

IN THE COURT OF APPEALS OF IOWA

FILED

APR 20 1988

CLERK SUPREME COURT

123

IN THE INTEREST OF T.M., M.S.,
and R.S., Minor Children,

P.K., Mother,

Appellant,

V.S., Father,

Appellant.

Filed April 20, 1988

8-119
87-1461

Appeal from the Iowa District Court for Wapello County (Juvenile) (No. T2-41) - Gene Glenn, Juvenile Referee, and Robert Bates, Judge.

The natural mother of three children and the natural father of one of the children appeal from an order terminating their parental rights. **AFFIRMED.**

Samuel K. Erhardt of Erhardt & Erhardt, Ottumwa, for the appellant mother.

Thomas Kintigh of Griffin, Dew & Kintigh, Ottumwa, for the appellant father.

Thomas J. Miller, Attorney General; Gordon E. Allen, Deputy Attorney General; and Charles K. Phillips, Assistant Attorney General, for the appellee State.

Considered by Schlegel, P.J., and Sackett and Habhab, JJ.

SACKETT, J.

121

In this termination of parental rights proceeding the first issue before us is whether there is clear and convincing evidence three children born in 1978, 1980, and 1982 cannot be returned to their natural mother. The second question is whether there is clear and convincing evidence the child born in 1980 cannot be returned to her natural father. See Iowa Code § 232.116(5)(c) (1985).

We find clear and convincing evidence on both issues and affirm the trial court.

Our review is de novo. In re W.G., 349 N.W.2d 487, 491 (Iowa 1984).

The three children have one mother and three different fathers. In 1981 a report was filed indicating the children had been denied critical care and the mother and children received services through 1982. A second report was filed in 1983 and the family received additional services. The children were in and out of foster care for a variety of reasons. In July 1985, the children were adjudicated to be children in need of assistance because there had been sexual abuse by a stepfather. Following adjudication the mother made some effort to improve her parenting skills. She does not, however, exhibit the stability and parenting skills necessary to assume care of the children. There is clear and convincing evidence the children cannot be returned to her care and if they are returned they will suffer harm. In re A.C., 415 N.W.2d 609, 614 (Iowa 1987).

The father of M.S. has never had sole responsibility for the child. He exhibited some interest after the adjudication but later made no effort to see the child nor to provide a home for her. There is clear and convincing evidence the child cannot be placed in his care and will suffer harm if she is. In re K.L.C., 372 N.W.2d 223, 227 (Iowa 1985).

The remaining two fathers have not appealed the termination order.

We have considered too appellants' challenge to certain child abuse reports. We find them to be admissible. See In re Adkins, 298 N.W.2d 273, 277-78 (Iowa 1980).

AFFIRMED.