**Rationale for the Learning Object: “Comparing Lynching to Modern Day Capital Punishment”**

1. There are several reasons why we chose this image and lynching to discuss the death penalty in America. This image gives an outstanding detail into the essence of what lynching was and how it was perceived in the South. In David Garland’s book “Peculiar Institution: America’s Death Penalty in an Age of Abolition” one of his main arguments is how early twentieth century lynchings have shaped the development and continual use of the death penalty in America. He argues that the “social forms and political processes that enabled lynchings…have somehow persisted and continue to structure the modern death penalty’s deployment and utility” (35).
2. Students will be assessed based on their participation in classroom discussion during this objective. This will be a formative assessment. If needed, as a summative assessment, the teacher can incorporate a short answer question on a test to judge the students comprehension of the material. The teacher can also create a ven-diagram or chart for students to take notes on during the discussion.
3. This learning object should be used during a lesson on the death penalty. If you are teaching a class that does not cover this topic, then a great way to integrate it (and teach a controversial issue) is to use this during the study of turn of early twentieth century America, the American South, African American history, civil rights, or when discussing the eight amendment. These are only a few instances when this document could be used, I am sure there are many more where discussion of the death penalty could be proper. It will be accessible via the Curikki site and most likely on Mr. Sedgley’s, Mr. Fortner’s, or Mr. Panzano’s class website. It will be saved as a public document and can be found using any of the keywords listed on the document.
4. This learning object is of the highest relevance to any teacher teaching in the South, particularly in Florida, which had one of the highest numbers of lynchings of any state. However, lynching was a phenomena that terrorized America for decades, thus being relevant to any classroom discussing early twentieth century America. Garland does an excellent job of connecting lynching to the modern day death penalty in his book, and I recommend that teachers familiarize themselves with this text prior to teaching this objective. As stated previously, this objective can be linked with an endless number of topics allowing it to easily compliment other learning objectives online.