

**STATE OF MICHIGAN**  
**COURT OF APPEALS**

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In the Matter of M.S.C., C.D.C., and J.A.C.,  
Minors.

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DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES,

Petitioner-Appellee,

v

HEATHER LUCINDA HOOKER,

Respondent-Appellant,

and

CHRISTOPHER JOSEPH COMPAU,

Respondent.

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DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES,

Petitioner-Appellee,

v

CHRISTOPHER JOSEPH COMPAU,

Respondent-Appellant,

and

HEATHER LUCINDA HOOKER,

Respondent.

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UNPUBLISHED  
March 24, 2009

No. 287277  
Wayne Circuit Court  
Family Division  
LC No. 02-413448-NA

No. 287278  
Wayne Circuit Court  
Family Division  
LC No. 02-413448-NA

Before: Cavanagh, P.J., and Fort Hood and Davis, JJ.

PER CURIAM.

In these consolidated appeals, respondents Heather Lucinda Hooker and Christopher Joseph Compau appeal as of right the order of the trial court terminating their parental rights to their minor children pursuant to MCL 712A.19b(3)(c)(i), (g), (j), and, with respect to respondent Hooker, subsection (l). We affirm. These appeals have been decided without oral argument pursuant to MCR 7.214(E).

The trial court did not clearly err in finding that the statutory grounds for termination had been established by clear and convincing evidence. MCR 3.977(J); *In re Fried*, 266 Mich App 535, 540-541; 702 NW2d 192 (2005). Respondents were in no better position to assume custody of the children at the time of termination than they had been at the time of adjudication. If anything, respondents appeared less able to care for the children. At the time of adjudication, respondents admitted to the deplorable condition of their home that had caused protective services to remove the children. Respondent Hooker also admitted that her parental rights to another child had been terminated previously. After respondents cooperated with services, two of the children were returned to respondents' home with in-home services in place to assist respondents.

After being returned home, however, respondents' oldest child began to regress into violent behavior, and foster care workers discovered that the home had again returned to its unsuitable condition. Respondents had ceased to cooperate with services and had ordered the in-home services workers to leave the home. Respondents were unemployed and were in danger of being evicted from their home, and respondents had separated after domestic violence had led to respondent Compau's arrest. Respondent Compau had moved in with a friend suspected of having sexually assaulted one of respondents' children, and respondent Hooker permitted her ex-husband to move into her home even though he had previously been convicted of criminal sexual conduct with a minor. Thus, even if respondents' homes were unsuitable for no other reason, respondents' choices of housemates rendered respondents' homes unsuitable. We conclude that the trial court did not err in holding under subsection (3)(c)(i) that the conditions that led to adjudication continued to exist and that they were unlikely to be alleviated within a reasonable time.

For the same reasons, the record also supports termination of respondents' parental rights under subsections (3)(g) and (j), as there was a strong indication that the children would not be safe in respondents' care. We note that two of respondents' children have extreme special needs that require additional care. The record indicates, however, that after extensive services, respondents still lacked the skills necessary to parent any child, let alone children with special needs. We also reject respondent mother's contention that the record does not support the trial court's finding that her parental rights to another child were terminated previously, as she made an explicit admission to that fact before the trial court.

In light of the record, we further find no error in the trial court's determination that termination was in the best interests of the children. MCL 712A.19b(5); *In re Trejo*, 462 Mich 341, 354; 612 NW2d 407 (2000).

Affirmed.

/s/ Mark J. Cavanagh  
/s/ Karen M. Fort Hood  
/s/ Alton T. Davis