

STATE OF MICHIGAN
COURT OF APPEALS

In the Matter of AMBER MELLEEN and
TIMOTHY IRONS, JR., Minors.

FAMILY INDEPENDENCE AGENCY,

Petitioner-Appellee,

v

TAMMIE SUE MELLEEN TICANTE,

Respondent-Appellant,

and

TIMOTHY IRONS, SR.,

Non-Participating Respondent.

UNPUBLISHED

October 28, 2004

No. 255445

Kalamazoo Circuit Court

Family Division

LC No. 00-000124-NA

Before: Whitbeck, C.J., and Jansen and Bandstra, JJ.

MEMORANDUM.

Respondent appeals as of right from the trial court order terminating her parental rights to the minor children under MCL 712A.19b(3)(c)(i), (g), and (j). We affirm.

The trial court did not clearly err in finding that the statutory grounds for termination were established by clear and convincing evidence. MCR 3.977(J); *In re Miller*, 433 Mich 331, 337; 445 NW2d 161 (1989). The condition that led to adjudication was respondent's inability to provide proper care for the children because of her chronic instability. The evidence clearly and convincingly demonstrated that at the time of termination, respondent had yet to demonstrate that she could provide a stable environment for her children. Respondent minimally complied with the parent-agency agreement. After more than four years of intervention, she never reached a point where she could parent her children with consistency and stability. At the time of termination, her employment and housing were unstable, in jeopardy of being lost, and she failed to establish that she was living a drug-free lifestyle. Because respondent did not participate in or benefit from the services offered, the conditions that led to adjudication continued to exist at the time of termination and there was no reasonable likelihood that the conditions would be rectified within a reasonable time.

Further, the evidence did not show that termination of respondent's parental rights was clearly not in the children's best interests. MCL 712A.19b(5); *In re Trejo Minors*, 462 Mich 341, 356-357; 612 NW2d 407 (2000). Thus, the trial court did not err in terminating respondent's parental rights to her children.

We affirm.

/s/ William C. Whitbeck

/s/ Kathleen Jansen

/s/ Richard A. Bandstra