

COURT OF APPEALS,
DIVISION III
STATE OF WASHINGTON

FILED

MAR 05 2012

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DIVISION III
STATE OF WASHINGTON
By _____

LILIIA V. KOZNIUK,

Respondent

v.

GEORGE M. SLAUGHTER,

Appellant

CASE # 287602

In re Marriage of Liliia V. Kozniuk & George M. Slaughter

BENTON COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT No. 093002178

BRIEF OF RESPONDENT

Liliia V. Kozniuk
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Pasco, WA 99301
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A. Assignments of Error

Assignments of Error

No. 1 I have objection to Slaughter's AE No.1.

The trial court found that The Affidavit of Support Form I-134 was a valid document that obligated Slaughter to support Kozniuk, signed by Slaughter on March 14, 2007. (RP 140 line 6-16, EX 17)

No. 2 I have objection to Slaughter's AE No.2.

The trial court justly stated that our marriage was valid and did not find any fraud (RP 115 line 12-14, RP117 line 1-16).

No. 3 I have objection to Slaughter's AE No.3.

The trial court objected about the relevancy of Slaughter's issue to Kozniuk's religious beliefs (RP 4 line 17-24, RP 5 line14-18, 24-25).

B. Statement of the Case

I met my ex-husband George Slaughter on www.match.com in July of 2005 (RP 4 line 14-15). George asked me from the first letter: "Are you Russian?" I said the truth, that I am from Ukraine and I speak in Russian. George wrote in a subject of the letter his different e-mail address. We began to correspond (without www.match.com service) very intensively for two and a half years. In the beginning we would type 2-3 letters to each other each week. In November 2005 we began to speak on-line using web-camera through MSN-manager, than on SKYPE each day until my departure to the USA on December 2007.

I want to state:

- 1) I created my profile on www.match.com by myself, and nobody was helping me with my private business;
- 2) My brother Andrei never was involved in my correspondence with George. At that time my brother worked as a long distance driver and he had four children. Andrei had not time for my private life.

George and I knew all about our lives from the first letters. George told me that he was completely lonely. I felt compassion to George and that he was separated from his family and children. We had found many common interests of religion, literature, music, art, cinema, travel and many other things. I got involved in friendship with George. I had been alone for 10 years (RP10). George seduced me with his long interesting letters and conversations. I fell in love with George. I had opened my heart to George, and believed that I met a true love. George met my family many times before my son and I came to the United States in December 28, 2007. George visited me and my family in Ukraine three times: June 2006, November 2006 and May 2007. Each time George stayed for 7-10 days with me and my family (EX.20). George proposed to me May 16, 2007 with engagement ring in front of my parents and promised to be a caring husband and son-in-law. George met my brother Andrei the first time in Boise, Idaho (to be sure that I was a real person) sometime in November 2005. George liked his new Russian friends. George visited my brother's home three times at Christmas: 2005, 2006 and 2007. Each time

George stayed at my brother's home for 5-7 days. My parents came to United States from Ukraine on May 2007 to visit my brother Andrey and his family in Pasco, WA for three months. George spent the weekend on July 4th, 2007 with my brother's family and my parents (they went to Oregon Zoo and Oregon coast). After short trip to Oregon coast my parents and George went to Boise, Idaho to visit George at his home for two weeks (EX. 09 Family pictures). My parents helped George to clean the house, to clean in the back yard; my Mom cooked and did laundry for George. It was a family relationship, even though we were not yet married.

I want to state: My brother filed a visitor visa for my parents. George had nothing to do with my parent's visitor visa.

George visited me and my family in Ukraine three times. He met my parents and my son. George and I planned our life together for two and a half years before we were married. George promised me that I didn't need to worry now about anything, that he will take care of me and my son. I introduced my whole family to George: my parents, my son, my brother's family, and my nephews. I trusted George. I had no intention of fraud ever to him, I loved him. My family and I cared for George. We counted George as a member of our family before I ever came to the United States to marry him. George promised to cherish me as Christian husband. He promised many good things that we will do together: All of us, George, myself and my son Jenya.

I want to state: I came to George to marry him. I had just one desire, to have a family: husband, friend, and partner in one person – George. April 6, 2007 George wrote a letter “CIRCUMSTANCE OF MEETING” George Slaughter and Liliia Kozniuk” to USCIS (RP 105 line12-25, RP 106 line 1-5; EX. 20).

