

IN THE COURT OF APPEALS OF IOWA

FILED

JUN 26 1984

CLERK SUPREME COURT

IN RE THE MARRIAGE OF ILENE MARIE THOMAS AND ISAAC THOMAS

**UPON THE PETITION OF
ILENE MARIE THOMAS**

)

575

Petitioner-Appellee,

)

Filed June 26, 1984

**AND CONCERNING
ISAAC THOMAS,**

)

4-235
83-1488

Respondent-Appellant.

Appeal from the Iowa District Court for Clinton County—C. H. Pelton,
Judge.

Respondent husband appeals from the decree dissolving the parties' marriage.
AFFIRMED.

Jon M. Kinnamon, of Kinnamon, Kinnamon, Russo & Meyer, Cedar Rapids,
and Anthony Jamison, of Braud, Warner, Neppl & Westensee, Davenport, for
respondent-appellant.

Bert M. Watson, Clinton, for petitioner-appellee.

Considered by Snell, P.J., and Hayden, and Sackett, JJ.

Respondent, Isaac, appeals from his dissolution decree contending that the child support and alimony awards made by the trial court are excessive. We affirm.

Ilene and Isaac Thomas were married in 1969. Two children were born to the marriage: a daughter, Demetria, in 1971; and a son, Isaac, in 1973. The trial court awarded custody of Demetria to Ilene and awarded custody of Isaac to Isaac.

Isaac was ordered to pay \$75 per week child support for Demetria. He was further ordered to pay Ilene \$55 per week alimony for three years. Isaac was given the dependency exemption for both children and ordered to provide them with health insurance. Isaac was ordered to pay certain debts of the parties and to pay \$500 toward Ilene's trial attorney fees.

Ilene was a high school graduate and had a nurses aid certificate. She had last been employed six years prior to the dissolution. At the time of trial her sole income was from A.D.C. and food stamps. She was looking for work but had not yet found a job.

Isaac is 37 years of age. He has an annual income of \$28,000. He left his wife with the two children some 9 months before trial and moved in with another person. His son moved in with him 2 or 3 months prior to trial. Isaac has been subject to lay-offs but was employed at time of trial. There is no record of his making any contribution to his wife's and daughter's support in the nine months prior to trial.

I.

Isaac contends that he should not have been ordered to pay alimony for three years because there was no evidence in the record of the cost of an educational

program for Ilene, nor was there evidence that Ilene was not capable of obtaining employment without additional schooling.

This was a marriage of over 14 years. Ilene had minimal employment outside the home after the birth of the children. Isaac has established himself in a well-paying job with substantial employee benefits. He has made contributions to the social security system. While we recognize that lay-offs do occur, he is presently working. Ilene is not able to find employment. These facts support the alimony award to Ilene under the guidelines of Iowa Code section 598.21(3). It was not necessary for Ilene to show the cost of education, or that education was necessary for employment, in order to affirm the trial court's alimony award.

II.

We have reviewed the child support awarded and find the award to be proper under the guidelines of Iowa Code section 598.21(4).

III.

Ilene has requested attorney fees on appeal. We hereby award her \$500. We are not fixing the value of the services of Ilene's attorney, merely the amount Isaac is required to pay.

AFFIRMED.