

STATE OF MICHIGAN
COURT OF APPEALS

In the Matter of CHINA PARRISH, Minor.

FAMILY INDEPENDENCE AGENCY,

Petitioner-Appellee,

v

GEORGE PARRISH,

Respondent-Appellant,

and

DORIS RENEE CHAPMAN,

Respondent.

UNPUBLISHED

November 20, 1998

No. 207039

Wayne Juvenile Court

LC No. 95-332865

Before: Robert P. Young, Jr., P.J., and Wahls and Jansen, JJ.

MEMORANDUM.

Respondent-appellant appeals by delayed leave granted from a juvenile court order terminating his parental rights to the minor child under MCL 712A.19b(3)(b)(i), (c)(i), (g) and (h); MSA 27.3178(598.19b)(3)(b)(i), (c)(i), (g) and (h). We affirm.

Respondent-appellant's sole argument on appeal is that the juvenile court erred in terminating his parental rights where he offered a relative, his father, who was willing to care for the minor child. We disagree.

Once a statutory ground for termination has been established by clear and convincing evidence, the court shall order termination of parental rights unless the court finds that termination of parental rights is clearly not in the child's best interests. MCL 712A.19b(5); MSA 27.3178(598.19b)(5). Here, evidence was presented that respondent-appellant's father failed to express an interest in caring for the

child to the caseworker. Additionally, he had a 1991 conviction for possession of cocaine. The juvenile court found that respondent-appellant's father

would not be a suitable caregiver. This determination is not clearly erroneous. *In re Hall-Smith*, 222 Mich App 470, 471-473; 564 NW2d 156 (1997). Thus, the juvenile court did not err in terminating respondent-appellant's parental rights to the child. *Id.*

Affirmed.

/s/ Robert P. Young, Jr

/s/ Myron H. Wahls

/s/ Kathleen Jansen