

1 should begrudge you the opportunity to continue to pursue the
2 rights that you believe you have.

3 The law in a republic such as this is in danger and
4 cannot stand if a large portion or a significant portion of the
5 citizens of that republic come to believe that it is not evenly
6 enforced. And that is what is meant by equal justice under the
7 law. It is not that you get the same sentence as everyone
8 else, of course. It is that you are treated equally.

9 If it is perceived that there is one law for the rich
10 and one law for everybody else, the law will ultimately fall
11 into disrespect.

12 The law protects you from others, and it protects
13 others from you. And it now becomes this Court's job to decide
14 how important it is in this case for your sentence to promote
15 respect for the law.

16 In a sense, yes, you are an example. In a sense, that
17 is unfair to you. But the Court is a public institution in
18 this republic, and it has a duty to promote respect for the law
19 and to impose a sentence that is serious enough to do so.

20 So in addition to the other statutory purposes, I
21 underscore the statutory purpose of promoting respect for the
22 law and telling you and every other citizen that the law does
23 not care that you are wealthy, or at least were wealthy. The
24 law does not care about your station in life. The law can
25 fashion a sentence which recognizes your charity and your good