

# **Mock Trial**

## ***Karmia Kahn v. Keith Kahn***

A woman accuses her husband of multiple instances of domestic violence.

**Developed by the D.C. Street Law Clinic  
at Georgetown University Law Center**

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IN THE SUPERIOR COURT  
OF NEW COLUMBIA  
Family Division

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KARMIA KAHN, Petitioner, \*

v. \*

DR 1985'95

KEITH KAHN, Respondent. \*

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**STIPULATED FACTS**

*All parties to this action agree and stipulate to the accuracy of the following facts:*

On January 9, 1995, petitioner, Karmia Kahn, filed a Petition and Affidavit for a Civil Protection Order against her husband, Keith Kahn, for alleged acts of domestic violence.

Petitioner, Karmia Kahn, age 28, and respondent, Keith Kahn, age 45, married in 1985. The Kahns have three children: Jamie (age 8), Michael (age 4), and Cathy (age 2). Respondent was born in Togeria and emigrated to the United States in 1971 to pursue his business studies. He owns a profitable business, Kahn Properties. Petitioner, the daughter of Togerian immigrants, is a homemaker. Both parties believe deeply in the Togerian faith and agreed to raise their children in the faith. The main tenet of the faith is that individuals have preordained roles to play. Men are to provide the financial and spiritual leadership and women are to care for the families. The faith promises, if individuals fulfill their roles, a peaceful existence for all.

For the first eight years, the Togerian faith provided the Kahns with the framework for a happy marriage. The Kahns respected and loved each other. Two years ago, the marriage began to encounter some difficulties.

On January 5, 1995, the parties separated. Mrs. Kahn now temporarily resides with the parties' three children at the home of her parents. The parties have agreed that Mrs. Kahn

should have temporary custody of the children and that Mr. Kahn will have reasonable rights of visitation and will contribute child support monthly. Accordingly, custody, visitation, and child support are not issues in this case.

### **CLAIMS, DEFENSES, and RELIEF**

This matter is before the Court for trial on charges brought by petitioner, Karmia Kahn, that respondent, Keith Kahn, engaged in two separate instances of domestic violence. Mrs. Kahn contends that on January 2, 1995, Mr. Kahn “pulled my hair, threw me to the ground, and kicked me” and that on January 5, 1995, slapped her across the face and threatened her with the Togerian phrase “wal teerts.” She asks that the court issue two Civil Protection Orders, as follows:

(1) the first Civil Protection Order shall direct respondent, Keith Kahn, to stop all physical abuse against her based on the January 2, 1995 incident; and

(2) the second Civil Protection Order shall direct respondent, Keith Kahn, to stop all physical abuse and threats against her based on the January 5, 1995 incident.

Petitioner, Karmia Kahn, also wants the court to order respondent to attend domestic violence counseling based on these incidents.

Respondent Keith Kahn denies that he has committed or threatened to commit any act of domestic violence. Mr. Kahn contends that on January 2, 1995, he did not commit an act of domestic violence since his actions were entirely permissible under the law. He contends that on January 5, 1995, he in no way knowingly hurt or threatened Mrs. Kahn. He asks that all charges against him be dismissed.

### **ADDITIONAL STIPULATIONS**

The parties have stipulated to the authenticity of the following items:

1. The January 9, 1995 Affidavit and Statement of Claim.
2. The January 6, 1995 Incident Report of Officer Chris Williams
3. Page 332 of Doctor Pat Sherman’s Anatomy of a Word (Westport 1993)

The parties reserve the right to dispute any other legal or factual conclusions based on these items and to make objections to these items based on other evidentiary issues.

## **APPLICABLE LAW**<sup>1</sup>

### **Statutory Law:**

#### **Intrafamily Domestic Relations Act -- New Columbia Code Sec. 18-2800 et. seq:**

##### **Sec. 18-2800. Definitions**

For purposes of this section:

- (1) The term “respondent” means any person accused of committing or threatening to commit an act of domestic violence.
- (2) The term “petitioner” means any person who files a Petition and Affidavit for a Civil Protection Order.
- (3) A person acts “knowingly” when the person believes or should reasonably believe that his or her actions are likely to cause a particular result.

##### **Sec. 18-2801. Civil Protection Order**

(1) If, after a trial, the Court finds by a preponderance of the evidence that the respondent committed or threatened to commit an act of domestic violence then the Court will issue a Civil Protection Order.

(2) To commit or threaten to commit an act of domestic violence, a respondent must knowingly:

- (A) cause or attempt to cause physical harm to a family or household member; or
- (B) threaten to cause imminent physical harm to a family or household member.

##### **Sec. 18-2802. Defenses**

(1) No Civil Protection Order shall issue if respondent committed or threatened

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<sup>1</sup> The statutory and case law are fictitious. However, for the purposes of this mock trial, statutes or case law are binding if from the jurisdiction of New Columbia.

to commit an act of domestic violence against a family or household member but respondent acted in self-defense.

(2) To act in self-defense, respondent must have reasonable grounds to believe that bodily harm is imminent and must react by using no more than a reasonable amount of force necessary to protect himself or herself against the harm.

**Sec. 18-2803. Relief.**

(1) Upon violation of Sec. 18-2801(2)(A) or (2)(B), the court shall issue a Civil Protection Order requiring respondent to cease all future acts of harm against petitioner for one year;

(2) Upon violation of Sec. 18-2801(2)(A) or (2)(B), the court may fashion in its discretion other appropriate remedies for up to one year; and

(3) Violation of any of the terms of the Civil Protection Order is punishable by a maximum of three years in jail and/or a \$10,000 fine.

**Case Law:**

**In Re SS,** 144 New Columbia Rept. 133 (New Columbia Supreme Ct. 1991)

*Summary of the Facts:* In February of 1990, respondent, Patricia Easton and petitioner, James Easton<sup>2</sup> separated after repeated instances of domestic violence by both parties. Their child, “SS,” lived with her mother but spent weekends with her father.

On March 10, 1990, Mrs. Easton went to Mr. Easton’s apartment to pick-up “SS.” Upon entering the apartment, she saw Mr. Easton hitting “SS” with a 3 inch wide leather belt. She noticed welts on the child’s back. Mrs. Easton grabbed a frying pan from the stove and swung it two times against Mr. Easton until he stopped hitting SS. Mr. Easton suffered bruises on his back, arms, and shoulders.

