Discussion

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Discussion

Amber Guyger was guilty of Botham Jean’s murder and was sentenced to 99 years of prison. She explained that she misunderstood Jeans’ apartment with that of her and as she entered the apartment, Jean moved towards her. She had no motive to shoot Jean but the succession of events made her do that in defense. Her social media activities and chats with fellow officers provide proofs of racist remarks and felonious tendencies for example “No one ever thanks me for having the patience not to kill them (Elizabeth Wiley, 2018)”. In her 911 call recording, she informed about incident but did not perform CPR using first aid kit, she had in her back-pack. The shooting cannot be justified because it is clearly dangerous to human life which falls under second-degree murder or manslaughter according to Texas criminal law.

Her explanation that she believed she was in her own house is not justifiable, because this assertion was a mistake. “ Lack of intent can be qualified as a defense (“Texas Second Degree Murder Laws,” n.d.)” but the action carries a felonious nature, if justified for a person in uniform, will consequently result in many other incidents like that.

The sentence is justified when complemented with her social media records, text messages, racist tendencies and the use of a weapon without warning. The person in uniform must have a sense of responsibility to use a weapon for coercive purpose rather than direct shooting. According to Texas criminal law, “This charge will typically carry a sentence of between five and 99 years in a state prison and/or a fine of no more than $10,000 (Adlerstein, 1975)” .

##### **References**

Adlerstein, J. A. C. (1975). Felony-Murder in the New Criminal Codes. *Am. J. Crim. L.*, *4*, 249.

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