

1 Q. So, when you say that you were upset  
2 because he cared about the baby and not you --

3 A. No, I didn't say that. I said that he  
4 was --

5 MS. BERRIEN: Can we read that back,  
6 is that possible?

7 THE COURT REPORTER: "Question: He  
8 was very hostile. He said that I had to  
9 return to the house because what was he going  
10 to do alone in this house; his mother was  
11 going on a trip on the 12th, it wasn't fair to  
12 him to be all alone in the house and that if I  
13 did not return with the baby he would do  
14 everything in his power to bring the baby  
15 back. And that made me feel like I wasn't  
16 even important to him, that I was just there  
17 to take care of the baby and to fulfill that  
18 duty."

19 Q. (By Ms. Berrien) So were you upset because  
20 you believed that you weren't important to him?

21 A. I was upset over his whole attitude. I was  
22 upset about the yelling and the pressure and the  
23 accusations and him treating me as if I was  
24 malicious, and I have never, ever been malicious to

1 him.

2 Q. And you consider this to be abusive?

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. Has he ever hit you?

5 A. No.

6 Q. Has he ever threatened to hit you?

7 A. No.

8 Q. Has he ever pushed you?

9 A. No.

10 Q. Has he ever threatened to push you?

11 A. No.

12 Q. Has he ever physically harmed you in any  
13 way?

14 A. No.

15 Q. Has he ever threatened to physically harm  
16 you in any way?

17 A. No. Prior to this moment, no.

18 Q. Did he threaten to physically harm you on  
19 the telephone call on the day that you are  
20 discussing?

21 A. Not directly, but his anger, I wasn't sure  
22 if -- how angry he was, if he would do that. I mean,  
23 I had never, ever seen him that way, so I was -- I  
24 didn't --

1 Q. When you say see him, you could only hear  
2 him?

3 A. Hear him, yes, I'm sorry.

4 Q. So you don't know anything but the sound of  
5 his voice and the words he was saying?

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. Did he swear at you?

8 A. No.

9 Q. So when you say "threatened" you don't mean  
10 he threatened you physically?

11 A. No, he threatened to take the baby away  
12 from me, and he didn't physically threaten me but he  
13 did threaten that -- or he did say that when I come  
14 back that he would see if I would be able to return,  
15 you know, return to the Dominican Republic. And it  
16 was very scary to me because that meant that he had  
17 total control of whatever it was that I wanted to do  
18 with my life or when I wanted to see my family.

19 Q. So you were worried that you'd never be  
20 able to go back to the Dominican Republic if you came  
21 back?

22 A. Yes.

23 Q. So you decided to stay there?

24 A. He consented for me staying there until

1 things calmed down.

2 Q. Do you know what date this telephone call  
3 occurred?

4 A. There were several. The first one was on  
5 the 25th, it was on Christmas, but there were others  
6 on the 31st and there were more before the 11th.

7 Q. You mean December 31?

8 A. December 31, I'm sorry, yes, and more in  
9 the beginning of January towards the middle of  
10 January.

11 Q. Which telephone --

12 A. And then things calmed down in the middle  
13 of January and I thought that he had opened up and  
14 understood, since we had spoken and I talked to him,  
15 like, sincerely about how I was feeling and the  
16 things that we were investigating to help our  
17 situation, I thought that he was being an  
18 understanding partner about what I was trying to do  
19 down there.

20 Q. So you were no longer afraid of him at that  
21 point?

22 A. I put it all behind me because I really  
23 believed that -- I couldn't believe that he would do  
24 anything to me like send me a lawsuit. I never

1 thought that he would ever do that to me, ever.

2 Q. Do you consider that abusive?

3 A. Yes, very abusive. To me, it was like a  
4 control type of tactic and it was a big bully type of  
5 situation.

6 Q. So you felt that, by filing papers for  
7 custody of his child, he was bullying you?

8 A. Yes, he was. And he was totally destroying  
9 our relationship.

10 Q. And I just have to go back because we got  
11 off track. On the sentence, "He threatened me about  
12 what he would do if I didn't return when I had  
13 originally planned," did he say anything to the  
14 extent of he would do anything other than fight for  
15 his rights for his child?

16 A. He would prevent me from coming back.

17 Q. And you were frightened of not being able  
18 to come back to the Dominican Republic?

19 A. Yes.

20 Q. So when you say "threatened," you don't  
21 mean physically, you mean --

22 A. Again, it was over the phone; I don't know  
23 what he would be capable of.

24 Q. Did he use the word "threaten"?

1           A.    No.  Threaten, no, because that's  
2   describing the situation.

3           Q.    Did he say he would hurt you?

4           A.    No, he didn't say he was going to hurt me.

5           Q.    Okay.  Did he call you any names in those  
6   conversations that were inappropriate?

7           A.    I don't recall.  It's possible, I don't  
8   recall.

9           Q.    Had he called you inappropriate names in  
10   your relationship before?

11          A.    No.

12          Q.    Was he polite to you?

13          A.    Yes.

14          Q.    Was he kind?

15          A.    Yes.

16          Q.    Was he loving?

17          A.    Yes.

18          Q.    Did you love him?

19          A.    Yes.  Very much.

20          Q.    Do you think he loved you?

21          A.    Yes.

22          Q.    Do you think that you had a good  
23   relationship before you went to Dominican Republic?

24          A.    A good relationship with a lousy situation,

1    yes.   But probably the basic communication problems  
2    that a lot of couples have.

3                   MS. BERRIEN:  Why don't we take a  
4                   two-minute break if we can.

5                                   (Recess taken from 11:14 to 11:24)

6                   MS. BERRIEN:  Back on the record.

7           Q.    (By Ms. Berrien)  So who are you living  
8    with in the Dominican Republic?

9           A.    In my parents' home.

10          Q.    And do you live with both of your parents?

11          A.    My mother, primarily, because my father  
12    commutes, and my brother.

13          Q.    How old is your brother?

14          A.    He's three years older than me; he's 40.

15          Q.    And nobody else lives in the house?

16          A.    There's an employee that my mom has there.

17          Q.    What type of employee?

18          A.    There's one -- she has one employee that  
19    cares after her animals.  She has Collies, like large  
20    dogs.  And she also has -- there's also quarters and  
21    a live-in maid who's there also.

22          Q.    And does Kali have her own room?

23          A.    She has her own room, but right now I'm  
24    more comfortable in my mother's room.  I prefer to be