Mr. Easton filed for a civil protection order on the grounds that Mrs. Easton had knowingly caused him harm by hitting him with a frying pan. The trial court found that although Mrs. Easton had acted to protect their child from serious abuse, Section 18-2802 of the

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<sup>2</sup> The names of the parties have been changed to protect the identity of the child.

New Columbia Code only permits self-defense as a defense, not defense of others. The trial court issued a civil protection order against Mrs. Easton.

*Holding:* We hold that defense of a third party is a defense to an act of domestic violence. The person claiming the defense must have a reasonable belief that bodily harm to the third party is imminent and respond by using a reasonable amount of force to protect the third-party against such harm. This is so despite the language of the statute that only recognizes self-defense as a defense to domestic violence. Defense of others has always been recognized as a defense to criminal and tort liability in this jurisdiction. Accordingly, we reverse the trial court and deny the civil protection order.

This case is distinguishable from Lewis v. Lewis, 491 Md.Rept. 120 (Maryland Supreme Ct. 1989), in which Mary Lewis stabbed Kirk Lewis at least eight times in the back in order to protect “LL” from what she believed was an excessive beating. In that case, we rejected her defense because she responded with excessive and unreasonable force in order to defend a third party.

**Florida v. Southworth**, 456 Fla.Rept. 1033 (Florida Supreme Ct. 1992)

*Summary of Facts:* On June 3, 1992, a domestic violence charge was filed against Joanne Southworth, respondent. The complaint stated that respondent “on or about the 15th of May did knowingly cause finger-like bruises to the buttocks and a cut to the left temple of her son.” At the hearing, Ms. Southworth testified that her six year old son had stolen money from her purse and then lied about it. She then admitted that she had slapped her son four times on the buttocks as punishment for the lie. The son “JE” also testified that his mother had slapped him about five times on the buttocks and that the slaps had been hard. “JE” explained that the cut to his left temple resulted from a bike fall. Ms. Southworth claimed that she was administering appropriate parental discipline and therefore, was not guilty of domestic violence. Ms. Southworth admitted that she had “lost control” and “hit JE too hard.” The State argued that she had violated the domestic violence statute. The trial court found respondent guilty of domestic violence.

The Florida Code reads: “No person shall knowingly cause or attempt to cause physical harm to a family or household member.” The code defines harm as “any injury or illness regardless of its gravity or duration.”

*Holding:* In crafting these laws, the legislature surely did not intend to prevent a parent from properly disciplining his or her child. The intent of the legislature must be taken into account when interpreting statute. In addition, courts have long recognized a sphere of privacy that protects a family from excessive governmental interference. We hold that proper and reasonable parental discipline is a defense to the charge of domestic violence. We conclude that

Ms. Southworth engaged in proper and reasonable parental discipline and reverse the holding of the lower court.

**State v. Jones**, 160 Oklah.Rept. 122 (Oklahoma Supreme Ct. 1993)

*Summary of the Facts:* Mark Jones is a devout member of the Cult of the Poppyseed, a religious organization that believes that god is reflected in nature. The Cult, whose practices date back 2,000 years, has over 7 million members throughout the world. Approximately, 1,000 members practice in the United States and 700 of the members reside in the town of Obe, Oklahoma, population 120,000.

In May of 1991, Mark Jones was arrested for smoking opium in a deserted park, which is against Oklahoma law and punishable by a minimum of three to nine years in jail. Mr. Jones argued that the smoking of opium was an important religious practice that glorified god and symbolized one's acceptance of the Poppyseed faith. The Cult members only smoked opium in secluded parks and did so on the first Sunday of each month. Mr. Jones was sentenced to jail for violation of a criminal law.

*Holding:* We affirm the conviction. The Court is mindful of the important interest that the First Amendment protects but is also mindful of the important societal interests of order. Laws cannot interfere with religious beliefs but they may interfere with religious practices if those practices substantially threaten society's interest in preventing the use of drugs.

## **RULES OF THE FAMILY COURT OF NEW COLUMBIA**

### **Rule 5: Children Witnesses**

There is an irrebuttable presumption that all children over the age of 6 years may testify. The trier of fact must assess the believability of the child's testimony in part based upon the child's perceived ability to be truthful.

### **Rule 8: Family Immunity**

There is no family immunity in this jurisdiction in domestic violence matters. Therefore, all family members may testify against each other.

### **Rule 10: Limited Immunity**

No testimony by a respondent in a domestic violence related matter shall be used against that defendant in any criminal trial except a criminal trial for perjury.



## **WITNESSES TO APPEAR BEFORE THE COURT**

### **For the Petitioner Karmia Kahn**

- \* Karmia Kahn, petitioner and alleged victim of domestic violence
  - \* Terry Sellars, friend of petitioner's
- \* Officer Chris Williams, Police Officer, Domestic Violence Unit

### **For the Respondent Keith Kahn**

- \* Keith Kahn, respondent
- \* Jamie Kahn, parties' eight-year-old son
  - \* Pat Sherman, linguistic sociologist

**KARMIA KAHN -- WITNESS STATEMENT**

(Petitioner)

My name is Karmia Kahn. I am 28 years old and have been married for ten years to Keith Kahn, who is 45. My full-time, 24-hour-a-day job is being a mother. I was raised in the Togerian faith, which provides me with a sense of purpose since everyone has an important role to play. In a family, a husband's role is to provide for the financial and moral support of the family and to discipline the other members if they threaten any Togerian ideals. A wife's role is to care for the children and her husband and to maintain the house. The children's role is to learn the Togerian ideals, to study hard, and above all else, to respect and to obey their parents. Togerians have been living like this for centuries and that's why we are so happy.

I always wanted to marry someone who shared my beliefs. At age 16, I met Keith Kahn and knew that my dreams would come true. He was wise, traditional, and wealthy. In 1985, we married in a traditional Togerian ceremony. In 1986 we had Jamie. Then in 1990 we had Michael. And then in 1992 we had Cathy. We were a traditional Togerian family. Our marriage was perfect.

