

Question:

My boyfriend's ex-wife (who has custody of their 2 children) has only been putting \$400.00 out of the \$800.00 per month toward their two young girls. She told my boyfriend that it was none of his business where the rest of the money goes. She does not hold a job and lives off off the girls' child support. My boyfriend lives in Maryland and is now having to get a lawyer in Virginia because of this. Is it legal for her to be spending the girls' money on herself while not working?

Answer:

Allow me to preface my answer to your question with the disclaimer that I am not licensed to practice law in the state of Maryland or Virginia. Are the kids going without essential needs? Usually, child support is not just for things for the kids. It also applies to housing, food, utilities, etc. since these costs need to be paid for the housing needs of the kids. Is that not happening? If so, then there may be an issue with the support usage. You can ask for an accounting of the use of the money to be sure that the kids are benefiting from the maximum amount.