J. A09001/03

2003 PA Super 172

J.C., FORMERLY KNOWN AS Ja.S., : IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF

PENNSYLVANIA

Appellee

:

v. :

:

J.S., :

Appellant

No. 1256 WDA 2002

Appeal from the Order Entered June 18, 2002 In the Court of Common Pleas of Allegheny County Family Court at No. F.D. 95-010897

BEFORE: TODD, BENDER and KELLY, JJ.

Petition for Reargument Filed May 14, 2003
OPINION BY BENDER, J.: Filed: April 30, 2003

Petition for Reargument Denied July 10, 2003

¶1 J.S. (Father) appeals from an order that denied his petition to modify support and relieve him of any support obligation for D.S., who was born on May 18, 1989, during Father's marriage to J.C. (Mother),¹ although D.S. is not Father's biological child. Father raises issues concerning the trial court's application of the doctrine of paternity by estoppel. Finding that Father's issues are without merit, we affirm.

¶2 In May of 2001, Father filed a motion to compel blood tests to determine whether he was D.S.'s biological father. After a hearing, Father's motion was denied. Father then petitioned for a modification of his support obligation for D.S. A court order issued on January 31, 2002 directed that a hearing be held before a hearing officer to determine "legal"

¹ Mother was formerly known as Ja.S.

_