

Adultery & Spousal Support: Do Gifts from Third Parties Comprise Income?

Question: My wife has committed adultery after 15 years of marriage. However, she's not living with her penniless lover and is not working. Her parents give her stable yearly cash "gifts." Do I have to pay spousal support?

Answer: The law still expects you to support her, even though she's committed adultery. However, the gifts from her parents are considered in family law to be "income," even though they are not taxable. So you may be off the hook, or at least partially relieved from paying spousal support.