Keith had his own company, Kahn Properties, and I cared for our home and family. Keith made all the decisions since he knew how to handle money. When he came home from work, we would discuss the children, any purchases that I had made that day, and other topics. He would comfort me especially when the children had been particularly bad, like the day a year ago when Jamie broke our crystal vase on purpose. I jokingly told Keith that at that instant I could have killed Jamie. I told Keith that I was relieved that Togerian men were in charge of family

discipline. We did have some problems but we always worked them out. Once Keith and I got into a fight over the fact that I had lost \$200.00. Keith had been reminding me not to put money in my pocket since it was sure to fall out. Well, I stupidly put the \$200 in my pocket and I lost it. Keith got mad and slapped me across the face. I thought at the time it was exactly what I deserved because of Togerian tradition. The right to discipline a wife is limited to a slap across the face and to situations where the wife's behavior threatens the Togerian way. In the ten years that we've been married, Keith has slapped me across the face about ten times. Last May, he hit me because I ruined his favorite sweater. Another time, he slapped me because I dented our new car. But, really those are the only times that I ever remember being unhappy.

All my life, I had only been close to Togerians. However, about two years ago, I met Terry Sellars at the local playground where we both took our children. Terry was really opinionated and smart. Terry believed that men and women were equal, that both had a primary responsibility to care for the children, and that both could work at any profession and deserve the same pay. As time went on, I began to trust and value Terry's opinion, but I still believed in the Togerian way of life.

My husband disapproved of my friendship with Terry. It was around that time that I began to do small things without Keith's advice to increase my self-confidence. Keith noticed that I was not calling him as much at the office and cutting short our nightly discussions. He seemed upset.

I brought up the idea of doing some kind of work to help contribute to the family. Keith got really mad and said that my work would symbolize that he had failed his family.

Despite his views, I started working preparing Togerian delicacies for parties, thanks to referrals from Terry. That started some time in September of 1994. I did all the cooking while Keith was at work. Sometimes, my sister would come and watch the children while I was busy in the kitchen. The job in no way interfered with my household duties.

On January 2, 1995, the children were bad all day. Jamie, our 8 year old, was getting on my nerves by saying things like “You cannot tell me to do my homework. That is father’s decision. I wish father were here since I love him more than you.” On top of all of this, Michael had been throwing temper tantrum after temper tantrum. He had been crying and screaming all day and refusing to nap just like Cathy.

At about 5:00 p.m., I began to prepare dinner and put a pot of water on the stove to boil. I tried to open the refrigerator but Michael had plopped himself in front and would not move. He began screaming. I tried to get Michael to move but he kept screaming so I reached down to move him. At this point, he slapped my face. I became furious and slapped him once on the bottom. I was just so mad. I had never hit any of the children before this.

I told Michael to go to his room until he was willing to act like a big boy and respect his mother. He refused to get up so I grabbed him to move him into his room. Michael was screaming. Just as we were nearing the stove, he tried to bite my arm. As I was moving my hand away, I almost knocked over the pot of boiling water. I held onto the handle in order to steady it over the stove with one hand and with the other hand I struggled to keep Michael from escaping.

At that moment, my husband walked in the kitchen. He grabbed the pot of water from

me and poured it down the sink. He slapped me across the face, real hard. Then he grabbed me by the hair and right arm and threw me face down onto the floor. He then kicked me hard in the stomach. It all happened in an instant. I ran out of the house. I felt dizzy and my face and stomach ached. I did not know what to do. I knew that I could not go to my parents' since I was ashamed of what had happened. I decided to go to Terry's home, which was only a few blocks away. Terry was kind to me. She/He comforted me and tended to my injuries. Terry thought that I should go to the hospital but I told her/him that I would be fine.

Terry told me that I did not deserve to be hit no matter what I had done. I wanted to believe Terry but part of me felt that Keith was right to hit me across the face since I really should have left the physical disciplining of Michael to Keith. Husbands, not wives, are supposed to discipline the children. But, Keith went too far.

I returned home. I thought we could put the incident behind us but something happened three days later that made me realize that our marriage was in trouble.

On January 5, 1995, Keith found a thank you note and a check for \$75.00 from one of my customers. He asked me about the check and I explained that I had been working for a few months. He yelled that any job was against the Togerian ways. I said that the job did not interfere with my household duties. We argued back and forth. He got even angrier when he found out that my family knew about my job. He demanded that I stop working. I told him that I did not want to.

He grabbed the thank you note and ripped it up. Then he took the check and threatened to rip it up, too. I told him if he destroyed my money then I would go to my parents. He ripped

up the check, anyway. His face get all red and he slapped me across the face, not particularly hard, and yelled in Togerian “wal teerts”. I was really scared since that phrase is only used in extreme situations when you want to hurt someone. That phrase means that I will destroy you. I looked in his eyes and knew that he meant it. I knew I needed to leave.

I guess the neighbors must have heard us screaming and called the police. I was glad the officer came in since I did not know what Keith would have done to me. I met with Officer Williams, who asked me some questions. I told him/her how the fight started and how I was so scared to death by my husband’s words. Officer Williams told me about a way that the Court could protect me from Keith. Many women who are beaten or threatened file for a Civil Protection order. It allows women to have the law behind them and protects them from future violence. I said I needed time to think. At about 10:30 p.m., the children and I left for my parents with Officer Williams.

I have been doing a great deal of thinking. I know that I love Keith and that I want to live a Togerian life. I know that my children need their father. I also realize that working at home and taking more responsibility in decision-making are not at odds with Togerian beliefs. Keith does not need to slap me across the face to teach me. While the Togerian faith says a husband has a right to slap a wife across the face, it does not say a man must exercise that right. Most of the times he slapped me in the past, I thought it was an acceptable part of our faith. But now I see things differently. When Michael slapped me across the face, I realized that he was just acting like his father. I don’t want my children thinking that it is ok for a husband to slap his wife. I want them to solve their problems through respect and discussion. Keith needs to

understand this before we can get back together.

I want to live with my parents for awhile and then decide if we will stay together. But, before I can do this I need some protection to make sure that my husband does not strike me or threaten me. It will take him time to understand my needs. Keith is still angry with me and I will feel more protected if the law is on my side. So that's why I filed for a Civil Protection Order on January 9, 1995. After doing the filing myself, I decided that I should get some legal assistance for the upcoming trial.

**TERRY SELLARS -- WITNESS STATEMENT**

(Testifying for Petitioner)

My name is Terry Sellars. I live at 1602 Walnut Street. I met Karmia Kahn about two years ago. She was taking her children to the park, and I was there with my two children. When I first met Karmia, she was very timid. She didn't say much to me at first, but she seemed very interested when I told her things about myself.

