

TEACHER INSTRUCTIONS/KEY

Goal

Students put into practice “executing judgment and justice” with a faux news article scenario about a drunken driver and his victim.

Instructions

1. Tell students to read the article and answer the questions at the bottom individually, then when they’re done, to discuss in pairs/groups.
2. Discuss as a class.

Key

1. How is this article an example of the (somewhat) proper role of government?
It discusses an officer of the law’s attempt (not altogether successfully) to address an incident in which one person harms another.
2. How could the judge have better executed justice in the case?
AWV, but it would have been much more helpful if the judge ordered the driver who injured the other person and totaled his car to pay that person’s medical bills, replace his car, and pay for the lost wages that the victim was unable to earn due to his injuries.

Wrap-Up/Debrief

When the Bible says that government is to “execute judgment and justice,” what does that mean? (Emphasize that the law needs to “execute” this specifically for specific cases, which might be different things.)

BREAKING NEWS:

DRUNK DRIVER FOUND GUILTY, SENTENCED TO NINE MONTHS IN JAIL

By GEORGE SPLITHERS
Staff Writer

ASHEVILLE – Convicted drunk driver Hugh Jaype, 37, was sentenced to nine months in prison yesterday after a judge found him guilty of totaling another driver's car and causing injuries to that driver.

Reports show that Jaype was traveling over 100 miles per hour at the time of the crash. He struck the driver's side of an automobile owned by Mills River chef Jason Baxter, crushing the hood and driver's side of Baxter's car, and knocking it into a ditch. "I couldn't get out of the car for a long time," said Baxter. "My back was injured, and the doors wouldn't open normally after the crash." Baxter was taken to a local hospital immediately after the accident, and although he suffered no life-threatening injuries, his pain and lost mobility left him unable to work for two weeks.

The damage to Baxter's car was beyond repair, and the car's value was estimated at \$13,000. In addition, medical and physical therapy bills for his injuries over the next two months grew to \$5000. At the time of the accident, Jaype had no auto insurance that would have paid for Baxter's car and medical bills.

"You have caused pain and suffering to Baxter, as well as costing him his automobile and the money he was unable to earn by being out of work until he recovered," Judge Randy Brennan said to Jaype during the final ruling. "The best way to stymie your desire to drive while drunk again is jail time, and I therefore sentence you to nine months in the county prison."

A week after the trial, Baxter lost his job at a restaurant because he had no car to get to work, which was 15 miles from his home. "I guess Jaype had to pay for what he did," said Baxter. "I just wish it could have worked out better, somehow." ■



How is this article an example of the (somewhat) proper role of government?

How could the judge have better executed justice in the case?