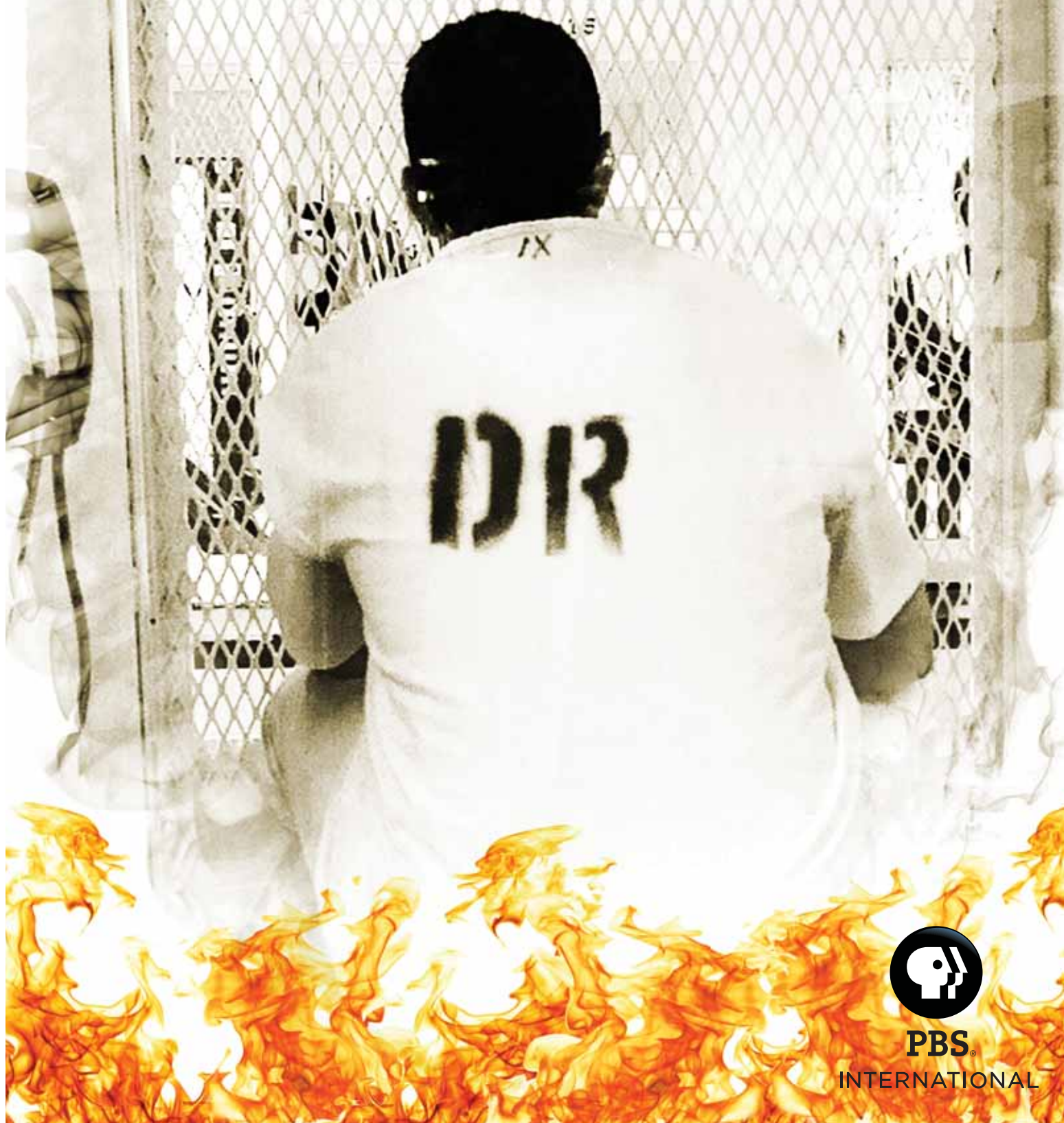


DEATH BY FIRE

1 X 53 HD



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On February 17, 2004, the State of Texas executed Cameron Todd Willingham for the murder of his three young children in a house fire. Prosecutors had called it arson. Since then, the case has become the heart of a raging debate over the death penalty because a reexamination of the evidence seems to show the fire was not arson. Did Texas execute an innocent man?

Through interviews with investigators, witnesses, prosecutors, and Willingham's friends and family, *Death by Fire* tells the story of a troubled young man with a history of domestic violence who quickly became the prime suspect in his children's deaths. Willingham was charged with the crime, convicted, and sentenced to die.

Then, only weeks before his scheduled execution, an independent review of the arson evidence found the deadly fire was most likely an accident. Despite the new findings, the State of Texas proceeded with the execution.

"The State of Texas executed a man for a crime that they couldn't prove was really a crime," says nationally renowned fire scientist John Lentini.

Now as the Willingham case has become the center of the debate over the death penalty, this film recounts the true story of a small Texas town, a tragic fire, a search for vengeance, and the execution of a possibly innocent man.

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CREDITS

Producers: Jessie Deeter & Mike Wiser

Director: Jessie Deeter

Writers: Jessie Deeter & Mike Wiser

Senior Producer: Michael Kirk

Series Senior Producer: Raney Aronson-Rath

Series Executive Producer: David Fanning

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