Karmia's way of life is totally foreign to me. I respect some of her Togerian traditions and her simplicity, but I feel like she could be doing so much more with her life. She's never traveled, and she doesn't know anything about politics or money matters. She was fascinated when I told her about how I attend an M.B.A. program at night while my spouse, Fran, watches our children. She said that she could never do anything like that and that Keith would not allow it even if she wanted to. When I told her that Fran and I take turns cooking dinner and that we both do household chores, she laughed. She said that she had never heard of a man doing the dishes.

I began to realize that Karmia did not have an identity of her own apart from her husband. I have never met Keith but to be honest, he sounds like a jerk. All Karmia did was attend to his needs and follow his directions. I felt sorry for her because she was treated like a child. Keith made all the major decisions in the family without asking for Karmia's input. She didn't have any say in how they spent their money. Karmia never told me that he had physically abused her, but I remember noticing a bruise on her eye some time in May of 1994.

I thought it was unhealthy for Karmia to see herself as inferior to Keith. I started



to suggest that Karmia do things on her own, and that it would make her feel good about herself as a person. I told her she was capable of making decisions for the children without consulting with Keith and that she could discipline them just as well as he could. I tried to make her realize that she wasn't only a wife and mother and that there was a world outside of what Keith allowed her to see and do. Karmia wanted me to believe that everything was perfect in their family. If everything was so perfect, I don't think that Karmia would have listened to me. The truth is, she wanted to have more independence. I just gave her some ideas on how to do it.

Karmia has changed a lot since I've gotten to know her. I think my encouragement helped her. I could see her taking more of an active role in making decisions. In the last year, Karmia even decided that it would be okay to discipline the children. She would do appropriate parental things like slap Michael on the behind if he tried to bite or hit another child. I saw her slap him about three times and it was the right parental decision. She told me that Keith was not pleased with her new behavior and that he disapproved of our friendship. I told her to take things slowly and that eventually Keith would accept the changes she was trying to make. She didn't seem sure that Keith would overcome his frustration with her.

In early September of 1994, I helped Karmia get her part-time job started. I had a friend who called me and asked if I knew a good caterer for a business lunch for about twenty people. Right away, I thought of Karmia. When I suggested to her that she should sell some of her wonderful Togerian cooking, she seemed so flattered. I offered to pick up the food and deliver it to my friend's office so she wouldn't have to leave her children with a babysitter. She wanted to do it because she was eager to have some money she could spend without Keith's

permission. I think it gave her a sense of pride that some one outside the family enjoyed her cooking. It was really good for her self-esteem. She made me promise to help her keep the whole thing secret because she knew Keith would never allow it if he found out. So I've been helping Karmia out with her deliveries. I really don't have to help her get customers anymore now that word is spreading about her cooking.

In early January, 1995, an incident began to change my mind about whether Keith might be abusive toward Karmia. Karmia came to my door about 6:30 at night, hysterical. As soon as I saw her, I knew something was wrong. She was crying and her face looked red. Her right eye looked really swollen. She had what looked to be scratches -- as if someone had grabbed her -- all over her right arm. She said that Keith had hit her because she was trying to discipline Michael while he was having a temper tantrum. She said that she had never seen Keith so angry before. Karmia kept clutching the right side of her stomach as if she were in pain and rubbing her head. She asked me for aspirin since her head ached. She said that she would be okay.

She was very upset, so we talked for a few hours until she felt ready to go home. She said that she had really been frightened of Keith. She told me that Keith had never hit her before when she didn't deserve it. I told her that no matter what she did, she didn't deserve to be hit. It took me a long time to convince Karmia that it wasn't her fault. She seemed to think that she had deserved it for correcting Michael when she wasn't supposed to. Eventually, I got her to understand that she wasn't the one to be blamed for what Keith had done.

I'm not trying to destroy the Kahn's marriage, but I am trying to keep Karmia

from being in a relationship where she could get seriously hurt. Their relationship needs some major changes. I'm just trying to help a friend. I haven't seen her since the night she came by all messed-up. I guess she's embarrassed.

**OFFICER CHRIS WILLIAMS -- WITNESS STATEMENT**

(Testifying for Petitioner)

My name is Chris Williams. I've been a police officer in New Columbia for 22 years. I work in the Family and Domestic Violence Division of the force. During the past five years, I have taken a year's worth of police training courses on handling domestic violence situations, including a mediation course and a course on identifying and dealing with victims of battered women's syndrome. I have a great deal of experience in responding to domestic violence situations, and I testify in court on a regular basis in domestic violence cases. I have occasionally testified as an expert witness. Of the 40 times as an expert, I've testified, I testified 38 times for the petitioner and two times for the respondent.

On January 5, 1995, my partner and I responded to a call at 1401 Chestnut Street, the home of Keith and Karmia Kahn at 10:00 p.m. Our dispatcher had received a call from a neighbor about a domestic dispute. When we arrived at the house, we could hear the shouting inside. My partner stayed in the patrol car to radio back to the dispatcher while I went to the door. I was let inside the house by the Kahn's eight-year old child, Jamie. Jamie said, "My mom and dad are fighting in the living room." I entered the living room and saw the couple arguing. As soon as they saw me, they stopped, but Mr. Kahn was visibly angry. His face was red from shouting. Mrs. Kahn was crying, and she looked terrified. She was shaking from head to toe.

I separated the couple to try to calm them down and to find out exactly what was going on. I left Mr. Kahn in the living room and went into the kitchen to talk with Mrs. Kahn.

She was still trembling, and she kept looking over my shoulder into the living room to see what her husband was doing. She seemed distracted when I spoke to her, but she was finally able to calm down enough to tell me what happened. She said that she and her husband were having some sort of argument about whether or not she could have a part-time job. She told me that in the course of the argument, he had slapped her across the face and threatened to kill her. She said he had used the Togerian phrase “wal teerts” and that in English that phrase meant that he was going to kill her. When I started to explain to her that she should not stay in the home if her husband was hurting her, she told me that she wasn’t frightened by him slapping her but by his words. She said the slap was part of the Togerian culture. I informed her that in the U.S. a slap was a violent act. At that point, she told me that her husband had hit her a few days earlier in a fit of anger and that she was really afraid of him.

In my experience, she fit the profile of a victim of domestic violence. While there is no one single profile, Mrs. Kahn exhibited behavior consistent with an abused woman. She appeared visibly shaken and kept looking around to make sure her husband was not listening to our conversation. She seemed reluctant to believe that violence had occurred and kept saying that she thought he would change. She felt reluctant to press criminal charges. In addition, she seemed to blame herself.

