IN THE COURT OF APPEALS OF IOWA

No. 1-627 / 00-1321
Filed December 12, 2001

FILED
DEC 12 2001
CLERK SUPREME COURT

**IN THE INTEREST OF R.E., Jr.,
Minor Child,**

**R.E., Jr., Minor Child,
Appellant.**

Appeal from the Iowa District Court for Polk County, Larry J. Eisenhauer, Judge.

R.E., Jr. appeals from a juvenile court order requiring him to register on the Iowa Sex Offender Registry pursuant to Iowa code section 692A.2(1) (Supp. 1999). **AFFIRMED.**

J. Michael Mayer, Des Moines, for appellant.

Thomas J. Miller, Attorney General, Denise A. Timmins, Assistant Attorney General, John P. Sarcone, County Attorney, and Thomas De Sio, Assistant County Attorney, for appellee.

Considered by Huitink, P.J., and Mahan and Vaitheswaran, JJ. Eisenhauer, J., takes no part.

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VAITHESWARAN, J.

Juveniles adjudicated delinquent for committing sexual offenses must register with the State "unless the juvenile court finds that the person should not be required to register." Iowa Code § 692A.2(4) (Supp. 1999). Rick, a juvenile, pled guilty to assault with intent to commit sexual abuse. *See* Iowa Code §§ 709.1 and 709.11. The district court adjudicated him delinquent and ordered him to register as a sex offender. On appeal, Rick contends the court abused its discretion in refusing to exempt him from the registration requirement. *See In re S.M.M.*, 558 N.W.2d 405, 407 (Iowa 1997) (review of juvenile placement on the sex offender registry is for abuse of discretion). We disagree and affirm.

After Rick was adjudicated delinquent, he was placed in a residential treatment program for approximately fifteen months. At the time of his discharge, Rick's case worker reported that Rick "continued to minimize the purposeful nature of his behavior . . . . " The worker stated the majority of Rick's relationships "were based on power, trickery, and manipulation" and, throughout his stay, "he struggled with distorted thought patterns which manifested primarily in blaming and arguing." Rick's grandmother reportedly voiced frustration with Rick's "lack of investment in the treatment process."

Rick was sent to a juvenile detention center, then to Woodward Academy, an institution with a sex offender treatment program. While at Woodward, Rick engaged in sexual activity with a peer and reported to staff that he felt like "getting physical." Rick nevertheless made progress at the facility and his treatment coordinator recommended he not be placed on the sex offender registry. However, the coordinator acknowledged Rick would need to continue

family and individual counseling to facilitate his transition from a structured setting to society and home life.

In declining to exempt Rick from the registration requirement, the district court made particular note of his need for additional treatment. We find no abuse of discretion in the court's ruling.

AFFIRMED.