

**STATE OF MICHIGAN**  
**COURT OF APPEALS**

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In the Matter of CRYSTAL ANN-DELIGHT  
VALENTINE, Minor

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OWEN THOMAS and MARGARET THOMAS,

Petitioners-Appellees,

v

EUGENE MARES,

Respondent-Appellant,

and

HOPE ANGELA VALENTINE,

Respondent.

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UNPUBLISHED

December 5, 1997

No. 201303

Ottawa Probate Court

LC No. 96-006353-AD

Before: McDonald, P.J., and Wahls and J. R. Weber\*, JJ.

MEMORANDUM.

Respondent-appellant appeals as of right from the probate court order terminating his parental rights to the minor child under § 39 of the Adoption Code, MCL 710.39; MSA 27.3178(555.39). We affirm.

The probate court found that respondent-appellant and the child's mother each contributed money for their own expenses for a two-month period during the mother's pregnancy, but that neither contributed money for the support and care of the other. The probate court did not clearly err in arriving at this finding, or in its assessment of credibility and assignment of weight to be accorded the evidence. *In re Miller*, 433 Mich 331, 337, 344; 445 NW2d 161 (1989); *In re Ballard*, 219 Mich

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\* Circuit judge, sitting on the Court of Appeals by assignment.

App 329, 331; 556 NW2d 196 (1996). Because § 39(2) requires the putative father to have “provided support . . . *for the mother* during pregnancy,” the probate court properly concluded that respondent-appellant did not come within the “support” provision of § 39(2).

Affirmed.

/s/ Gary R. McDonald

/s/ Myron H. Wahls

/s/ John R. Weber