After I spoke with her, I went back into the living room and talked to Mr. Kahn for about five minutes. He had calmed down a lot. He didn’t say much about the argument except that he had become very angry because his wife had lied to him. He said he was confused and couldn’t understand why his wife had become so upset. Mr. Kahn seemed like a nice guy,

and judging from the home, it looked like the family had a nice lifestyle. He didn't seem violent, and I noticed that nothing in the living room looked like it had been broken during the argument. He also didn't appear overly controlling, which is a classic characteristic of a batterer. I asked Mr. Kahn to sit outside on the front step so he could get some fresh air and clear his head. I also thought I would be able to explain things to Mrs. Kahn more easily if Mr. Kahn were out of the house. I thought she would feel more comfortable that way.

Mrs. Kahn said she didn't know what to do and that she was very afraid of her husband. She didn't want to press criminal charges against Mr. Kahn. It's not uncommon for a woman to feel like it will only make her husband angrier if she takes steps against him. There's nothing I can do in that kind of situation except give out information. It wouldn't make sense to make an arrest since I had not actually witnessed any of the violence and without Mrs. Kahn's cooperation, the case would be a loser. So I have to let the victim decide what she wants to do. I did not want to force Mrs. Kahn into taking any steps she didn't want to take, but I have a duty to inform people of the procedures that are available to protect them. Since there's no mandatory arrest law in New Columbia, I generally don't arrest the abuser unless the victim asks me to.

I told Mrs. Kahn that she could file for a civil protection order (instead or in addition to pressing criminal charges) against her husband if she was really afraid of him. I told her that it was against the law for her husband to hit her or threaten her. I explained to her that filing for a civil protection order would not be like trying to have her husband arrested or sent to jail and that it did not mean that she would be getting a divorce. When she began to understand

that the civil protection order was only to prevent her husband from hurting or threatening her in the future, she said that she wanted to file one. I also advised her that if she did not feel safe in her home that she should try to stay with a friend or relative until the civil protection order was issued, if the court decided to issue one. She asked me to take her and her children to her parents. After I dropped her off, I filed an incident report.

**KEITH KAHN -- WITNESS STATEMENT**

(Respondent)

My name is Keith Kahn. I was born and raised in Togeria. I came to the U.S. in 1971, when I was 22, to study business. I started out working at Compu-Tech, a big company. I liked my job, especially the social life and the travel. I didn't make much money at first, but I got raises since I was such a hard worker. I saved my money and decided to start investing in real estate. I would buy a run-down house or small office building, hire some contractors to do repairs, and then sell it at a profit.

The real estate business became so profitable that I decided to do it full-time. I liked working at Compu-Tech, but I felt like I was just one of many employees and I wasn't really "in charge" of anything. Also, even though I was used to Western ways of doing business and I got along well with my American co-workers, I preferred to be around people who shared my Togerian values. So in 1981, I left Compu-Tech to start my own development company, Kahn Properties, Inc. I employ about 50 Togerians.

Another reason I started Kahn Properties was to have the financial security to start a family. I've given up a lot in order to run my own business. I don't travel as much and I don't go out with friends after work, but I consider these to be small sacrifices to make to be able to raise a family. I'm able to provide for my family, and I enjoy being my own boss.

About two years after I started my own company, I began to think about marriage and starting a family. In Togeria, people can't get married unless the husband shows that he has a way of supporting the family. I think one reason there are so many problems in the U.S. is that



people start having children they can't support. Sometimes they're not even married, and even if they are, some mothers are too busy having careers that they don't want to take care of their kids.

I think Americans have their priorities mixed up. They don't have any structure in their lives. That's one reason I thought Karmia and I were so perfect for each other. She was Togerian, and we had the same traditional values. When we met in 1984, she was 17 and I was 34. We got along great, and in January of 1985, we were married in a traditional Togerian ceremony.

One of our marriage vows was to raise our family according to the Togerian faith. Our religion teaches that the man is the provider and decision-maker. He sets the family rules and disciplines the children, and the woman cares for the children and the home. It's part of our faith, and it has worked for our people for generations. We truly believe this is the best way for children to grow up. Togerians also believe that the man is the disciplinarian of the women and children. Discipline is not used to punish. It is used to teach right from wrong. A mother should not physically discipline her children because it is not womanly to hit a child. Only a father may hit the children, and if women misbehave like children, the man must discipline them like children. This gives the man power but also a great responsibility because he must be wise enough to make major decisions and to teach his family right from wrong.

In 1986, our first child, Jamie, was born. That was one of the happiest times for us. Four years later our son Michael was born, and two years after that our daughter Cathy was born. Karmia has always been a wonderful mother. She's very gentle and wouldn't hurt a fly. She takes care of the children and keeps them happy by taking them to the park, to visit with her

mother, or to the store when she does the shopping. She also teaches them about our Togerian heritage at home.

When I come home from work, dinner is always waiting and the house is spotless. At the end of the day, my conversations with Karmia are about the children and what they have done during the day. If any major issues have come up, I make the decisions about how to handle them.

My business is doing well, and Karmia and the children are well cared for, although I cut back on the spending a little to save for the future. Karmia and I have never discussed my business. I take care of all the money matters. She does the shopping and saves all the receipts for me so I can keep track of everything.

Luckily, in our marriage, there have only been a few times that Karmia had to be disciplined. The accepted Togerian way of disciplining a wife is a gentle slap across the face. The purpose of a slap is not to cause pain but to show her that she has done something shameful. This has only happened about five times in our marriage. The only times I ever slapped Karmia were when she did something that offended the Togerian ways.

Our problems began about two years ago when Karmia met an American, Terry Sellars, while she was taking our children to the park. They became friends. I think it's ok for Karmia to have friends, but not when she starts believing crazy ideas they put into her head. As Karmia spent more time with Terry, I noticed more changes in her. Since this past October, she has been very defiant. She doesn't call me at work as often as she used to. At times, she questions my decisions. Terry started telling Karmia that she should get a job and leave our

children in day care. I told Karmia that it was ridiculous for Terry to make her feel that being at home with our children is not important enough and that she had to earn money and have a career. I make plenty of money, and I don't want people thinking that I can't take care of my family. I told her that she did not need a job.

