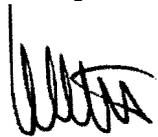




beater and woman hater. I do not believe a word of the husband about the events surrounding the story of the missing money. His plea that she admitted the theft in the presence of a Welfare Officer he has not substantiated. His evidence, that she admitted the theft to Senator Stewart and his wife, is an utter concoction. Mrs Stewart was subpoenaed to come and give evidence for the husband, but she did not appear. Senator Stewart turned up instead and gave skimpy evidence of having overheard the wife, on an uncertain date, confiding in Mrs Stewart while swimming at Indian Bay that she, the wife, had taken some money from the husband, but that he was not yet aware of it. I do not know why Mr Stewart, who is a stalwart of the church, a Senator in the Legislature of St Vincent, and a civil engineer by profession, came to testify in this matter. I do not believe the story. I find that, not content with having abused and mistreated the Plaintiff while she lived with him, the husband is now pursuing her with a view to make her suffer more. He has not only concocted this story of her admitting to stealing money from his briefcase. He has attempted to have the Immigration Department deport her. He has defaulted in obeying the Family Court Order for the maintenance of his family. He seeks out persons who may employ his wife to poison them against her. He has maliciously retained all her clothing, personal possessions and furniture that she brought into the marriage. She and her two children are forced to sleep on the floor without a single one of their possessions from the husband's house. He says her stealing his money has ruined his hardware business, as he was unable to pay for supplies he credited, and credit has now been withdrawn. He did not speak the truth about the stealing of the money, so he is probably also not speaking the truth about being in financial difficulty. With divorce proceedings underway he must be concerned about the pending maintenance order and property settlement.

The case is dismissed. The Plaintiff is to pay the Defendant her costs of this suit to be taxed if not agreed.



I D Mitchell QC

High Court Judge (Ag)

July 21 1997