

STATE OF MICHIGAN
COURT OF APPEALS

In the Matter of J.A.F., W.L.F., C.W.F.-B. and,
D.E.M.B., Minors.

FAMILY INDEPENDENCE AGENCY,

Petitioner-Appellee,

v

JOY MONIFA FLEMING,

Respondent-Appellant,

and

RICHARD VAUGHN and DAMON BUTLER,

Respondents.

UNPUBLISHED

February 4, 2003

No. 238780

Wayne Circuit Court

Family Division

LC No. 98-373733

Before: Cooper, P.J., and Bandstra and Talbot, JJ.

MEMORANDUM.

Respondent-appellant appeals as of right from the trial court's order terminating her parental rights to the minor children under MCL 712A.19b(3)(c)(i) and (g). We affirm. This appeal has been decided without oral argument pursuant to MCR 7.214(E)(1)(b).

The trial 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). Despite nearly three years of services, which included parenting classes, individual therapy and group counseling, respondent-appellant continued to rationalize the physical abuse of her children as an appropriate form of discipline. Further, the evidence established that respondent-appellant would not adequately address the child abuse issues in a reasonable period because she lacked the internal motivation to change. Given this evidence, we find that the trial court did not clearly err in finding that §§19b(3)(c)(i) and (g) were both established by clear and convincing evidence.

Further, because at least one ground for termination was established, the trial court was required to terminate respondent-appellant's parental rights unless it found that termination was

clearly not in the children's best interests. MCL 712A.19b(5); *In re Trejo*, 462 Mich 341, 364-365; 612 NW2d 407 (2000). The trial court did not err in terminating respondent-appellant's parental rights to her children.

Affirmed.

Jessica R. Cooper
Richard A. Bandstra
Michael J. Talbot