

STATE OF MICHIGAN
COURT OF APPEALS

In the Matter of S.L.L.-R. and P.D.K.L.R., Minors.

FAMILY INDEPENDENCE AGENCY,

Petitioner-Appellee,

v

DEREK LARRY LEWIS,

Respondent-Appellant,

and

RENEE LYNN ROBY,

Respondent.

UNPUBLISHED

June 25, 2002

No. 235278

Wayne Circuit Court

Family Division

LC No. 95-325157

Before: Neff, P.J., and Griffin and Talbot, JJ.

MEMORANDUM.

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

Respondent-appellant asserts that the trial court "abuse[d] its discretion" in terminating his parental rights to the minor children. However, the applicable standard of review requires that we determine whether the trial court's decision is clearly erroneous. MCR 5.974(I); *In re Trejo*, 462 Mich 341, 356-357; 612 NW2d 407 (2000).

A court may terminate parental rights if "[t]he parent, without regard to intent, fails to provide proper care or custody for the child and there is no reasonable expectation that the parent will be able to provide proper care and custody within a reasonable time considering the child's age." MCL 712A.19b(3)(g). We hold that the trial court did not clearly err in finding that § 19b(3)(g) was established by clear and convincing evidence. MCR 5.974(I); *In re Sours*, 459 Mich 624, 633; 593 NW2d 520 (1999); *In re Miller*, 433 Mich 331, 337; 445 NW2d 161 (1989). Because only one statutory ground is required to terminate parental rights, we find it unnecessary to determine whether termination was also proper under §§ 19b(3)(c)(i) and (j). Because respondent-appellant has not sufficiently briefed the question of the children's best interests

under MCL 712A.19b(5), we need not consider this issue. *First Mich Bank v Bailey*, 232 Mich App 711, 717; 591 NW2d 676 (1998).

Affirmed.¹

/s/ Janet T. Neff
/s/ Richard Allen Griffin
/s/ Michael J. Talbot

¹ We deny petitioner's request for an exceptional issuance of our judgment under MCR 7.215(F)(2).