FILED
DEC 18 1985
CLERK SUPREME COURT

IN THE COURT OF APPEALS OF IOWA

IN RE THE MARRIAGE OF MARIEN H. BUNTING AND SCOTT W. BUNTING

UPON THE PETITION OF
MARIEN H. BUNTING,

Petitioner-Appellee,

AND CONCERNING
SCOTT W. BUNTING,

Respondent-Appellant.

Filed December 18, 1985

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5-565
85-545

Appeal from the Iowa District Court for Dubuque County - Thomas H. Nelson, Judge.

Respondent Scott W. Bunting appeals from the trial court's order modifying his dissolution decree. **AFFIRMED AS MODIFIED.**

Mary M. Schumacher, of Roth & Schumacher, Dubuque, for respondent-appellant.

Arnold J. Van Etten, of Kintzinger, Kintzinger, Van Etten, Setter & Scott, Dubuque, for petitioner-appellee.

Considered by Donielson, P.J., and Schlegel and Sackett, JJ.

Marien and Scott's marriage was dissolved in 1979. Custody of their three children born in 1973, 1976, and 1978 was awarded to Marien. Scott was given certain visitation rights which basically provided for alternate weekends and two weeks in the summer.

At the time of the dissolution, Marien and the children lived in Dubuque and Scott lived in Maquoketa. Marien continues to live in Dubuque. Scott now lives in Paw Paw, Michigan, some eight hours by car from Dubuque.

Scott asked that the decree be modified to increase his visitation. The trial court modified the decree to order one more week of summer visitation. Scott has appealed contending he should have additional visitation.

Our review is de novo. Iowa R. App. P. 4 and 14(f)(7).

To justify a change of visitation rights, the petitioner must show there has been a change of circumstances since the divorce decree. However, as to modification of visitation rights as compared to child custody change, the general rule is that a much less extensive change of circumstances must be shown in a visitation rights case. Donovan v. Donovan, 212 N.W.2d 451, 458 (Iowa 1973). The best interest of a child ordinarily requires continuing association with his noncustodial parent unless the contrary is clearly shown. Id.

We determine the visitation time should be increased. We modify the decree to increase summer visitation to a four-week period and to grant visitation from December 26, 1985 through January 2, 1986.

AFFIRMED AS MODIFIED.