

fuel, left it outside the building, and detonated it successfully. The blast killed 168 people, wounded more than eight hundred more people, and obliterated one third of the building (Kearns 67). It also demolished a nearby YMCA daycare center and hurt many children. It left a crater in the ground that was eight feet deep and thirty feet wide. The only thing that survived the bomb was an elm tree, appropriately named the Survival Tree and dedicated to the survivors.

Six weeks after the bombing, the rubble and remains of the Alfred Murrah Federal Building were torn down, and the site was grassed over so that the scar in the ground could not be seen. For the fifth anniversary, on April 19, 2000, a memorial opened up on site, and people still visit it today (Benson 1178).

In this example of terrorism, the terrorists were caught and had to face the consequences of their actions. McVeigh was arrested the same day of the bombing, and he was later sentenced to execution. Nichols turned himself in several days later, and he was given a life sentence in prison. McVeigh wanted a political rather than a criminal trial in order to make his case against the federal government in regard to their actions at ~~the Ruby Ridge and~~ Waco. However, he was never given it and was executed on June 11, 2001 (Linder). He gave no final statement before his death, yet he left a handwritten copy of the poem *Invictus* with the final lines being, "I am the master of my fate, I am the captain of my soul" (Linder).

The impact of this terrorist attack, and each other attack that occurs stimulates public panic, which is the terrorists' goal. However, the American public must stay strong and realize that there will be a day when the United States is no longer threatened by terrorism.