

FAMILY CIRCUMSTANCESFamily history:

Mister Moussaoui, Moroccan, comes from a family with 12 children, of whom only two are still alive.

His father worked for the railroad, his mother as a gold salesperson...

He spent his entire childhood in Fez and Azrou, Morocco, went to school, worked, from the age of 13 on as a tiler and continued working in this field.

At the age of 16, his mother married him to a Moroccan woman, older than himself. He only stayed with her for 3 months, then separated from her and returned to live with his mother.

15 days after the latter's death, he asked for a divorce.

In November 1960, he remarried a young woman of 14 in Azrou, Aïcha El Wafi.

Aïcha El Wafi comes from a relatively well-off family with 5 children.

Her father works as a butcher, her mother as a midwife.

Aïcha went to school from the ages of 8 to 14. During her school years, she took three years of training for a C.A.P. in dressmaking.

Her entire family stayed in Morocco. Her brothers and sisters are rather successful (one is a policeman, the other a teacher...).

The young couple first lived with Ms. Moussaoui's mother then moved to Azrou. 4 children were born of their marriage - Nadia in December '63, Jamila in June '65, Abdsamed in January '67 and Zaccarie in May '68.

In 1966, the family moved to France and lived in Handaille (from '66 to the end of '68, then moved to Bayonne. In 1970, disagreements began in the Moussaoui household... The arguments are more frequent... Mr. Moussaoui strikes his wife... They disagree about work - Mr. Moussaoui wants to work as a tiler, but wants to remain self-employed, and his wife is against it... Ms. Moussaoui wants to work, but her husband insists that she stay at home.

On 5 / 19 / 1971, Ms. Moussaoui leaves her family home with her 4 children for the Pension St. Vincent de Paul in Biarritz... the children go to school at the pension... the mother works there as an assistant laundry supervisor

In February 1972, Ms. Moussaoui rents an apartment in Périgueux, at 38, rue Victor Hugo and places her children in the PEPI day care center while she is at work. In March, she finds work as a laundry supervisor in a children's home in St. Amans-de-Vergt (24). She lives there with her children from March to July 1972.

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In the meantime, Mr. Moussaoui (who had fallen ill in February after his wife's departure with the children - nervous breakdown) recontacts his family and begs his wife to live with him again. He leaves the Bayonne region in March 1972 and comes to work in Mulhouse.

His wife joins him in the beginning of July 1972, and the children are then put in the care of the Temniac Foyer de Bonté in Sarlat (24), where they are still currently living.

After a month in a hotel in St. Louis, the Moussaouis find an apartment (5 rooms with kitchen and bathroom) at 33 rue Jean-Martin in Mulhouse, where they have now been living since 7 / 30 / 1972.

They have a good relationship and have decided to remarry (they are in the process of taking care of the required red tape).

Mr. Moussaoui is a self-employed tiler. He works with another workman for a company in St. Louis. He is well-paid. Ms. Moussaoui is thinking of accepting a job as a seamstress - at home.

Both are anxiously awaiting the return of their four children.

LIVING CONDITIONS

The Moussaouis have moved into an apartment with 5 rooms with a kitchen and bathroom in a new building in Brustlein. They have bought new furniture for a new child's room, but all the rest of their furniture is stored with friends in the Bayonne region. They hope to recover their furniture at the same time as their children.

CONTACTS WITH THE PARENTS:

We contacted the Moussaoui couple several times. Both made a good impression... They seem intelligent, mature...

From their point of view, their disagreement was nothing more than a crisis in their marriage... a crisis from which they suffered greatly (Mr. Moussaoui was hospitalized for 2 months in February and March of 1972 after his wife's departure with the children), and from which they have recovered...

"My husband understood and changed completely... he was led astray by his pals and had become spiteful to me... He would never have thought that I would go through with my threats, that I would divorce him if he didn't change his attitude... When he found himself in front of the actuality, he was completely at a loss and begged me to live with him again... I think that it was useful for me to not only go halfway... but now, we are very eager to rebuild our household and take the children back."

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Mr. Moussaoui is also very positive in his outlook. Listening to them explain the genesis of their misunderstanding and then the story of all the events since their separation, we effectively got the impression that this was nothing more than a "slip along the way", and that, in fact, they have a deep understanding of each other and care and worry enough about the development and growth of their children to reestablish a stable household and deal with the difficulties which shall arise in the future.

They are both neatly and properly dressed... express themselves well in French (specially Ms. Moussaoui) and are smiling and relaxed.

Mr. and Ms. Moussaoui would be very happy to retrieve their children one week or fifteen days before the start of the school year... so that there would be a buffer period between their return and the start of the school year.

Information obtained about the family

The Moussaoui family is not known to the Mulhouse social welfare department as a result of their recent move to this city.

On the other hand, they are well-known in the Périgueux Juvenile Court (His Honor, Judge Biccard), from which we obtained valid information about the Moussaoui couple. During a telephone conversation which we had with his Honor, Judge Billard [sic], the latter seemed to favor the return of the Moussaoui children to their parents.

Mr. Moussaoui is studying French in night school in order to perfect his knowledge of this language.

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THE CHILDREN

Health: good

- personal histories: Abdsamad is subject to bronchitis
- hereditary family history: sp.

Environments in which the children were placed:

- Always in the family home until May '71
- Pension St. Vincent de Paul in Biarritz from May '71 until February '72
(with their mother)
- PEPI day care center in Périgueux (February '72)
- St. Amand-de-Vergt (24) children's home from March to July '72.
(with their mother)
- Temniac Foyer de Bonté in Sarrat (24)
(since 7 / 7 / 1972)

Schooling:

The Moussaoui children seem to be intelligent... The two elder children are one year ahead.

The third child will enter primary school in September... the youngest is in kindergarten.

Character - Behavior:

The children seem to be easy to handle, intelligent and well-behaved. They do not present any specific difficulties.

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CONCLUSION

The Moussaoui couple separated in may '71 after 11 years of marriage....
The couple were at a dead end... Mr. Moussaoui beat his wife...
The latter threatens him with divorce, but he does not believe her.

Ms. Moussaoui effectively starts divorce proceedings. The divorce in the
Moussaoui case was granted on 6 / 28 / 1971, Mr. Moussaoui being deemed to
be solely at fault, custody of the children is granted to Ms. Moussaoui

Mister Moussaoui begs his wife to allow them to live together...
Acknowledging the error of his ways, he promised to reform.

In fact, the Moussaoui couple, who have been living together for two months,
get along very well. Mister Moussaoui, an assiduous worker, is, at present, a self-
employed tiler and makes a very good living.

The Moussaoui couple are in the process of doing what is needed in order
to remarry. They seem determined to never separate again because of the children,
whose return to their home they are anxiously awaiting.

Given the parents' personalities and the satisfactory living conditions,
the emotional and educational situations, which they seem capable of offering
their children, it would seem desirable to return the four Moussaoui children
to their parents (if possible, before the start of the school year in September).

Mulhouse, August 25, 1972

[Signature]

M. J. Burckard
Social Worker.