

Transcript of BBC London, 8 September 2017, Harlow Killing - Sentencing

1.33pm

NEWSREADER: A 16-year-old has been sentenced to three years in jail. The court heard he threw a single 'Superman punch' which knocked 40-year-old Arek Jozwik to the ground in Harlow and killed him. The victim's family are said to be disappointed with that sentence. Alex Dunlop sent this report from outside Chelmsford Crown Court.

ALEX DUNLOP: The 16-year-old stood impassively in the dock as the judge told him that whatever sentence she handed down could not make up for the massive loss the family of Arek Jozwik had suffered. When she sentenced the boy to three years in detention for manslaughter, his family shouted and cried out to him, he gave them a short wave as he was led down from the dock. Arek Jozwik, who was 40, was a factory worker. He went to The Stow shopping centre in Harlow late one Saturday night in August last year with a Polish friend. They were eating at a pizza in the precinct when they became embroiled in an argument with a group of teenage boys. A 15-year-old went up behind Arek and delivered what the court heard was A 'Superman punch' to the back of his head. He fell over, never regained consciousness and died two days later. Now this happened two months after the vote on Brexit and was seen at the time as a possible race-hate crime. Hundreds of Polish people in Harlow came out and held vigils for Arek Jozwik, the Polish ambassador visited the town, followed a few days later by Polish police. The issue was even raised in the European Parliament as a possible hate crime. However, the evidence did not support that assertion and the teenager was convicted of manslaughter. Now Arek Jozwik's mother and brother left the court without commenting, but she did say that this was 'such a cruel death of my child, and only three years.' Alex Dunlop, BBC News, Chelmsford.

6.33pm

NEWSREADER: A 16-year-old has been sentenced to three years in a young offenders' institution for killing a man with a single punch. 40-year-old Arek Jozwik fell to the ground following what was described in court as a 'Superman' punch in Harlow, Essex, in August last year. He died two days later in hospital. The defendant who cannot be named for legal reasons, had denied manslaughter but was found guilty after a trial at Chelmsford Crown Court.