

STATE OF MICHIGAN  
COURT OF APPEALS

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In the Matter of J.S., Minor.

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FAMILY INDEPENDENCE AGENCY,

Petitioner-Appellee,

v

GEORGE A. SPATES,

Respondent-Appellant,

and

NANCY ALLINDER, f/k/a NANCY SPATES,

Respondent.

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UNPUBLISHED

September 24, 2002

No. 239549

Kent Circuit Court

Family Division

LC No. 98-010502-NA

Before: Whitbeck, C.J., and Sawyer and Kelly, JJ.

MEMORANDUM.

Respondent appeals as of right the trial court's order terminating his parental rights to the minor child pursuant to MCL 712A.19b(3)(a)(ii), (c)(i) and (g).<sup>1</sup> We affirm.

After reviewing the evidence presented, we find that the trial court did not clearly err in finding that §§ 19b(3)(a)(ii) and (g) were both established by clear and convincing evidence. MCR 5.974(I); *In re Sours Minors*, 459 Mich 624, 633; 593 NW2d 520 (1999); *In re Sterling*, 162 Mich App 328, 336; 412 NW2d 284 (1987). Because only one statutory ground is required to terminate parental rights, *In re Trejo Minors*, 462 Mich 341, 350; 612 NW2d 407 (2000), we need not decide whether termination of respondent's parental rights was also warranted under § 19b(3)(c)(i). Because respondent has failed to show that termination of his parental rights

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<sup>1</sup> Non-participating mother Nancy Allinder is not a party to this appeal.

was clearly not in the child's best interests, MCL 712A.19b(5), the trial court did not err in terminating his parental rights to the child. *Trejo, supra*, 462 Mich 353-354.

Affirmed.

/s/ William C. Whitbeck

/s/ David H. Sawyer

/s/ Kirsten Frank Kelly