In May of 2007 George filed paperwork for a Fiancé Visa K-1 for me and for my son a Visa K-2 as dependent child Form I-129F Petition for Alien Fiancé (EX.10).

The Form I-134, Affidavit of Support in U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS). In this Form I-134, George signed that, he intended to marry me and to provide all necessary support: room, board, clothing, health insurance coverage and educational costs if necessary.

(Ex. 17, RP 100 line 1-25, RP 101 line 1-13)

Myself and my son received the Fiancé visa at Embassy of USA in Kiev, Ukraine on December 3, 2007. (George actually did not come to Ukraine on November 2007, he visited on November 2006) (Ex. 20).

My son Jenya and I arrived to USA on December 28, 2007 to Boise, Idaho (RP 8 line 4-6). My brother Andrei and his wife made a surprise visit and came from Pasco to meet us at the Boise airport. I was so excited to meet George. I came with hope to a new, happy life with my husband George (We already called each other “husband” and “wife”, and we were signing our letters like that, way before we were actually married (EX.13). After the airport George, I, my son, my brother and his wife went to George’s house in Boise. His house was a mess.

I was very disappointed. George wasn't ready for my arrival. There wasn't really a bed for my son, only an old thin mattress on the floor (RP 9 line 6-12). George insisted that we should spend 7-10 days of vacation in Pasco with my brother's family (RP 9 line 20-23). Since my brother was in Boise, my son went back the same night to Pasco with him. George and I spent our first night together in his house on December 28, 2007. On this very first night, George demanded sex, he did not seem to care that I was very tired from the long flight from Ukraine to the USA – 40 hours total trip, 3 flight changes and change time zone (10 hours between USA and Ukraine). I was exhausted. I needed time to rest and recover to restore my forces and to adapt to the new time and new climate. I had painful cramps in my legs that night. He did not give importance to my physical condition at that time (RP 9 line13-19).

The next day we went to Pasco for 10 days.

George wanted to get married immediately in Pasco, WA. I had asked him: "Why should we be in a hurry? We had 90 days of my Visa to get married. Why in Washington?" George didn't give me a clear answer, just said that the law in the state Washington was more flexible than in Idaho. His former two marriages were in the state of Idaho. This was his explanation for wanting to get married in Washington (RP 9 line 23-25; RP 10 line 1-7). I didn't want to argue with George, because I was so happy just to be with him. I trusted him. I wanted to make him happy.

During those days, when we were at my brother's house, George began to

change, he got angry and jealous, that I gave attention to my relatives (I hadn't seen them for five years). My friends from NJ did know about our plans. They flew from NJ just to surprise and visit us. They didn't stay for our wedding, because they had tickets back to NJ on January 6, 2008. George did not want to socialize or participate much in the entertainments of my family = our family. We all, family and friends from NJ went to Church on Sunday morning (January 6, 2008) except George, he refused to go with us saying that he was going to watch football on TV.

Our marriage was in front of a Judge at the Franklin County Court House in Pasco Washington on January 7th 2008 with mutual consent . Without fraud or any pressure. We were not married in a Church. We did not plan to have a church wedding (RP 8 line 7-8). The reception was in my brother's house in Pasco, WA. The reception was attended with just my relatives (RP 10 line 7-12, RP 21 line 15). George didn't invite his parents (they lived in Boise at that time), any family members or any of his friends. He said it was not necessary. On the morning January 8th 2008 George, my son and I left to Boise. I thought that after the excitement of the week – the week before our wedding – we would go back to Boise and everybody will have calmed down, and we could start to have a normal family routine.

After our wedding, George refused to introduce me and my son to his parents. They didn't know that we were married (RP 11 line 7-9). Just his son Nathan knew about us. George told me that he asked his son do not

tell George's parents that we were married. It was completely strange to me. I asked George: "Why don't you want anybody to know about me, that I'm your wife?" He didn't give me a clear explanation to my question.

George changed a lot (RP 110 line1-7).

