

Life Without Parole:

An American Human
Rights Crisis

Despite popular belief,
life without parole
(LWOP) is not a
“humane” alternative to
state-sanctioned
execution.





It is simply another
form of the
death penalty...

...death by
incarceration.



It exposes our society's concealed beliefs that
and that it is reasonable and just to forever
redemption and personal transformation are not
define an individual by his worst act.
possible for all human beings...



There are over 53,000 people serving LWOP in the United States.

And over 44,000 people are serving “de facto LWOP,” sentences that exceed the human lifespan.





In contrast, in Europe there are fewer than 100 people serving LWOP, a number too small to fill even one typical American prison yard.



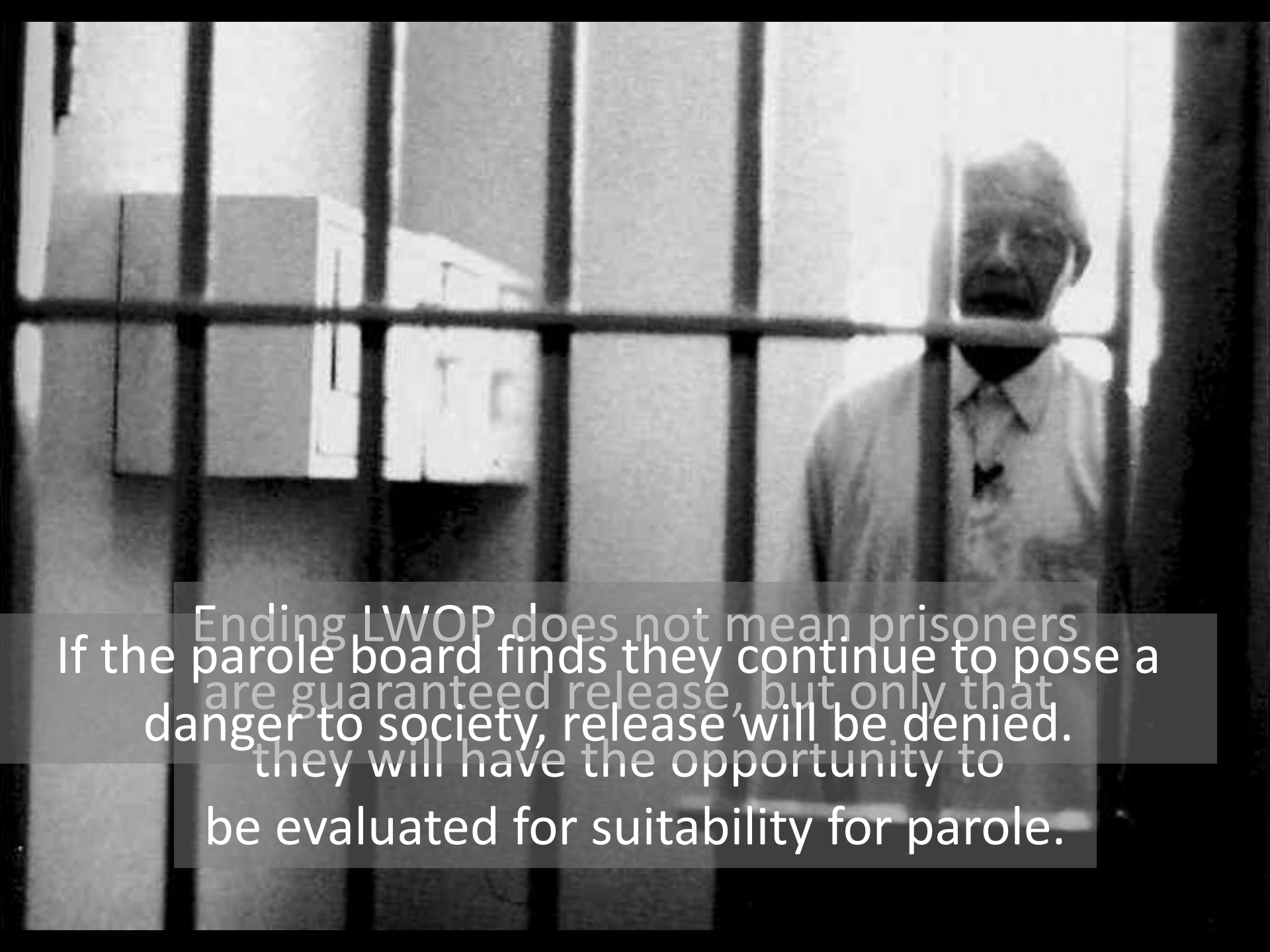
The European Court of Human Rights has held LWOP to be cruel and degrading punishment, and a violation of human rights because of its complete denial of hope.



