



320 S. Gramercy Pl., #101
Los Angeles, CA 90020
29 November 1992

Sr. Patricio Aylwin Azocar
Presidente de la Republica de Chile
Palacio de la Moneda
Santiago, Chile

Your Excellency:

I am writing to you regarding the case of JUAN DOMINGO SALVO ZUNIGA, a peasant whose death penalty sentence was confirmed by the Supreme Court recently. I urge you to exercise your power of clemency and commute this death sentence. Surely a sentence that does not put the government in the position of killing its own citizens would be more appropriate.

As a member of Amnesty International, I am opposed to the death penalty in all cases as a violation of human rights as proclaimed in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. It is surely an inhuman and degrading punishment. It seems to me that violence only begets violence and all of us must begin to work for a more peaceful world if we are to survive.

I hope that Chile will join the many countries around the world that have abolished the death penalty as a form of punishment. Needless to say, I am working hard to make this a reality in my own country also. Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely

Dr. Lucille Whalen
Dr. Lucille Whalen, Professor Emerita
State University of New York

cc: Patricio Silva
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