In 2006, Flinters University Law School graduate Kelly Tolepo spent three months working with Repeal Australia, volunteering through legal aid work to assist death row prisoners in Texas. She shares her experiences with Luke Stegemann.

The Quality of Mercy

Kelli Tolepo first heard mention of Repeal when doing a Criminal Law project at Griffith University. Unable to find the information she needed for her project, she decided to conduct her own research. In a letter she wrote to a law firm in Texas, where she was able to get a hold of some information. She then started looking for other groups and organizations that also worked for the abolition of the death penalty. Tolepo eventually came across Repeal Australia, which is one of the leading organizations working to end the death penalty in Australia. She reached out to them and started volunteering for their organization.

Tolepo spent three months in Texas, working with Repeal Australia as a legal aid volunteer. She was involved in various activities such as researching cases, writing letters to inmates, and providing legal assistance to those on death row. Her work helped to raise awareness about the issues surrounding the death penalty and advocate for its abolition. She learned about the problems associated with the death penalty and how it is disproportionately applied in the United States. This experience was eye-opening for Tolepo, who was able to see the reality of the death penalty in action.

Tolepo shared her experiences with Luke Stegemann, who is a keen advocate for the abolition of the death penalty. Stegemann has been involved in similar work and was impressed by Tolepo's dedication and commitment. He believes that their work is crucial in raising awareness about the issues surrounding the death penalty and advocating for its abolition.

Throughout her time in Texas, Tolepo was able to see first-hand the harsh realities of the death penalty. She witnessed the emotional toll it takes on families and loved ones of those who are sentenced to death. This experience reinforced her belief in the importance of advocating for the abolition of the death penalty.

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