

STATE OF MICHIGAN
COURT OF APPEALS

In the Matter of JEI'VYN TRAONCE' HILL-
WRIGHT, Minor.

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES,

Petitioner-Appellee,

v

NAYKIMA HILL,

Respondent-Appellant,

and

TRAVHON WRIGHT,

Respondent.

UNPUBLISHED

August 21, 2008

No. 283299

Saginaw Circuit Court

Family Division

LC No. 06-030597-NA

Before: Schuette, P.J., and Zahra and Owens, JJ.

MEMORANDUM.

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

Respondent does not dispute the trial court's findings regarding the statutory grounds for termination. She only contends that the trial court erred in its determination of the child's best interests. We disagree.

Although respondent testified that she loved her daughter, the evidence showed that respondent had a serious substance abuse problem that led her to knowingly place her child at risk by using cocaine during her pregnancy. She refused to engage in individual counseling, did not make a good-faith effort at substance abuse treatment, and admitted that she continued to use drugs, which presumably accounted for her sporadic attendance at family visits. Respondent was subsequently arrested and jailed pending trial on serious criminal charges, preventing her from attending any visits. Consequently, respondent's daughter, who was removed from respondent's care at birth, never established a bond with respondent and did not know her as her mother. Respondent remained jailed pending trial on serious criminal charges and her trial date was unknown. It was uncertain when, if ever, respondent would be in a position to plan for the child

and develop a relationship with her. Under the circumstances, the evidence did not clearly show that termination of respondent's parental rights was not in the child's best interests. MCL 712A.19b(5); *In re Trejo Minors*, 462 Mich 341, 354; 612 NW2d 407 (2000). Thus, the trial court did not err in terminating respondent's parental rights to the child. *Id.*

Affirmed.

/s/ Bill Schuette

/s/ Brian K. Zahra

/s/ Donald S. Owens