

As a juvenile sentenced to life w/o parole. You miss out on so much in life as a result. Some is instant some take years for you to realize. Things you can't even contemplate as a youth. Things like a family of your own, work, responsibility, Travel or goals and retirement.

[From the onset of my sentence I knew one thing, and that was that I missed my family. There are a million quotes that go to this point of regret. "Hindsight is 20/20" or "You never realize what you have till it's gone" All of it as true as the next. Every human takes life for granted. Not as a whole but the small things. And you quickly realize (for most) just how much your family loves you or vice versa. I missed so many things - High school graduation, college, first day of work, my grandmothers last days, the births of my niece & nephew & them growing up, etc. . . . These things must be lived vicariously through others through letters. Which is a hard pill to swallow, but it's something you have at least.

As a knucklehead, care free youth, none of this matters. Now as an adult, it is all that matters. Funny how ones mindset changes w/ maturity. I can't believe some of the things I did or thought out there as a kid. I am steadfast in my belief though, that we must be held accountable for our actions. regardless of age. But age must be taken into account. I still to this day try -

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- To process what exactly the punishment or sentence should be imposed. [I wish so much that I could go back in time and change that day. Sounds cliché I know, but it's so true. The pain and constant struggle it has caused so many. In some way or another I will be forever trying to make amends for that tragedy, that I directly caused. Pure sorrow for so many and I'm not sure I could ever make up for that. We can only learn from our ~~own~~ mistakes, treat them as a lesson in life and not repeat them. And if at all possible help others to not make those same mistakes.]

PELICAN BAY STATE PRISON
SECURITY HOUSING UNIT
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