

STATE OF MICHIGAN
COURT OF APPEALS

In the Matter of BRYANNA MARIE GENTRY
and HAILEY NICOLE GENTRY, Minors.

FAMILY INDEPENDENCE AGENCY,

Petitioner-Appellee,

v

TAMMY GENTRY,

Respondent-Appellant,

and

RICHARD SPECK,

Respondent.

UNPUBLISHED
December 4, 2003

No. 248565
Macomb Circuit Court
Family Division
LC No. 01-051564

Before: Murray, P.J. and Gage and Kelly, JJ.

MEMORANDUM.

Respondent Gentry appeals as of right from a circuit court order terminating her parental rights to the minor children pursuant to MCL 712A.19b(3)(a)(ii), (c)(i), (g) and (j). We affirm. This appeal is being decided without oral argument pursuant to MCR 7.214(E).

Respondent does not contest the court's finding that at least one statutory ground for termination was proven by clear and convincing evidence. *In re IEM*, 233 Mich App 438, 450; 592 NW2d 751 (1999). Rather, she contends only that the court erred in finding that termination was not contrary to the children's best interests. We disagree. Respondent was involved with a violent partner of whom both girls were frightened. Respondent had not engaged in counseling to address this and other issues and had not taken other necessary steps to improve her parenting skills. Although respondent made some attempts to comply with the treatment plan, these

minimal efforts were insufficient to overcome her failure to improve her parenting skills during the eighteen months the children were under the court's jurisdiction such that delaying permanency was appropriate. The trial court did not clearly err in finding that termination was not contrary to the children's best interests. *In re Trejo Minors*, 462 Mich 341, 356-357, 364; 612 NW2d 407 (2000).

Affirmed.

/s/ Christopher M. Murray

/s/ Hilda R. Gage

/s/ Kirsten Frank Kelly