

IN THE COURT OF APPEALS OF IOWA

FILED

MAY 22 1984

CLERK SUPREME COURT

IN RE THE MARRIAGE OF BARBARA ELLEN LAMB AND JERRY LYNN LAMB

Upon the Petition of

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BARBARA ELLEN LAMB,

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Petitioner-Appellee,

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Filed May 22, 1984

And Concerning

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JERRY LYNN LAMB,

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4-121

83-1279

Respondent-Appellant.)

Appeal from the Iowa District Court for Marshall County - Carl D. Baker,
Judge.

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

Barry S. Kaplan of Fairall, Fairall, Kaplan & Condon, Marshalltown, for
respondent-appellant.

W. J. Latham, Jr. of Johnson, Sudenga, Carter & Latham, Marshalltown, for
petitioner-appellee.

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

Respondent husband appeals from the economic provisions of the parties' dissolution decree. He asserts that the child support and alimony obligations placed on him are excessive. We affirm as modified.

Barbara and Jerry Lamb were married in 1971. They have one child, Matthew, born in 1975. Barbara quit her job as a secretary when Matthew was born and did not work again until recently, when she took another secretarial position with a net monthly income of \$513. She plans to take court reporting training in Des Moines. Jerry has worked at Northwestern Bell for twelve years and has a net biweekly income of \$744.31.

The trial court awarded Barbara custody of Matthew and directed Jerry to pay alimony of \$200 per month for three years and child support of \$400 per month. The court ordered the parties' home sold and the net proceeds equally divided. Each party was awarded some household goods, the vehicle he or she drove, and his or her bank accounts and insurance policies. Jerry was also awarded his stock. He was directed to pay the parties' indebtedness (about \$900), \$1000 toward Barbara's attorney fees, and court costs. He brought this appeal.

In considering Jerry's claim that the child support and alimony obligations are excessive, we examine the facts of this case in light of the factors listed in Iowa Code sections 598.21(3) (alimony) and 598.21(4) (child support).

We find no reason to disturb the alimony award; it is relatively modest (\$200 per month) and will last for only three years. This will enable Barbara to obtain training in court reporting in which she has expressed a desire and establish a firmer financial footing for herself and Matthew. We agree with Jerry, however, that the child support award of \$400 per month is excessive. Considering his financial resources together with the needs of Barbara and Matthew, we believe a reduction is appropriate. We therefore modify the child support award to \$325 per month. The other provisions relating to duration of child support are affirmed.

With the exception of the amount of the child support award, the decree is affirmed in all respects. Each party shall pay his or her own attorney fees. Costs are assessed against Jerry

AFFIRMED AS MODIFIED