

**ANTOINETTE BOSCO,
Connecticut
Mother of John Bosco, murdered
in Montana in 1993**

Antoinette Bosco's son John and his wife Nancy were murdered in their home by 18-year-old Joseph "Shadow" Clark, who is now serving a sentence of life in prison (he will be eligible for parole when he reaches the age of 60).

Toni Bosco is the author of *Choosing Mercy: A Mother of Murder Victims Pleads to End the Death Penalty*. She has spoken against the death penalty to audiences at high schools, colleges, human rights groups, and prisons. She was invited to present her position to the 2005 U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops and was asked to submit written testimony for a recent U.S. Senate hearing on "An Examination of the Death Penalty in the United States."

"When I got the news of the brutal murders. I wanted the killer dead. I wanted to kill him with my own hands. But that feeling also tormented me, for I had always been opposed to the death penalty. I felt now I was being tested on whether my values were permanent, or primarily based on human feelings and expediency. When it hits you personally, the anger and pain of your loss makes you want to tear apart that person who stole your loved one and your happiness. But does this do any good in the long run? And should we be in the business of killing people?"

In time, in spite of my grieving, which will always be a permanent state of life for me, I was able to grasp again that the state is no more justified in taking a life than is an individual."



Antoinette Bosco



John and Nancy Bosco

Links to more information:

<http://www.antoINETTEbosco.com/>

http://www.constitutionproject.org/pdf/BoscoTestimonySenate02_01_06.pdf