

STATE OF MICHIGAN
COURT OF APPEALS

In the Matter of HAYLEIGH MORGAN RYNIAK,
Minor.

FAMILY INDEPENDENCE AGENCY,

Petitioner-Appellee,

v

SHANNON CATHRYNE RYNIAK,

Respondent-Appellant.

UNPUBLISHED
December 2, 2003

No. 248975
Macomb Circuit Court
Family Division
LC No. 01-050889-NA

Before: Murray, P.J., and Gage and Kelly, JJ.

MEMORANDUM.

Respondent appeals as of right from the trial court order terminating her parental rights to the minor child under MCL 712A.19b(3)(c)(i), (g), and (j). We affirm. This appeal is being decided without oral argument pursuant to MCR 7.214(E)(1)(b).

The trial court did not clearly err in finding that the statutory grounds were established by clear and convincing evidence. MCR 3.977(J); *In re Sours*, 459 Mich 624, 633; 593 NW2d 520 (1999); *In re Miller*, 433 Mich 331, 337; 445 NW2d 161 (1989). The evidence established that although respondent initially made progress toward being reunited with her child, she then relapsed into alcohol use and was incarcerated for a period of six months. At the time of the termination hearing, respondent had recently been released from jail. She failed to demonstrate that she could maintain her sobriety and maintain appropriate housing for a consistent period of time. The child, who was six years old, had spent two years in foster care and needed stability and permanence.

Respondent has abandoned the issue of the child's best interests by failing to argue it. *Yee v Shiawassee Co Bd of Comm'rs*, 251 Mich App 379, 406; 651 NW2d 756 (2002). In any event, the evidence did not show that termination of respondent's parental rights was clearly not in the best interests of the child. MCL 712A.19b(5); *In re Trejo*, 462 Mich 341, 356-357; 612 NW2d 407 (2000). Although there was evidence of a bond between respondent and the child, the evidence established that the child had serious psychological issues because of her chaotic childhood and that the child did not view respondent as a parental figure.

Affirmed.

/s/ Christopher M. Murray

/s/ Hilda R. Gage

/s/ Kirsten Frank Kelly