Anyway, there have been two incidents of trouble in our marriage recently. The first was on January 2, 1995. I came home from work around 6:00. I walked in the front door, and I heard Michael screaming. It wasn't the kind of screaming like when a child is angry or upset. It was a scream of pain. I ran into the kitchen and saw him standing. I heard Jamie screaming, "Mommy, don't hurt Michael!" Karmia was standing over Michael, holding a pot of water in her hand. The stove burner was on and I could see steam rising out of the pot. Karmia started to say something about Michael having another temper tantrum. It looked like she was going to pour the water on Michael, and I just panicked. I rushed toward her and I grabbed her arm so she would drop the pot in the sink, but some water splashed onto her right arm. I grabbed the pot by the handle. It was so hot that I just dropped it in the sink. I shoved Michael out of the way, and slapped Karmia across the face. Karmia screamed, and I pushed her away from me. I guess I pushed her hard enough to knock her down because she fell to the floor. When I turned to make sure Michael was ok, Karmia jumped up and ran out of the house. I took the children upstairs.

Looking back, I know I didn't mean to hurt Karmia that day, but I needed to protect Michael. What else could I have thought except that she was going to pour water on him? She never would have tried to discipline the children like that before she met Terry.

Nothing like this has ever happened in our family before, and Karmia and I have always treated each other with respect. I just snapped when I realized she had hit Michael. She has been changing more and more, and that incident was just the last straw. It seems like Karmia all of a sudden has decided that she can change our traditions.

Karmia and I never talked about the incident. I thought she had realized that she was destroying our family and that she would go back to her old ways. But, just a few days later, on January 5, Karmia and I had another fight. I was going through the mail and found a \$75.00 check and a note addressed to Karmia thanking her for the “wonderful dishes” that she had prepared. When I asked her who sent it, she said that she had been cooking Togerian foods and selling them to Terry’s friends for parties and business lunches for the past month. I was absolutely furious that she had been deceiving me. How am I supposed to trust her when she lies to me? Instead of apologizing for what she had done, Karmia started yelling at me. We started arguing, and I told her she was no longer a good wife and mother. I ripped up the card and the check, and slapped Karmia across the face. I said in Togerian, in a very calm voice, “Wal teerts” which means “You should be cleansed.” I meant she needed to get all of these evil ideas out of her head. She was breaking our marriage vows, and she had to return to the Togerian faith.

The neighbors must have heard the shouting because a police officer came. Officer Williams talked to Karmia for about an hour, and then she/he talked to me for about five minutes. At about 11:00 p.m., Karmia was packing her things and taking the children to go stay with her parents. I don’t understand why she left. I was just trying to make her realize that she

was destroying our family.

On January 9, 1995, I found out that Karmia had filed for a civil protection order against me. The next day, I went to see Dr. Pat Sherman to try and figure out how I can work out our troubles without getting a civil protection order against me. It could really hurt my reputation and my business if I lost in court against my wife. Plus this is a private matter that we can settle without all this embarrassment. I really miss Karmia and the kids, and I want them to come home.

**JAMIE KAHN -- WITNESS STATEMENT**  
(Testifying for Respondent)

My name is Jamie Kahn. I am 8 years old. I am in the third grade at the Martin Luther King Junior Elementary School. I made the honor roll last year. I have a sister who is two and a brother who is four. I am the oldest, which I like a lot. I am Togerian and American. I think that makes me special.

I know the difference between a dream and what happens in life. Dreams are not real. I do not believe in the Tooth Fairy. I know that the Tooth Fairy is really my father. I caught my father slipping \$5.00 under my pillow on the night I lost my last tooth. Sometimes, my friends and I play games. One game is that we are detectives and we try to solve crimes. We really have fun pretending that we are solving crimes. But, I know that it's make believe. I want to be a detective when I grow up. So I practice all the time. We love to play near the haunted house, where there are some ghosts. The ghosts live there to protect a treasure that is hidden in the basement.

My parents always tell me to tell the truth. I do. I lied once about breaking a vase. My dad later found out that I had lied so he hit me. He hit me very hard with a belt so I learned my lesson well. I don't want to be hit so hard that I can't sit for a few hours again. That lesson made me know what happens if I lie.

I have not been that happy lately since my mother, brother, sister, and I are staying with my grandparents. I really miss my father.

It's all my mother's fault that we had to leave. She's been acting kind of strange

lately. She's been cooking all the time so I don't get to spend much time with her. I am not sure what she does with all the food she makes but I think it has something to do with her friend, Terry Sellars. My mom also gets cranky all the time. She yells at me a lot. About a month ago, she even slapped me when I was acting bad. She told me to not tell my father or she would slap me again. I kept my mouth shut. I bet it hurts her more to hit me than it hurts me. She can't even kill a bug. I remember once she trapped a spider under a glass and took it outside instead of stomping it.

It's weird for her to hit me since that is my father's job. He is supposed to punish us when we are bad since he knows how. He is fair. He's the one who should control us when we are bad since he knows what is good and bad. My mother should do the things that my father tells her to do like cook, take care of us, and clean. She's good at those things.

I think my parents are still mad at each other. A while ago, my mother, Michael and I were in the kitchen. I was sitting at the table doing my home work. I was working on my multiplication tables. I remember that it was getting dark since I was looking out the window at a car go down the alley with its lights on when I heard my brother cry for the zillionth time that day. He was being a pain. He had been annoying me by trying to grab my pencil. Finally, he left me alone and went to bug my mother.

He sat down in front of the refrigerator. He started to cry and scream. Mom was cooking dinner. She had a pot of water on the stove. I told my mom that I could not concentrate with all the noise. So she went over to move my brother.

Michael was screaming that he would not move. I heard my mom tell him that if

he didn't stop screaming then he would have to go to his room. I just heard Michael screaming louder. I guess she tried to pick him up. I couldn't see what happened exactly but I guess he hit her or something since she got really mad. She had her back to me but I heard a smack. Michael cried louder and louder. He is such a pain.

My mother grabbed him and started dragging him toward the kitchen door. When they were near the stove, Michael bit her arm and she yelled, "You'll be sorry for what you did." That's when I saw her grab the pot of water on the stove. It looked like she was trying to steady it in one hand. She had Michael in the other hand. I thought that she was going to dump the boiling water on his head. So I yelled, "Don't hurt him."

It's a good thing I said that since my dad came running in. If he had not come, Michael would have been sorry. He grabbed the pot of water away from her and it looked like he poured it down the sink. Then he hit my mom across the face. Next thing I knew mom was on the floor face down. I guess she just fell down. It all happened real quick. That's all that happened. There wasn't any blood or anything like that.

