

Man Scalia mocked as murderer deserving of death penalty now exonerated by DNA

A North Carolina death row inmate [exonerated by DNA evidence on Tuesday](#) was once held up by [Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia](#) as an example of someone who deserved to die.

When the court declined to review an unrelated death row case out of Texas in 1994, Justice Harry A. Blackmun issued a dissenting opinion arguing that capital punishment is cruel and unusual, and therefore unconstitutional.

Scalia answered back with an opinion of his own:

“For example, the case of an 11-year-old girl raped by four men and then killed by stuffing her panties down her throat,” Scalia wrote in *Callins v. Collins*. “[How enviable a quiet death by lethal injection compared with that!](#)”

He was referring to Henry Lee McCollum, who at the time had already been on death row for 12 years. McCollum’s conviction was overturned on Tuesday when DNA evidence implicated another man in the case.

McCollum had been on death row for almost 30 years.

Read the full, original story: [Scalia once pushed death penalty for now-exonerated inmate Henry Lee McCollum](#)