After Gerald Gault finishes, Clarence Gideon returns to the well.

[He sits at a different counsel table with a pencil and paper. He looks up and says:] My attorney Abe Fortas asked me to write down my story, so I wrote him a 22-page letter as honest as I could tell it.

I hope my kids read it someday so that they know what really happened to their old man. Here is the part I’d want them to remember about me:

[Gideon reads as he writes:] "I always believed that the primarily reason of trial in a court of law was to reach the truth. My trial was far from the truth."

"There was not a crime committed in my case and I don’t feel like I had a fair trial. If I had a attorney he coulda brought out all of these things in my trial."

"I believe that each era finds a improvement in law. Each year brings something new for the benefit of mankind. Maybe this will be one of those small steps forward. In the past 35 years I have seen great advancement in penal servitude. Thank you for reading all of this. Please try to believe that all I want from life is the chance for the love of my children – the only real love I have ever had."

And with that, I rest my case. The rest is history.