

117.3 Crown Court Extent of the power

R v O'Connor 2018 EWCA Crim 1417 D pleaded to robbery, ABH and other offences directed at his ex-girlfriend, G, her new partner, her mother and three police officers. D was aged 30 with 20 previous convictions, a number of them for violence. A psychiatrist considered that D had a severe anti-social personality disorder and a massive anger management problem. D had also attacked a prison officer, a prison inmate and a dock officer. [It looks as if at least two of these were after his arrest.] D said he wanted to kill G's family. For the robbery the Judge passed a sentence of 45 months with 4 months consecutive for three of the other offences. A week later, the Judge said he had approached the sentence wrongly. He changed the robbery sentence to an 8-year 1 month extended sentence (4 years 1 month's custody 4 years' extended licence). He also made the 4 months concurrent. Held. Sentencing is a much more complex matter than it used to be. There is the strongest public interest in addressing the risk D posed. We adopt *R v Warren* 2017 [see above]. There was no difficulty in the Judge correcting his error.