from a low-income family would have received the same consideration if his or her lawyer pled that the defendant's crime was a product of the individual's impoverished background. The decision was a stark reminder that there was one standard of justice for the wealthy and another standard of justice for the poor. They also pointed out that it was possible that Ethan would serve as little as two years of the twenty-year sentence.

On the other hand, defenders of the sentence pointed out that the court had acted appropriately because the Texas juvenile justice system is built on the notion of rehabilitation rather than punishment of youthful offenders. One journalist for the *Dallas Observer* noted that "[b]ecause we condemn everybody else's kid to violent prisons, does that mean it is unjust to let any one kid go [outside the system]?"

Couch's parents reached a $2 million settlement with the family of Molina who was paralyzed in the crash. Five other families also are known to have reached financial confidential settlements. Judge Boyd after issuing the decision announced she would not run for reelection.

In December 2015, Couch and his mother fled to Mexico after a video surfaced showing Couch at a party with drunk and drinking friends although they were quickly arrested and returned to the United States. Couch, on reaching the age of eighteen, was transferred to adult court and as a result will be required to serve nearly two years in jail before his release. He will be on probation for ten years, and a violation of adult probation will carry a lengthy prison term. Do you agree with Judge Boyd's original sentence?