As a “covenant with the past,” LWOP denies the possibility of redemption and restoration.



Pope Francis has openly condemned LWOP, calling it a “hidden death penalty.” The Vatican Criminal Code has abolished all life sentences.



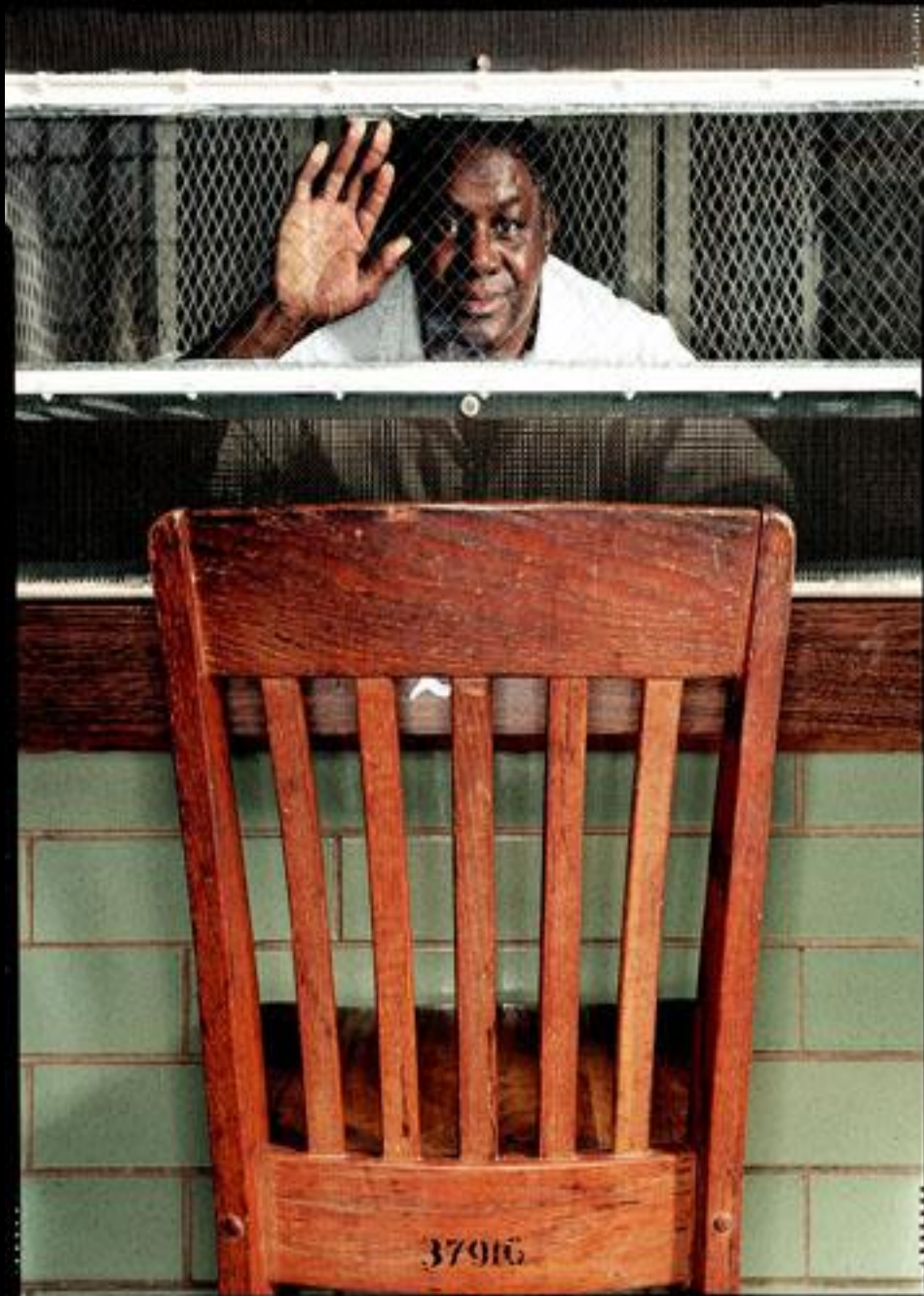
Ending LWOP does not mean prisoners
If the parole board finds they continue to pose a
are guaranteed release, but only that
danger to society, release will be denied.
they will have the opportunity to
be evaluated for suitability for parole.

