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RE: MOKONE VS. MOKONE

PLAINTIFF'S SOCIAL HISTORY

Joyce Mokone nee Masga, was born on April 13, 1935 in Germiston, South Africa. She married Steven Mokone on July 21, 1961 in London, England. In 1975 she obtained an M.A. in education and administration at Rutgers University in New Brunswick, N.J. She is employed at a hospital in New York but preferred to keep the location of her employment confidential for safety reasons.

Mrs. Mokone was the victim of an assault by Steven Mokone, the defendant, on 11/20/77. He threw lye about her hands, arms, shoulder, face and left eye. She stated that the only lingering physical effects are eye problems. However, she stated that there are emotional after effects. She stated that she is very nervous and also is wary of strangers, fearing that her husband has arranged for someone to follow her and cause her harm. She stated that she had become much calmer but recently her fears were aggravated when she read about her husband's alleged involvement with an accused murderer (since convicted) in the Middlesex County Jail.

She currently lives in East Brunswick, N.J. but hopes to relocate soon to a place which she can keep secret from her husband. She is upset about the fact that her current address was made known to her husband and plans to take all necessary steps to maintain secrecy in the future.

Mrs. Mokone stated that she earns \$24,000.00 per year and listed her assets as follows: a 1974 Volkswagon, \$1,000.00 in a savings plan and her furniture. She listed her liabilities as follows: \$750.00 owed to Eugene Lynch, her lawyer, approximately \$800.00 owed to Bambergers, approximately \$900.00 owed to Sears, approximately \$700.00 owed to Visa.

DEFENDANT'S SOCIAL HISTORY

Steven Mokone was born on March 23, 1933 in Johannesburg, South Africa. On 12/11/78 he was sentenced to 5 to 7 years to New Jersey State Prison on a charge of Atrocious Assault and Battery on Mrs. Mokone, the plaintiff and 3 to 5 years on the armed portion of the charge. His total sentence amounted to 12 years max in the New Jersey State Prison with this charge was a result of the aforementioned

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DEFENDANT'S POSITION (Con't)

York he is to be taken to Maryland to face charges of Attempted Burglary, Attempted House Breaking, Rogue and Vagabond, and Fugitive.

INTERVIEW WITH THE CHILD

Thandeka, a polite, mature, and articulate girl was interviewed privately, in her home. She stated that her life was much more peaceful now that her father was in prison. She stated she was not looking forward to his eventual release. She stated that she is not ready to go to prison to see her father because she feels that, on seeing him there, the entire incident would be brought back to her. She stated that she does not want to have anything to do with prison and stated that she no longer thinks of Steve Mokone as her father but as a prisoner. She stated that when she read articles in the local newspaper about her father's alleged homosexual relationship with a fellow inmate of the Middlesex County Jail, she became very upset.

OBSERVATIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Steven Mokone is presently serving an 8-12 year sentence in Rahway State Prison for Atrocious Assault and Battery on Mrs. Mokone, the plaintiff. He is currently being held in New York City pending trial on a charge of Assault on Mrs. Mokone's former lawyer. He was removed from Rahway Prison before he could be interviewed by this officer. He also has pending criminal charges in the State of Maryland.

Based on interviews with Mrs. Mokone and her daughter, it is evident that neither of them are interested in having Thandeka visit her father. Mrs. Mokone has suffered physically and emotionally while her daughter has suffered emotionally. While Mrs. Mokone's physical scars remain, the emotional scars to her and her daughter are apparently slowly fading. This officer feels that to grant Mr. Mokone visitation which would involve this 13 year old girl visiting him in prison would cause much more harm than good. In addition, Mrs. Mokone rightfully feels that her safety might be threatened if Mr. Mokone was able to maintain regular contact with

CHILD'S SOCIAL HISTORY

Thandeka Desiree Mokone age 13, was born on April 8, 1966 in Rochester, New York. She lives with her mother and currently is in the seventh grade at the Churchill Junior High School in East Brunswick, New Jersey.

PLAINTIFF'S HOME INVESTIGATION

Mrs. Mokone and her daughter live in East Brunswick in a one bedroom, garden apartment for which she pays \$308.00 per month rent. The home was extremely well furnished and housekeeping standards upon the announced home visit were excellent. The home contained ample evidence of books and other educational stimuli.

PLAINTIFF'S POSITION

Mrs. Mokone was interviewed in her home in East Brunswick. She stated that she thinks that, if her daughter were to see her father in prison, it would be "devastating" because her daughter would be reminded of the reasons why her father was put in prison. She stated that her daughter was just now beginning to get over the trauma of the assault and the incidents surrounding it. Mrs. Mokone feels that, if she were to go to the prison to see her father, she would regress, emotionally. Mrs. Mokone stated that her daughter is very ambiguous in that she is a happy and normal child around the home but has mentioned to friends that she has contemplated suicide. Mrs. Mokone stated that her daughter had told her she could not believe what her father had put her, (Thandeka) through and told her mother that her father had physically abused her.

Mrs. Mokone also feels that her own safety would be directly threatened if her daughter visited Mr. Mokone in prison. She stated that while Mr. Mokone knows where she is at this time a move is contemplated and she wants to keep her new location from him. She feels that, if her daughter visited him, he would either try to find out the address from her or have her followed. Mrs. Mokone feels that he would then have someone do harm to her.

DEFENDANT'S POSITION

RE: MOKONE VS. MOKONE

Respectfully submitted,

LYMAN H. O'NEILL
CHIEF PROBATION OFFICER

Investigation by: *John Parvin*
John Parvin
Senior Probation Officer

Recommendation By: *W. H. H.*
William Handerhan
Principal Probation Officer II

Transcribed on:
April 2, 1979
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