editorial_and_review.27243.1

Kahn J. The ethics of organ transplantation for prisoners. *Semin Dial*. 2003 Sep-Oct;16(5):365-6.

Martin B, Wright S. Countershock: mobilizing resistance to electroshock weapons. *Medicine, Conflict and Survival* 2003 Jul-Sep;19(3):205-22. bmartin@uow.edu.au. A slightly modified version of this paper is available at: <http://www.uow.edu.au/arts/sts/bmartin/pubs/03mcs.html>

MacMillan HL, Wathen CN. Violence against women: integrating the evidence into clinical practice. *Canadian Medical Association Journal* (16 September) 2003; 169 (6):570-1.

<http://www.cmaj.ca/cgi/content/full/169/6/570>

Santiago-Delpin EA. Ethical dilemmas: transplantation in prisoners and the mentally disabled. *Transplant Proc.* 2003 Aug;35(5):2057-9.

Taket A et al. Routinely asking women about domestic violence in health settings. *BMJ* 2003;327:673-676 (20 September) <http://bmj.bmjournals.com/cgi/content/full/327/7416/673>

UK Foreign and Commonwealth Office. *Human Rights Annual Report 2003*. (18 September) <http://www.fco.gov.uk/servlet/Front?pagename=OpenMarket/Xcelerate/ShowPage&c=Page&cid=1063631521830>. See *BBC* report: http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/middle_east/3121324.stm

Wathen CN, MacMillan HL. Prevention of violence against women: Recommendation statement from the Canadian Task Force on Preventive Health Care. *CMAJ* 2003;169 582-584. <http://www.cmaj.ca/cgi/content/full/169/6/582>

Book reviews:

Jerome S. Bruner. Do not pass Go. *New York Review of Books*, 25 September. Review of: *The Culture of Control: Crime and Social Order in Contemporary Society* by David Garland. University of Chicago Press, 307 pp.

Economist. Review of *Edison & the Electric Chair: A Story of Light and Death* by Mark Essig. Published by Walker & Company; 368 pages; To be published in Britain by Sutton Publishing in November. (18 September: http://www.economist.com/printedition/displayStory.cfm?Story_ID=2067696)

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