Before
The United
the 1970's,
States has not
life without
always had
parole
such severe
sentences were
sentencing
virtually unknown.
policies.





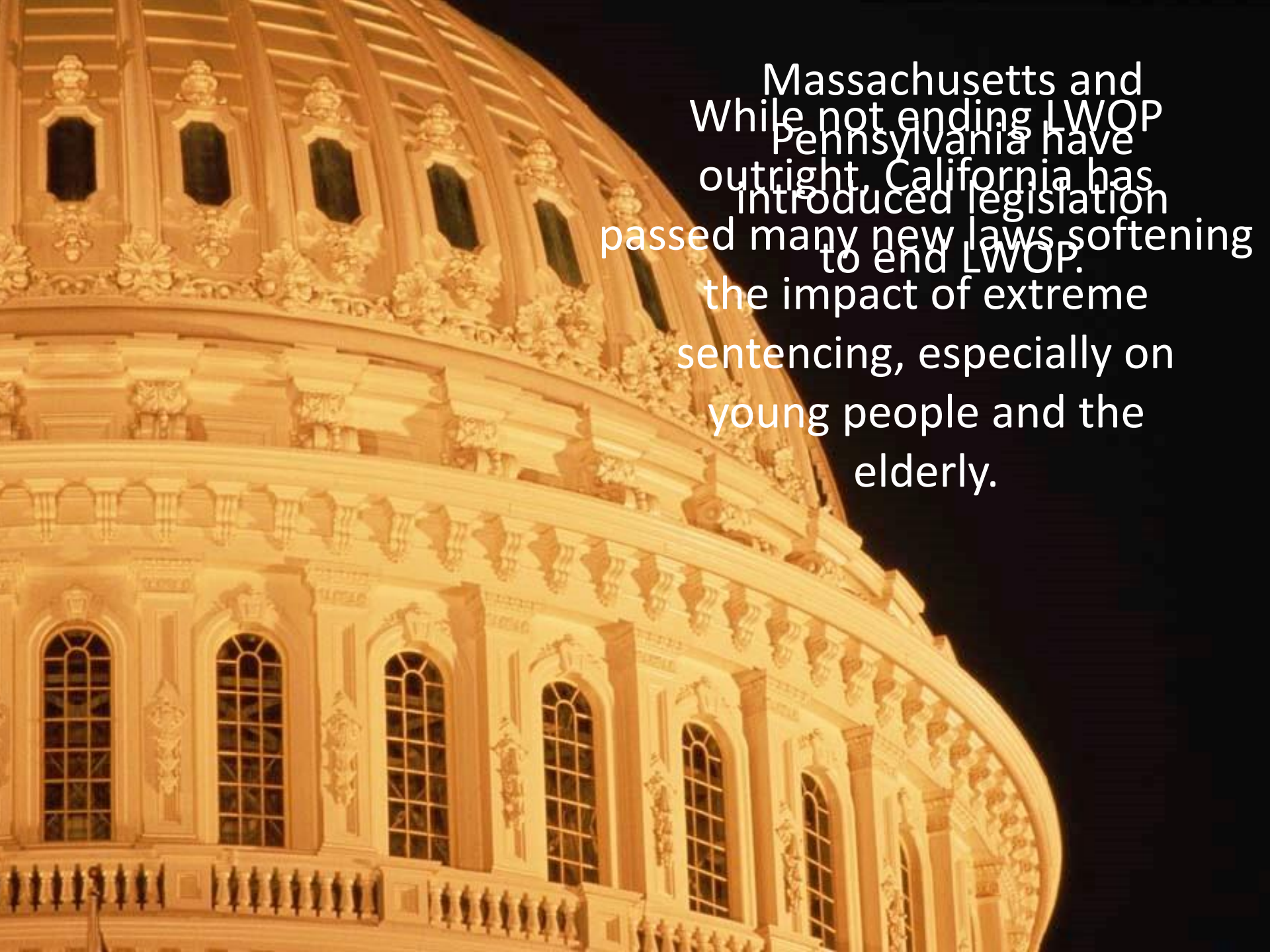
...which led to a
multitude of
politicians
focusing on
punishing
prisoners rather
than rehabilitating
them.
win more votes...



