

“Selfish’ killer driver gets 7 years jail.” The West Australian, Wednesday December 12, 2018, p.11.

A drunk, unlicensed and speeding driver who killed a father of three when he ran a red light in Dianella has been jailed for his ‘incredibly selfish’ crime... Paul Deegan had been smoking cannabis and had a blood alcohol level more than four times the legal limit when he got behind the wheel of his mother-in-law’s car in the early hours of June 1...

Deengan, 28, was driving at 147kmph on Morley Drive when he went through a red light and smashed into Qun Yi Dong’s car.

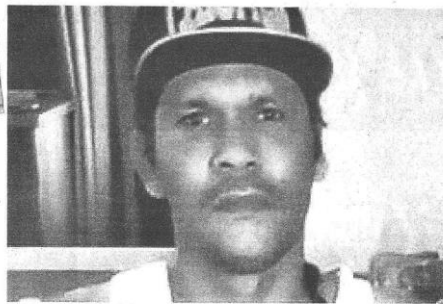
Supreme Court Justice Anthony Derrick this week sentenced Deegan to 7 and a half years jail for unlawfully killing Mr Dong.

Deegan will be disqualified from driving for seven years after his release. He will be eligible for parole in 5 and a half years.

Comment: Kyle Horace was aged only 15 years and one month when he was charged with sexual offences against a teenaged white girl. He was summonsed to a Supreme Court trial three and a half years later, when he was 18 years and eight months of age and sentenced to seven years in notorious Berrimah Prison in Darwin by chief Justice Brian Martin in March 2006 when he was almost 19. Kyle served the full seven years for a crime he says he did not commit.

The West Australian
Wednesday, December 12, 2018

NEWS 11



Paul Deegan drove into a car, killing a father of three.

‘Selfish’ killer driver gets 7 years jail

■ Elle Farcic

A drunk, unlicensed and speeding driver who killed a father of three when he ran a red light in Dianella has been jailed for more than seven years for his “incredibly selfish” crime.

Paul Deegan had been smoking cannabis and had a blood alcohol level more than four times the legal limit when he got behind the wheel of his mother-in-law’s car in the early hours of June 9.

Deegan, 28, was driving at 147km/h on Morley Drive when he went through a red light and smashed into Qun Yi Dong’s car.

Supreme Court Justice Anthony Derrick this week sentenced Deegan to 7½ years jail for unlawfully killing Mr Dong.

He said Deegan’s driving was “extremely reckless” and that the red light must have been visible in the 300m leading up to the intersection.

“It is inherently serious because as a result of your incredibly selfish disregard for the safety of other road users, you took another person’s life,” Justice Derrick said. “To drive at this speed endan-

gered other road users. In driving at this speed, you gave neither yourself nor Mr Dong any chance of avoiding the collision.”

Deegan has never had a valid driver’s licence and was disqualified from driving at the time.

Police found an open beer bottle in his car and paramedics noted he was slurring his words and smelt of alcohol.

Mr Dong’s wife Catherine was woken by officers in the middle of the night and was told her husband had been killed on his way home from night shift. She had to break the news to her daughters and her 19-year-old son, who has autism and is still unable to comprehend why his dad will never come home.

In her victim impact statement, Mrs Dong said her husband was sweet, caring and loving and his life was all about his family and work.

She said she was physically and emotionally exhausted and did not know how she would cope without her soulmate and best friend.

Deegan will be disqualified from driving for seven years after his release. He will be eligible for parole in 5½ years.