

BILL BABBITT, California
Brother of Manny Babbitt, executed
in California in 1999

Bill Babbitt's brother, Manny Babbitt, was executed in San Quentin prison in 1999 after being convicted of the murder of Leah Schendel, who suffered a heart attack after Manny broke into her home. Manny had served two tours of duty in Vietnam and had been diagnosed with Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder and Paranoid Schizophrenia.

Bill has testified against the death penalty before lawmakers in California, Massachusetts, and New Jersey, and his story has been told in several newspapers, including *The New York Times*, *The Boston Globe*, and *The Los Angeles Times*, and in books and film documentaries. He has been an active spokesperson against recent executions in California.

"The police promised me that Manny would get the help he needed. For the rest of my life I have to live with the fact that I turned my brother in and that led to his death. I wish we *had* been able to get Manny the help that he needed. I wish that as a society we would devote our resources to treating people like Manny instead of imposing the death penalty and creating more funerals, more grief, more tears."

Links to more information:

<http://www.pbs.org/kqed/onenight/stories/families/>

<http://www.deathpenaltyinfo.org/article.php?cid=17&did=394>

http://www.newhumanist.org.uk/printarticle.php?id=3_0_5_0_C



Bill Babbitt with his wife, Linda



Manny Babbitt

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