George frightened me because he had changed; he had become a selfish man, he only cared about his desire and did not take mine into consideration. He got often angry for no reason. My English was poor. I can't understand him sometimes. I did not have enough English skills to explain to George my thoughts. He promised me that he will have patience with "my English" and he will help me with everything in English. I was patient with him and tried to be a good wife: cooked, cleaned the house, did laundry, washed the dishes. I had problems with sleeping, because it was difficult to adapt to the new time. George demanded attention to him on his schedule. He constantly wanted to have sex. I had feeling that George keep me in his house just like a sex slave.(RP 11 line 9-14). George was being a sarcastic, abusive husband. George put all my opinions down, he put names on me. George terrorized me mentally, morally, sexually and physically. George yelled at me saying that he was the owner of the house and I should give him only sexual satisfaction whenever he wanted and as often as he wanted. George said: 'You should keep silence". My opinion and desire never were taken into consideration. George made me feel humiliated, broken, empty, and like I am nothing. George started to control what I and my son ate. George wanted to control everything about me and my son: what we said; what we

did or didn't do; what we ate. George got angry when I talked to my brother or my parents, or my friends. Whenever I made a phone call it became a scandal with George. I got upset. It seemed that I lost my individuality after I married George and he took complete control of my life. When I asked George to help me to continue to process our paper work in USCIS, so that I could legally go to work and help our family budget, George became very opposed to signing any of the required papers for the financial support for me and my son for 10 years. The officer in the US Embassy in Kiev told me: "After you get married in USA, continue the processing of your paper work – SSN, Employment Authorization and Green Card - as soon as possible" (RP 114 line 20-21). Jim Fair (agent who helped George with Fiancé Visa information) said in his letter the same thing (RP 114 line 10-14, EX 03). George said that he could not trust me and he will not do this, forever. I didn't know why and what to say... My husband George, the person, who supposable should love me, protect me, who took responsibility to bring me and my son to a new country and a new life, didn't care about me, my life. George rejected me at once. When I tried to ask George again, the situation just got worse. I can state more things that happened in our 24 days of marriage (when we were together), but the most important thing is that George didn't love me. George had no patience for me, he didn't believe in me. On the evening of February, 2nd 2008 George Slaughter told me that he wanted to send my son back to Ukraine, because he said: my son cost him too much. (He complained about any food that my son ate, he even counted if

my son ate two apples and a banana) I asked George: "Do you want me to choose between my son or you? George blew up with rage: "I'm your husband! You should obey me." He yelled at me to shut up. Then George threatened to call Immigration service to deport me and my son from USA as criminals. I was shocked! My English was not very good and I did not know what to do or what to say, to calm him down. He yelled and yelled and threatened that, if I did not send my son back to Ukraine, that he will shoot me and my son. I turned on the computer to speak with my brother on-line in SKYPE (RP 14). I wanted help from my brother to help me calm George down. He kept threatening us and even threatened my whole family, which was heard and seen by my brother and his wife on SKYPE. My family was frightened that something terrible may happen to me and my son. My brother came from Pasco that same night to Boise. When my brother arrived to Boise he called 911.

I want to state:

George threatened to shoot me and my son. This conversation was heard by witnesses: my brother Andrei Socolovici and his wife Svetlana on Skype on the late evening February 2, 2008.

I thought my life had ended. Police came to George's house early in the morning on February 3, 2008 (RP 15). I stated to police that my husband George Slaughter threatening to shoot me and my son. Nobody wrote a report or gave me any paper to sign that morning. Police asked me, if I wanted to leave George's house with my brother, who called the police and was waiting outside in his car. I said that I was scared to stay with

George- at the same place, and I cannot trust my husband anymore. I had a terrible feeling: "What will happen now? What I will do now? I didn't know what to do and where to go". I was completely broken. (RP 15 line 14-23 Ex. 22, RP 110 line 8-24).

I and my son left to Pasco that morning with my brother. George didn't try to stop me or apologize. George acted like he doesn't care now at all.

George didn't act like a Christian husband, or any husband who loved his wife. George didn't show his love to me – NONE.

I still had feelings for George afterwards. I had hoped that George will contact with me after this conflict and would change his mind. I thought that George would try to work out this situation peacefully. But, George didn't. I found out on February 18, 2008 that George renewed his profile on www.match.com, from which I met him. It was incredible to me that George searched for new wife while he was still married with me (EX 19, RP 104 line 6-25, RP 105 line 1-5). It was like a painful insult on a top of everything that happened already. After the threat of harm against my family from George, I was afraid for my family and my son (I and my son stayed at my brother's house, because I did not have any place to go).

I asked for protection from court. I received a temporary Order of Protection #082501577 on February 25, 2008. I was afraid for my son, me and my brother's family.

C. Summary of Argument

After a long courtship and a lot of difficulty of our language barrier, George asked me marry him. George said that he loved me. I trusted him completely. I was happy. We were married. After George threatened to shoot me and my son, I couldn't trust him anymore. I didn't feel any love or care from George. I didn't feel any protection from George. I left George because I was scared of him. I left George without any money, without any of his paperwork, without any of his belongings. I didn't know what will happen with me and my son after that. I just tried to protect my son and myself (RP 6 line 4-8).

