



Sirhan Sirhan, the **assassin** of US Senator Robert F. Kennedy, was **granted parole** on Friday, after two of Kennedy's sons spoke in favor of Sirhan's release, and lawyers declined to argue that he should stay in jail.

The decision was a major victory for the 77-year-old man, who spent 53 years in prison; however, it doesn't guarantee he is free. The ruling must be reviewed by the California Parole Board and then sent to the governor who will make the final decision.

Douglas Kennedy, who was a toddler when his father was gunned down in 1968, said he was moved to tears by Sirhan's **remorse**, and he should be released if he's not a threat to others.

Difficult words: **assassin** (a person who murders an important person for political or religious reasons), **grant parole** (to give freedom to a prisoner before the end of a sentence, on the promise of good behavior), **remorse** (a strong feeling of guilt and regret for doing something wrong).

**Discussion Questions****Topic Talk**

1. Define the following words: *assasin*, *grant parole* and *remorse*
2. Who assassinated Robert F. Kennedy?
3. What good news did the assassin of Robert F. Kennedy receive after spending 53 years in prison?
4. Why was Sirhan granted parole?

Express Your Thoughts

1. If you were one of Robert F. Kennedy's children, would you favor the assassin to be granted parole?
2. Do you believe that one can be remorseful after having murdered someone deliberately?
3. What do think was Sirhan Sirhan's motive for assassinating the senator?
4. Have you heard of any similar story in your country?