

STATE OF MICHIGAN
COURT OF APPEALS

In the Matter of A.S.P. and T.R.L.P., Minors.

FAMILY INDEPENDENCE AGENCY,

Petitioner-Appellee,

v

STEPHANIE LETCHOLE PARNELL,

Respondent-Appellant,

and

TONY BODLEY, ODIUS SMITH a/k/a OTIS
SMITH, and TERRANCE PARROT,

Respondents.

UNPUBLISHED

March 6, 2003

No. 238547

Wayne Circuit Court

Family Division

LC No. 89-280030

Before: Gage, P.J., and Wilder and Fort Hood, JJ.

MEMORANDUM.

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

The circuit court did not clearly err in finding that the statutory grounds for termination were established by clear and convincing evidence. MCR 5.974(I); *In re Miller*, 433 Mich 331, 337; 445 NW2d 161 (1989). The circumstance that led to adjudication was a sexual assault on A.S.P. by respondent-appellant's boyfriend that was witnessed by the child's younger brother T.R.L.P. The boyfriend's physical abuse of T.R.L.P. was an additional ground. After the assault, respondent-appellant attempted to pressure the children to recant their statements. She also married the boyfriend while charges stemming from the sexual assault were pending against him, demonstrating that her own gratification superceded the fears of her child.

The evidence, likewise, did not show that termination of respondent-appellant's parental rights was clearly not in the children's best interests. MCL 712A.19b(5); *In re Trejo*, 462 Mich

341, 356-357; 612 NW2d 407 (2000). Therefore, the circuit court did not err in terminating respondent-appellant's parental rights to the minor children.

Affirmed.

/s/ Hilda R. Gage
/s/ Kurtis T. Wilder
/s/ Karen Fort Hood