Studies have shown that prisoners such as those who have served over 20 years rarely reoffend, especially for a violent crime.



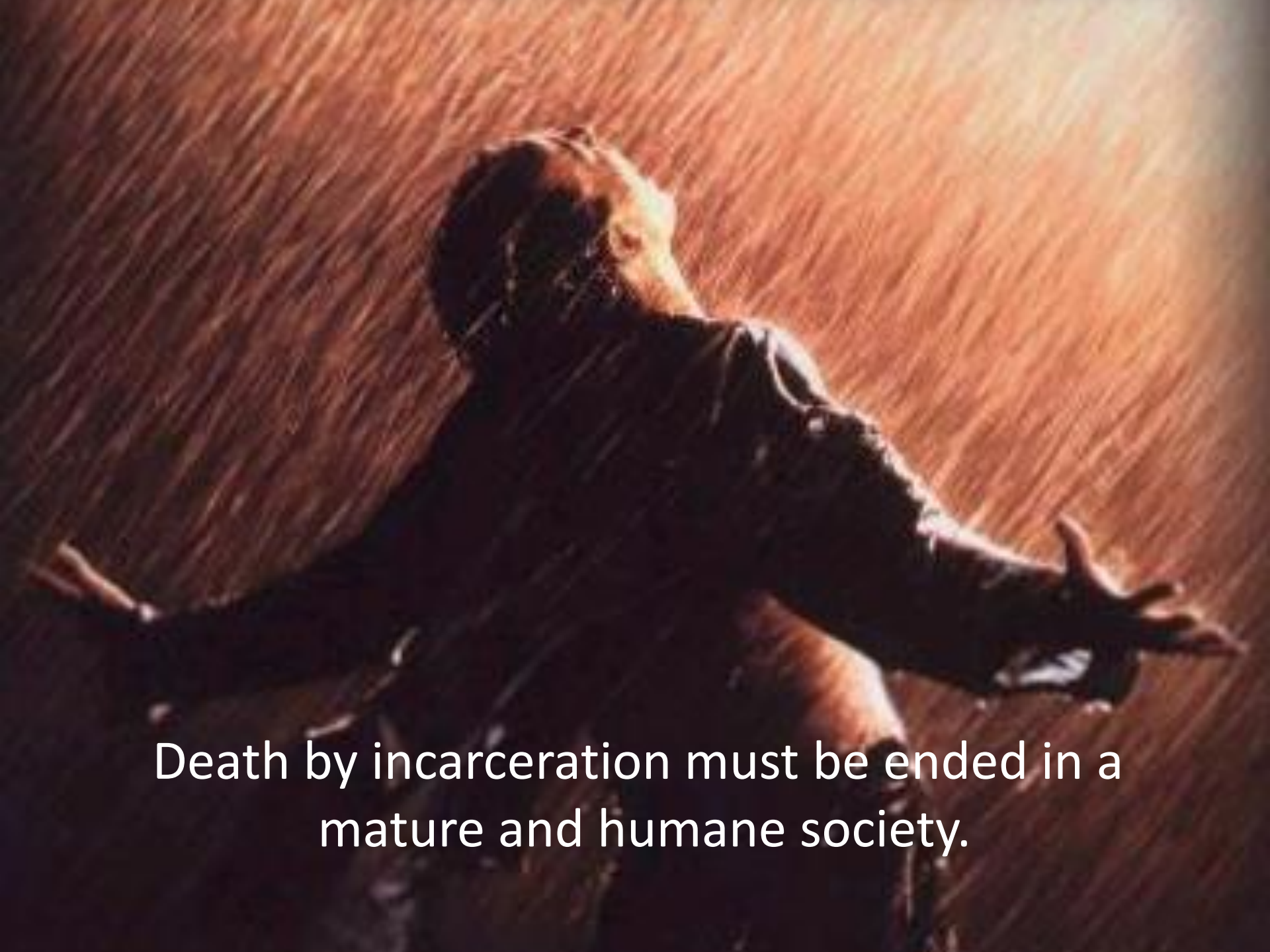
In recent years, just as given, a national movement has started, aiming to end like a MOE Parceration...



Massachusetts and
While not ending LWOP
Pennsylvania have
outright, California has
introduced legislation
passed many new laws softening
to end LWOP.
the impact of extreme
sentencing, especially on
young people and the
elderly.

...the voices of survivors and families of victims must be included as important partners in the conversation about ending LWOP.





Death by incarceration must be ended in a mature and humane society.

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