

A close-up photograph of a child's face, focusing on the eye. A large, dark fly is perched on the child's eye, its legs and wings visible. The child's skin is light, and the background is blurred, showing what appears to be a wooden structure. The overall mood is somber and disturbing.

Max Klim

# The youngest criminals sentenced to death

Executions of children and  
adolescents from  
10 to 17 years

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to death. Executions of children  
and adolescents from 10 to 17 years**

«Издательские решения»

**Klim M.**

The youngest criminals sentenced to death. Executions of children and adolescents from 10 to 17 years / M. Klim — «Издательские решения»,

ISBN 978-5-44-901630-0

What could such a terrible young criminals do that they were sentenced to such severe punishment? It's not always a murder. It is good that in many countries there are moratoria on such executions and similar occurrences are less and less common. 15 sad stories from all about juvenile offenders sentenced to death. There are girls.

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ISBN 978-5-4490-1630-0

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The death penalty is a terrible and incorrigible punishment, for serious crimes. Punishment is terrible and irreparable. In many countries, including Russia, a moratorium has been imposed on such measures. But the United States of America continues to practice executions. In the early eighties in Texas, for this purpose, the first lethal injection was introduced.



Now the cases of such punishments have decreased, the judicial machine is leaning towards more humane methods under the pressure of the public, but a few hundred years ago many of the accused would not have died. Including children. The history knows about a thousand court cases, where the verdict was pronounced in favor of the death penalty, and the sentenced turned out to be a minor. As in cases with adult criminals, sometimes their guilt was undeniably proven, but sometimes a whole series of questions remained to the investigation.

Some of these heartbreaking cases are given below.

**George Stinney – an African American who was at the wrong time in the wrong place**

A fourteen-year-old black boy was seen in the company of two white girls. Children just picked flowers. But soon the bodies of the murdered girls were found with traces of beatings inflicted with metal objects.

George was detained by the police. Parents vainly tried to see him – it was forbidden. During the interrogations, pressure was exerted – as a result, the boy pleaded guilty. The jury ruled on the death penalty within a matter of ten minutes. By the way, there was not one African American among the jury.





The George family sought a review of the decision, but the appeal was rejected. Stinny finished his life in an electric chair. He was a child of short stature and a story is well known about the fact that he had to put a book under him to bring the sentence to execution.

Seventy years later, the defendant was found not guilty, the official report said the absence of a lawyer and the pressure on the adolescent by the investigation. There was also a lack of direct evidence. It is a pity that neither George nor his family from this statement is not easier.

### **Arkady Neiland is a fifteen-year-old killer with an ax**

The guy, as often happens in such cases, grew up not in the best conditions. From the orphanage, where he was identified at the age of twelve, he constantly ran away. He did not want to study Arkady categorically. The police knew the boy in the face from childhood. He was constantly involved in petty thefts, fights and hooligan antics.

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