My mom was crying. Then she ran out. Dad grabbed Michael and told me to follow him. We left the kitchen and went up to my room. Dad just read us a story. He seemed sad. I guess he was sad that he had to hit mom.

I saw mom about an hour later. Her eye looked puffy. She hugged me and said she was sorry that I had to see that and that she loved me. She said that she and dad would work it out. After she hugged me, she touched her stomach like it hurt her or something. I asked if she had a tummy ache. She said she did but would be ok.



But she lied to me since things are not ok. A few days, later. I woke up because I heard mom and dad screaming at each other. I came downstairs to answer the doorbell. It was a police officer. I let the officer in. The officer told me to go up to my room. Later that night, my brother and sister and I left for my grandparents' home.

I just want our family to be happy again.

**DOCTOR PAT SHERMAN -- WITNESS STATEMENT**

(Testifying for the Respondent)

My name is Pat Sherman. I am a linguistic sociologist. This is a new field that combines the study of languages and sociology. I received my B.A. in sociology from Howard University in 1984. I did my undergraduate thesis on Togeria, an island in the Indian Ocean, and the role religion plays in an individual's selection of a career.

After college, I spent two years in Togeria, where I taught English to elementary aged children. I knew Togerian since I grew up speaking it. My parents are Togerian. After returning from Togeria, I received my Ph.D in linguistics from Georgetown University in 1992. I wrote my dissertation, "Anatomy of a Word," on the different meaning words have depending on the knowledge and experience of the listener and on the context of the situation. My dissertation described how the same word can have two completely different meanings depending on the experience of the listener.

Since 1992, I have run the Cultural Linguistic Awareness Center. We train diplomats and business leaders, who are journeying to Togeria, in the Togerian culture and in basic language skills. I also provide support to individuals from the Indian islands who are having problems coping in American society.

Keith Kahn came to my office on January 10, 1995. I know Keith since he is a highly respected leader of the Togerian community. He appeared devastated because his wife had left him and taken the three children a few days earlier. He needed support from someone who understood his way of life and the high value he placed on being Togerian. We met for

about an hour and a half.

Mr. Kahn is of the Togerian faith. The Togerian religion is a combination of the religions of the Indian Ocean islands. The central point of the religion is that all earthly relationships comprise a ladder that eventually will lead each and every creature to Tava or what Christians call heaven. Therefore, each creature must play their role so that all the rungs in the ladder are strong. No role is more important than the next since each role must be played correctly or no one will make it to Tava. The role of the man is to provide for the financial and spiritual support of his family. Women are to care for the home and the family. They are to obey the rules of the Togerian faith as interpreted by the men. Children are to obey their parents and above all to respect the Togerian way of life. If each person plays his or her role, the Togerian faith offers a peaceful productive life where individuals feel linked to a broader purpose.

Mr. Kahn and his wife Karmia Kahn had a typical Togerian marriage, where the woman stayed at home and raised the children and where the man provided for the financial support and spiritual leadership of the family. According to Mr. Kahn, for the first eight years of marriage, the Kahns were quite happy. I believe this to have been the case.

About two years ago, the Kahns began to fall into a pattern that is the leading cause of divorce among Togerians. This pattern is called “anti-assimilation syndrome,” which means the inability to find a balance between the Togerian and American ways of life. Togerians who are able to maintain their traditional roles simply do not divorce. The syndrome usually begins by greater exposure to the American way of life. Once this exposure to Western

culture takes place, it is hard to accept completely again the Togerian way of life. Sometimes violence erupts in the family since the husband feels a loss of control. It becomes hard to return to the old Togerian ways.

Based on my conversations with Mr. Kahn, it is clear that the Kahn family shows signs of “anti-assimilation syndrome.” This was in part, due to Mrs. Kahn’s friendship with an American, Terry Sellars. Her friendship made her more assertive and less dependent, more willing to take control in the rearing of the children, and more likely to work part-time. For most of their marriage, Mrs. Kahn would call Mr. Kahn numerous times at work for advice. However, in the last year she rarely called him. She used to talk to him for a long time when he returned home from work. Recently, she had been cutting these conversations short. Despite his instructions not to get a job, she did so anyway.

Mr. Kahn stated that he and his wife got into an argument on January 5, 1995, because he had found out she had been working. They exchanged words. Then he slapped her across the face and said in a calm voice the Togerian phrase “wal teerts.” He told me that he chose that phrase to let her know that she could be cleansed of the influences that were making her resist the Togerian way of life. He said he wanted to show that he would do everything possible to help their family become happy again. He said that Mrs. Kahn could not have thought he meant the phrase in a violent way.

After the fight, Mrs. Kahn left him and then filed for a Civil Protection Order. He mentioned that they had had a misunderstanding a few days prior to this second fight, but he did not tell me about any of the details. Mr. Kahn is extremely upset that his family’s reputation is

being dragged into court. He seeks my help in explaining to the court that what he did was not violent but a way to help his family stay together. He wants the court to respect his culture so that the court will understand that he is a good, peaceful man.

In the Togerian culture, a gentle slap across the face is a highly permissible act by a husband when a wife does something against the Togerian faith. According to the faith, a husband can only slap his wife across the face and nothing else. He must do so in the privacy of their home. Mrs. Kahn strayed from the faith by defying his command that she not work. Mrs. Kahn was questioning Mr. Kahn's role as family head in the Togerian tradition. Mrs. Kahn, given her Togerian upbringing, would be aware that acting against her husband would be grounds for a slap across the face and would know that this slap was not meant to harm but meant to teach. Based on my extensive exposure to the Togerian culture and my years of training, a slap across the face is not a violent act for Togerians but a means of assisting a loved one to be a good person.

My professional opinion that the slapping was in not a violent act is supported by Mr. Kahn's use of the phrase "wal teerts" . Depending on the circumstances, this phrase can mean "I will cleanse you" or "I will destroy you." Based on my observations of Mr. Kahn, his recollection of the fight, and my expertise as a linguistic sociologist, I conclude that Mr. Kahn intended to cleanse Mrs. Kahn not to kill her or harm her in any way. I base my conclusions on the following. First, Mr. Kahn slapped her and said "wal teerts" at the same time. Slapping a wife's face for Togerians is educational and not considered violent. When the slapping is combined with the phrase, it means that "you need to be cleansed and I will assist you." Second,

Mr. Kahn's tone of voice was calm when he uttered the phrase. Third, Mrs. Kahn needed to be cleansed since she had disobeyed Mr. Kahn's wish by working and by not relying on him as she used to. Fourth, the Kahns had had a happy, respectful marriage. It would be absurd to conclude that Mr. Kahn wanted to destroy his wife.