I object to argue or discuss religion beliefs with George. We had a lot of conversations and agreements about Christian beliefs before our marriage. After marriage George absolutely didn't show his Christianity. I stated in court, before court and after that I'm a Christian. Any woman: Christian or not should not have to take any kind of abuse from her husband.

I filed for divorce, because I didn't see any reasons that this relationship will be any better after this devastating time in my life, after the trust was broken, after George abused me, after George didn't have any love for me, after George showed his true face to me.

D. Argument. THE MARRIGE WAS VALID

1) Our marriage was in front of a Judge at the Franklin County Court House in Pasco Washington on January 7th 2008 with mutual consent, without fraud or any pressure. (RP 109 line 12-25, RP 110 line1-7).

After 3 weeks of our marriage on February 2, 2008 George Slaughter threatened to shoot me and my son, if I will not send my son back to Ukraine. A true Christian husband would never ask a mother to be separated from her child. George was verbally threatening me, my son and my whole family. My brother Andrei reported to Boise Police of the domestic violence. I could not trust George anymore and I was afraid to stay with him. The policeman asked me, if I wanted to leave George's house with my brother to a safe place. I was afraid of George's unpredictable actions against me and my family. My survival instinct triggered. I answered: "Yes". George did not say anything to me or even apologize to me. I have never received a copy of the Police Report from the Boise Police Department.

On February 25th 2008 I received an Order of Protection #082501577 against George Slaughter. After Order of Protection expired I filed for divorce in March 2009. Our divorce trial was September 10, 2009. Judge Matheson decreed that our marriage was valid. Court didn't found any fraud of marriage (RP 71line 22-25, RP 72 line 1-9, RP 116 line 21-25, RP 117 line1-16). During the divorce trial on September 10, 2009 Judge Matheson stopped George from recording the trial hearing from a recorder that he had in his pocket. His recorder was confiscated during the trial by

Judge Matheson. Judge Matheson told George that digital recording without permission in the State Washington is against the law.

2) JUDGE MATHESON ORDERED TO GEORGE TO PAY SPOUSAL

SUPPORT TO LILIIA. In our Divorce trial on September 10, 2009 Judge Matheson ordered George to pay Liliia a spousal support of \$750 a month for ten months (RP 139 line 24-25, RP 140 line 1-16), (RP 156 line 8-16).

At this time George Slaughter still shows Contempt of Court for the Judgment that was awarded to me: Order No 09-3-00217-8, April 20, 2010

3) THE TRIAL COURT DID NOT BASE FOR PARTNER'S RELIGION

ARGUMENTS. During our divorce trial, I stated that I believe in Jesus Christ and I am a Christian. We were not married in a Church. The trial court didn't violate U.S. Constitution First Amendment right to freedom of religion and speech.

During the trial Judge Matheson informed George that the discussion of religion was not relevant to our divorce case. We were not married in a Church. We did not plan to have a church wedding.

George did not treat me like a Christian husband should have.

Therefore, I have objection to all religious debate with George.

My son and I are in the United States legally. We did not break any

Immigration or State laws. We have legal permanent status in the United States. I and my son went through all processes in USCIS

by ourselves. George had nothing to do with this. He didn't support me as a Christian husband should. George deliberately created intolerable conditions for our marriage. George tried to put me in an impossible

position in US. George tried to control my life, threatening and humiliating of my life and dignity.

E. Conclusion

1. I have objection to allow any additional documents, reports and digital records of private and official conversations that were not attached to our case of divorce.

2. I have objection to George's statement that my religious beliefs are fraudulent. Our marriage was a voluntary act of two Christian people. Our wedding took place in the State of Washington under its laws.

3. I have objection to this Motion of Appeal, which was stated as a partial appeal of marriage and partially an immigration case, because we had in fact a divorce case only.

4. At this time George Slaughter still shows Contempt of Court for the Judgment that was awarded to me.

Respectfully submitted,



Date: February 29, 2012

Liliia V. Kozniuk

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, Liliia V. Kozniuk, hereby certify that on March 2, 2012

I served copy of REPLY BRIEF OF RESPONDENT TO:

George M. Slaughter

1967 E Gloucester Street

Boise, ID 83706

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Liliia V. Kozniuk

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