



## FAQ - Frequently asked questions

### **What inmate can I write the three letters?**

You can either choose an inmate on the homepage or ask me. I will then allocate a name to you. Please get in contact with me before you set up a letter to the inmate you chose. He might not be available for a while.

Don't forget that you can also write to the people in the "Other people speak" section. They all have a connection to the death penalty and are willing to share their experiences.

### **How do I write the letter?**

You can write the letter by hand or on the computer. I will need the letter in an e-mail, as a word document or as a scan. Upon request, the original letters can be provided also.

### **What shall I write about?**

I suggest that in **the first message** you introduce yourself: age, profession, interests, how you learned about connectdeathrow and your motivation to write the letter. The first message should contain the actual questions. It's a good idea to refer to the text(s) of the inmate or person in "Other people speak" and "Learn more" on the homepage. You might include a photo of your house, animal or anything else that has meaning in your life. Because it's a short-term contact you might not want to share too much of your private life though.

After receiving the answer, a **second and third letter** could be sent to clarify the information the inmate provided or to pose follow up questions.

**The last message** should consist of a thank you note and a brief explanation about what happened with the information the inmate supplied.

### **What shall I rather not write about?**

Please don't ask about the case of the inmate. It might be difficult for him to talk about it. The project allows the inmates to be normal human beings and not to be reduced to being someone who committed a crime.

### **Where do I send the letters?**

Please send the letters to me and I will forward them.

### **When and how do I receive the inmate's answer?**

It can take up some time until you receive an answer, depending on the state the inmate lives in. You will receive the answer through me, mostly electronically. I process all the answers immediately, so you don't have to ask whether there is an answer waiting for you.

Please note: The inmates don't have access to internet. They mostly receive and write letters on paper. An inmate service in the USA helps to electronically forward letters to

and from inmates which shortens the time mail needs to reach its destination but not all inmates have access to the service.

### **Why are the full names and addresses of both sides not revealed?**

Connectdeathrow does not provide direct contact details. As the letters go through me, both the inmate and the free person are “safe”.

I wouldn't support connecting juveniles with death row inmates for a long-term pen pal-ship because they don't have the life experience for such a demanding task. Also, in order to start a long-term pen pal-ship people would have to be prepared first. See next question.

### **Why can't I go on writing after the 2-3 letters?**

This project is not set up to arrange long-term pen pal-ships. For such, a longer preparation period would be required.

I can provide you with information about long-term pen pal-ships that are arranged through the organization I am a member of.

The participating inmates in the connect project have all agreed to become part of these short-time contacts because they love the idea of giving something back to society. Most of them have at least one stable pen pal-ship.

### **What does it cost?**

Because of the expenses for the interactions with the participating inmates, the maintenance of the homepage etc., I ask you to make a contribution of 8-20 Euro or CHF. Let me know if that is more than you can afford. [Currency converter](#)

### **How do I send the money?**

You can send it to me cash in an envelope or pay it in on my account:

Postfinance

Hemmann Kurt und Aubert  
Hemmann Ines  
8615 Wermatswil  
Switzerland  
CH66 0900 0000 8014 9201 3  
POFICHBEXXX

Bank address:  
PostFinance AG  
Mingerstrasse 20  
3030 Bern  
Switzerland

My address:  
Ines Aubert  
Vordergasse 20c  
8615 Wermatswil  
Switzerland

Or through Twint: Kurt Hemmann 076 470 48 36 (Please mention your name)

Or paypal to [aubert.ines@gmail.com](mailto:aubert.ines@gmail.com)

If you have any more questions, don't hesitate to contact me at [contact@connectdeathrow.org](mailto:contact@connectdeathrow.org)

Ines Aubert, December 2020