FILED
JUN 1 5 1989
CLERK SUPREME COURT

IN THE COURT OF APPEALS OF IOWA

IN RE THE MARRIAGE OF DOUGLAS BROICH AND DELILAH BROICH

Upon the Petition of)
DOUGLAS BROICH,)
Petitioner-Appellee,)
And Concerning)
DELILAH BROICH,)
Respondent-Appellant.)

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9-197
88-1811

Appeal from the Iowa District Court for Carroll County (DM 30088), Ronald H. Schechtman, Judge.

In this dissolution action, Douglas was granted physical care of the parties' child. Delilah appeals. **AFFIRMED.**

Stuart M. Pepper of Parrish & Krudenier, Des Moines, for respondent-appellant.

Ronald F. Eich, Carroll, for petitioner-appellee.

Heard by Donielson, P.J., and Schlegel and Hayden, JJ.

Douglas, age 28, and Delilah (Dee), age 27, were married May 29, 1987. This is Doug's first marriage and Dee's second. Their one child, a son, Christopher, was born October 21, 1987.

The trial court placed Christopher in joint legal custody of both parties. Christopher's physical care was placed with Doug. Dee appeals and we affirm.

Our review is de novo. Iowa R. App. P. 4.

The trial court found the following:

> Dee complains about Doug's temper, failure to provide her with a car, excessive drinking, use of guns, and suspicious attitude. Douglas complains about Dee's suspicions about his fidelity, [her] inconsistent attitudes, mood swings, temper, obscene language, lack of discipline, and consorting with another man. The parties are . . . extremely hostile towards each other. Doug agrees to joint custody, whether Christopher's physical care is awarded to him or not. Dee contests joint custody. The attorney's report for the minor child indicates that either of the parties would be satisfactory recipients of the physical custody.

The testimony and evidence at trial support the district court's findings. We do not recite those facts here.

Dee has two children by her former marriage. Damion, age six, is a half-brother of Christopher. Holly, age three, is Christopher's half-sister. Dee has the physical custody of these two children.

The trial court concluded, and we agree Doug is more able to provide for the emotional, social, moral, material,

and educational needs of Christopher than Dee, and he has the capacity and interest to do so. The Roselle, Iowa, environment, where he lives and works, appears far more stable in considering the long-range best interests of this boy. Doug has a good job, there are a number of his siblings in the area, and his parents live near his job. Doug should not be penalized because of his employment. Doug's parents, Doris and Jerome Broich, are very capable of providing much love and care to this grandchild while Doug is working. Christopher's cousins would be his playmates.

Dee's life has been less stable. An earlier marriage failed. She quit high school. This reflects upon her stability and emotional balance; so do her piques of temper, mood swings, and foul language.

In trying to foster children's best interests, we ordinarily endeavor to keep children of broken homes together. The rule is not ironclad, however, and circumstances may arise which demonstrate that separation may better promote the long-range interests of children. In re Marriage of Jones, 309 N.W.2d 457, 461 (Iowa 1981). See, e.g., In re Marriage of Orte, 389 N.W.2d 373, 376 (Iowa 1986).

Dee cites this court to Orte where the Iowa Supreme Court refused to separate two half-brothers and placed their physical care in their mother. It was not a

unanimous decision. Dee claims Orte is exactly on point with this case and stare decisis warrants a reversal of the trial court. We are aware of Orte as it was taken for additional review from this court. Unlike Orte, there are paternal grandparents to care for Christopher while Doug is working. Also, there are many children for Christopher to associate with. Bonding will occur with whomever obtains his physical care.

There is good reason for us to pay very close attention to the trial court's assessment of the credibility of witnesses. A trial court deciding dissolution cases "is greatly helped in making a wise decision about the parties by listening to them and watching them in person." In contrast, appellate courts must rely on the printed record in evaluating the evidence. We are denied the impression created by the demeanor of each and every witness as the testimony is presented. In re Marriage of Vrban, 359 N.W.2d 420, 423 (Iowa 1984).

The trial court's decree is affirmed in all respects.

Dee requests attorney fees on appeal. Douglas shall pay $400 to apply upon Dee's appellate attorney fees. Costs are assessed against Dee.

AFFIRMED.