

PREJEAN: Not everybody decides that way. Some victims' families say, yeah, I want to see the murderer of my loved one executed.

EDWARDS: Yes, I know that is very, very true, very common.

PREJEAN: It's extraordinary that you would feel that way. What made you come to that?

EDWARDS: Well, it comes, I would guess because of my religious background requiring forgiveness. Now I would not want the man free to walk around to kill somebody else's brother, but I am not prepared to tell you that I would have asked for his life.

PREJEAN: So you came within yourself, even in face of your brother's death, that you could not personally call for the death penalty.

EDWARDS: I don't think I could personally call for anybody's death.

PREJEAN: Now when you were governor...

EDWARDS: Now that's a different role. As governor I took the position that the death penalty had been ordained by the legislature, which expressed the will of the people of this state and had been confirmed by appropriate judicial proceedings, and I felt then as I do now that a vast majority - 65 to 75% of the people of this state believe that the death penalty should be used in heinous type crimes, and as governor I felt it was my obligation to respect that prevailing opinion. My position was that I would not interfere with a projected execution unless