This is not a case of domestic violence. This is a case of a man trying to save his family and restore the family peace.

**SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW COLUMBIA  
FAMILY DIVISION**

\_\_\_\_\_, Petitioner

vs.

DR No. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_, Respondent

**PETITION AND AFFIDAVIT FOR CIVIL PROTECTION ORDER**

The Petitioner respectfully requests the court to issue a Civil Protection Order against the Respondent, as specified by New Columbia Code Sec. 18-2801. In support of this request, the Petitioner states that:

1. The Respondent is related to the Petitioner by:  
\_\_\_\_\_ blood \_\_\_\_\_ legal custody \_\_\_\_\_ marriage \_\_\_\_\_ having a child in common
  
2. On or about \_\_\_\_\_, 19\_\_, at approximately \_\_\_\_\_ at (location)  
\_\_\_\_\_ within New Columbia, the Respondent committed or threatened to commit an act punishable as a domestic violence offense within the meaning of New Columbia Code Sec. 18-2801, et seq. (1981):  
  
 Assaulted  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
  
 Threatened  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
  
 Other \_\_\_\_\_

The Petitioner asks the Court that a trial be set on this matter.

The Petitioner asks the Court to issue an Order of Civil Protection against the Respondent, as specified by New Columbia Code sec. 18-2801.

The Petitioner asks the Court for such other relief as the Court finds appropriate.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Petitioner

New Columbia, SS: \_\_\_\_\_ being duly sworn, states that he/she is the Petitioner named in this case; that he/she has read and understands the petition; that he/she has duly served the Respondent; and that the facts states here are true to his/her knowledge.

Subscribed and sworn before me \_\_\_\_\_, 19\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Notary Public



NEW COLUMBIA INCIDENT REPORT (Form 1051)

Date of Report:

January 6, 1995 (10 a.m.)

Name of Officer:

Officer Chris Williams

Location of Incident:

1401 Chestnut Street  
New Columbia

Date of Incident:

January 5, 1995

Time of Incident:

10:30 p.m.

Describe Incident:

My partner and I responded to a domestic relations matter at the home of Keith and Karmia Kahn. This was the third domestic dispute that we had responded to that night.

As I entered the home, I heard the Kahns exchanging angry words in a language that I did not recognize. I heard a male voice yell something that sounded like "wil vorts." I rushed into the living room and separated the parties.

I then interviewed Mrs. Kahn for approximately 25 minutes. She displayed the classic symptoms of an abused woman. She denied that there was a problem even though she was visibly shaking. I really felt sorry for her since she reminded me of my younger sister, who is in a similar situation.

I then spoke with Mr. Kahn. Mr. Kahn put on the typical act of saying that he had done nothing and the he had no clue why she was so upset. This behavior is typical of men who batter. If he hadn't done anything wrong, then how could he explain the broken lamp?

Mrs. Kahn did not want to press criminal charges. However, I think she is going to file for a Civil Protection Order thanks to my encouragement.

Animals have limited ways to communicate. Dogs are limited to different tones of barking while cats are limited to different tones of meowing. Thus, most animals have a finite vocabulary that depends on the different tones whether that be a bark or a meow. While animals are unable to communicate complex ideas, animals communicate simple ideas like hunger and fear most effectively. By virtue of a limited vocabulary, each idea must be precise. For instance, a dog knows that a high pitched bark signifies fear whereas a soft bark signifies joy. Because of these basic ways to communication, there is little room for misunderstanding.

However, communication between humans is often subject to misunderstanding. Human communication is complex given the infinite possible combination of words and hundreds of different languages. Unlike animals of the same species, not all humans can understand each other. As an English-speaker, I can better understand the barks of my dog than the dialect of a Chinese farmer.

Besides the different languages that prevent humans from understanding each other, even humans who speak the same language have trouble. A single word can mean two or more different things. A word's meaning depends on the experiences of the listener and the speaker. For instance, the same word can have a different meaning depending on whether the speaker knows the listener or not or on whether the speaker is angry at the listener or not. It is difficult for a third party to interpret the meaning of words between a listener and a speaker when the third party was not present during the conversation. If the third party was not present, he\she must have a detailed understanding of the relationship between the speaker and the listener to understand the effect of the words.

Another factor that makes communication difficult is if both the listener and the speaker are from different cultures. In some cultures, like the Togerian one, a calm voice can at times signify severe disapproval and danger. While in other cultures, such as the North American, a calm voice means love and warmth. Misunderstandings often happen if the listener and speaker are from different cultures.

SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW COLUMBIA  
FAMILY DIVISION

Karmia Kahn, Petitioner  
vs.

DR No. 1985'95

Keith Kahn, Respondent

**PETITION AND AFFIDAVIT FOR CIVIL PROTECTION ORDER**

The Petitioner respectfully requests the court to issue a Civil Protection Order against the Respondent, as specified by New Columbia Code Sec. 18-2801. In support of this request, the Petitioner states that:

1. The Respondent is related to the Petitioner by:  
\_\_\_\_\_ blood \_\_\_\_\_ legal custody X marriage X having a child in common

2. On or about January 2, 1995, at approximately 5:30pm at (location)  
1401 Chestnut Street New Columbia within New Columbia, the Respondent committed or threatened to commit an act punishable as a domestic violence offense within the meaning of New Columbia Code Sec. 18-2801, et seq. (1981):

- Assaulted  
On January 2, 1995, Keith Kahn pulled my hair, threw me to the ground and kicked me. On January 5 he slapped me across my face
- Threatened  
On January 5, Keith Kahn threatened me with the Togerian phrase "wal teerts." It means that I will kill or will destroy you.
- Other \_\_\_\_\_

The Petitioner asks the Court that a trial be set on this matter.

The Petitioner asks the Court to issue an Order of Civil Protection against the Respondent, as specified by New Columbia Code sec. 18-2801.

The Petitioner asks the Court for such other relief as the Court finds appropriate.

Karmia Kahn  
Petitioner

New Columbia, SS: Karmia Kahn being duly sworn, states that he/she is the Petitioner named in this case; that he/she has read and understands the petition; that he/she has duly served the Respondent; and that the facts states here are true to his/her knowledge.

Subscribed and sworn before me January 9, 1995

Janet Smith my commission expires  
Notary Public 10/20/98