FILED
OCT 20 1988
CLERK SUPREME COURT

IN THE COURT OF APPEALS OF IOWA

IN RE MARRIAGE OF JOANN E. BISIGNANO
AND JOSEPH E. BISIGNANO

Upon the Petition of)
JOANN E. BISIGNANO,)
Petitioner-Appellee,)
And Concerning)
JOSEPH A. BISIGNANO,)
Respondent-Appellant.)

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8-138
87-771

Appeal from the Iowa District Court for Polk County (CD6-3078), Jack D. Levin, Judge.

Respondent husband appeals the order in this modification action, challenging the court's increase of alimony from $1,100 per month to $1,600 per month, and the award of $4,000 attorney fees; petitioner wife requests attorney fees on appeal. **AFFIRMED.**

James A. Lorentzen and Michael D. Huppert of Patterson, Lorentzen, Duffield, Timmons, Irish, Becker & Ordway, Des Moines, for respondent-appellant.

Harlan M. Hockett of Hockett & McCarthy, Des Moines, for petitioner-appellee.

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

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PER CURIAM

The eighteen-year marriage of Joann and Joseph Bisignano was ended by decree entered on May 12, 1975. The original decree recognized Joseph's income in an amount of $54,000. The court allowed alimony of $800 per month until Joann remarried or died. Joseph was ordered to pay child support of $200 per month for eachof the parties' three children. The decree further provided that as each child reached eighteen years of age or finished high school, the child support for each child would cease and the alimony payable to Joann would increase by $100 per month, until it reached a peak of $1,100 when the child support for the last child ceased.

Joann brought this modification action, seeking to increase the amount of alimony payable to her. She claimed a substantial change in circumstances, in that Joseph's income had increased substantially since the decree. The district court increased the alimony from $1,100 to $1,600 and awarded Joann $4,000 attorney's fees. Joseph has appealed. Joann does not cross-appeal. We affirm.

The evidence showed, and the trial court found that Joseph's income had increased from $54,000 in 1975 to $314,713 in 1986. The increase was far in excess of the expectations of the court in 1975. On the other hand, Joann's income failed to meet the expectations of the 1975 findings, and the court found that inflation had seriously

eroded Joann's living standard from that which she should have been able to expect.

An examination of the record in this case brings us to the same conclusion as that reached by the trial court. There has been a very substantial increase in Joseph's earnings, and at the same time there has been a reduction in the available funds for Joann's living expenses. We agree with the trial court that an increase in Joann's alimony is appropriate. We therefore affirm the increase of alimony ordered by the trial court.

We further affirm the award of attorney's fees made by the court. In addition, we order Joseph to pay $1,500 to Joann in appellate attorney fees.

AFFIRMED.