

STATE OF MICHIGAN
COURT OF APPEALS

In the Matter of T.L.W., T.C.W., and S.S.S.,
Minors.

FAMILY INDEPENDENCE AGENCY,

Petitioner-Appellee,

v

TYRONE WALKER,

Respondent-Appellant,

and

LATOSHIA MARIE WALKER and STEVEN
SYKES,

Respondents.

UNPUBLISHED
November 19, 2002

No. 240030
Kalamazoo Circuit Court
Family Division
LC No. 00-000187-NA

Before: Griffin, P.J., and Gage and Meter, JJ.

MEMORANDUM.

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

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 evidence supported the Court's findings that respondent had a serious drinking problem, was unable or unwilling to provide a permanent home for the children, and he visited her once while in foster care.

Furthermore, we are not persuaded by respondent-appellant's argument that the precise language of MCL 712A.19b(3)(c)(i) did not apply to him. Respondent-appellant was represented by counsel, presented evidence, and cross-examined witnesses at the permanent custody hearing. Respondent-appellant failed to present any persuasive authority that he was not a "respondent" as that term is used in §19b(3)(c)(i). In addition, at least 182 days passed since the initial dispositional order was filed in this case in December, 2000. Therefore, the circuit court did not err in terminating respondent-appellant's parental rights under §19b(3)(c)(i)

Affirmed.

/s/ Richard Allen Griffin

/s/ Hilda R. Gage

/s/ Patrick M. Meter