

**IN THE SUPREME COURT OF NOVA SCOTIA**

**Citation:** Bhatt-Standley v. Bhatt-Standley 2008 NSSC 288

**Date:** 2008 10 02

**Docket:** 1201-061894 (SFHD-53601)

**Registry:** Halifax

**Between:**

Anjee Bhatt-Standley

Petitioner

v.

Ian Bhatt-Standley

Respondent

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**Judge:** Leslie J. Dellapinna, J.

**Subject:** Division of assets and matrimonial debts, and occupation rent.

**Summary:** The parties lived together for approximately five years before being married in October 2000. They separated in May 2007. During the marriage the wife's parents provided the parties with substantial sums of money including almost \$285,000.00 in 2003 to purchase the matrimonial home.

**Issues:**

- (a) Whether the money provided by the wife's parents constituted a matrimonial debt and how should the various matrimonial assets and debts be divided?
- (b) Should the husband pay the wife occupation rent for the months from the date of separation?

**Result:**

The money provided by the wife's parents for the purchase of the matrimonial home was found to be a matrimonial debt. Other monies provided by the wife's parents were found to be gifts as it did not appear that there was ever any expectation of repayment and no evidence that those funds were intended as loans.

The matrimonial assets and debts were divided equally. The wife was given possession of the matrimonial home in order to better ensure that her parents were repaid. The husband was ordered to pay an equalization payment to his wife.

No occupation rent was ordered.

**This information sheet does not form part of the court's judgment. Quotes must be from the judgment, not this cover sheet.**