

**Wounds that do not bind: victim-based perspectives on the death penalty**, ed. by James R. Acker and David R. Karp with Jarrett B. Warshaw. [Carolina Academic](#), 2006. 453p bibl index ISBN [1594600805](#) pbk, \$40.00. Reviewed in 2007jan CHOICE.

These essays focus on the use of the death penalty for murder cases, from the perspective of co-victims--the relatives and friends of the person killed. The book begins with chapters written by co-victims and by the brother of an offender, focusing on the collateral damage resulting from the offender's acts and the need for victim restoration. Subsequent sections focus on legal issues related to the death penalty and victims, issues related to research focused on victimization and capital punishment, and policy implications. This manuscript is unique, exploring an area that has generally been neglected in both the scholarly and public press. Acker is a well-regarded scholar, and Karp effectively brings his defense attorney experiences to his present academic career. The academic chapters are well referenced and adequately indexed. There is limited use of charts, tables, and pictures. The book is well written with clear prose, within the reach of most readers. **Summing Up:** Recommended. Libraries serving the general public and departments of criminology, criminal justice, psychology, social work, or sociology. -- *R. T. Sigler, University of Alabama*