Dear reader,

We’ve got many interesting research updates to announce below on topics ranging from the history of the death penalty to the drug treatment vs. incarceration debate to San Francisco’s new law requiring retailers to post cell phone radiation levels in their stores.

1. Sponsorships Now Accepted and Sought on ProCon.org

Due to fundraising difficulties, ProCon.org has for the first time in its history accepted paid sponsorships. The first two sponsors are 800LoanMart, a car title lender, and Freeman & Sear, an ancient coin and antiquities dealer. We are grateful for our sponsors’ support of our efforts to promote critical thinking, education, and informed citizenship.

If you or an organization you know is interested in sponsoring ProCon.org (month to month; no long-term agreements needed), then please click here or contact Leslie.

Not only will the sponsor organization support a great cause but they will showcase their company to many thousands of ProCon.org readers.

2. Librarian Blog Writes Glowing Review of ProCon.org

The Centered Librarian, an award-winning librarian blog, wrote a glowing review of ProCon.org today.

If you are a librarian or teacher, please take our 2-minute survey to tell us what you think about ProCon.org.

3. Death Penalty: NEW Historical Timeline of the Death Penalty

See the illustrated history of the death penalty. Read about the first recorded execution in the British American Colonies in 1608, the switch from public to private hangings in 1833, Thomas Edison electrocuting animals in 1887 (including the electrocution of an elephant in 1903), the US Supreme Court ruling the death penalty unconstitutional on June 29, 1972, the June 18, 2010 execution in Utah by firing squad, and much more.

4. Traffic and Media References to ProCon.org Increases Dramatically in First 6 Months

- The first half of 2010 brought 2,483,607 sessions to ProCon.org websites - a 71% increase over the same period in 2009.
- We also received 61 media references in the first six months of 2010 - a 144% increase over our 25 media references in the first six months of 2009.

5. Cell Phones: NEW Cell Phone Radiation

Subscribe to our email list
On June 22, 2010, the San Francisco Board of Supervisors voted 9-1 to make the city the nation’s first to require that retailers post cell phone radiation levels prominently in their stores. To find out how much radiation your cell phone emits, check out our updated chart on cell phone radiation levels.

6. Newly Updated Pro-Con Questions:

a. ACLU: Should incarceration be substituted with treatment for drug offenders?
b. Medical Marijuana: Does marijuana use cause lasting schizophrenia, psychosis, or other mental disorders?
c. ACLU: Is the ACLU overzealous in its campaign against religious display on public property?

7. Please help support us in any one of eight different ways today. There are seven ways to donate or you can now sponsor ProCon.org (see #1 above).

All supporters are recognized on the ProCon.org Donors page (unless you prefer anonymity) and, if you donate $100 or more, we'll send you with our thanks, one of our cool ProCon.org caps.

As always, thank you so much for your support and continued interest in the nonpartisan research at ProCon.org.

Sincerely,

Kamy Akhavan
Managing Editor, ProCon.org
"Promoting Critical Thinking, Education, and Informed Citizenship”