

STATE OF MICHIGAN  
COURT OF APPEALS

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In the Matter of HEATHER SKYM, SYLVIA  
SKYM, and AMY SKYM, Minors.

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FAMILY INDEPENDENCE AGENCY,

Petitioner-Appellee,

v

GARY LEE SKYM, JR.,

Respondent-Appellant.

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UNPUBLISHED

June 9, 2000

No. 222901

Midland Circuit Court

Juvenile Division

LC No. 98-000157 NA

Before: Hood, P.J., and Saad and O'Connell, JJ.

MEMORANDUM.

Respondent appeals as of right from the family court's order which terminated his parental rights to the minor children under MCL 712A.19b(3)(c)(i), (g), and (j); MSA 27.3178(598.19b) (3)(c)(i), (g), and (j). We affirm.

The lower court did not clearly err in finding that §§ 19b(3)(c)(i) (failure to rectify conditions leading to adjudication), (g) (failure to provide proper care and custody without reasonable possibility for correction), and (j) (likelihood of harm to children if returned to respondent's custody) were each established by clear and convincing evidence. MCR 5.974(I); *In re Miller*, 433 Mich 331, 337; 445 NW2d 161 (1989). Respondent not only failed to cooperate with the agency's plan for parenting classes, therapy, and violence management, he also failed to recognize his deficiencies as a parent and the harm his parental deficiencies caused to his children. Further, once the grounds for termination of parental rights are properly established, the court shall order termination of parental rights "unless the court finds that termination of parental rights to the child is clearly not in the child's best interests." MCL 712A.19b(5); MSA 27.3178 (598.19b)(5); *In re Hall-Smith*, 222 Mich App 470, 472-473; 564 NW2d 156 (1997). Respondent failed to show that termination of his parental rights was clearly not in the children's

best interests. Thus, the family court did not err in terminating respondent's parental rights to the children.

Affirmed.

/s/ Harold Hood

/s/ Henry William Saad

/s/ Peter D. O'Connell