IN RE M.R.

Submitted on Briefs September 26, 2013 Decided October 3, 2013

Panel: SAUFLEY, C.J., and ALEXANDER, SILVER, MEAD, GORMAN, and JABAR, JJ.

MEMORANDUM OF DECISION

The mother of M.R. appeals from a judgment entered in the District Court (Newport, *Fowle, J.*) that terminated her parental rights to the child pursuant to 22 M.R.S. § 4055(1) (2012).

Contrary to the mother's contention, the court did not err or abuse its discretion in concluding that terminating the mother's parental rights was in the best interest of the child. See 22 M.R.S. § 4050(2), (3) (2012) (stating the legislative intent that the termination of parental rights statutes be applied so as to alleviate instability and impermanency for children); 22 M.R.S. § 4055(1)(B)(2)(a); In re C.P., 2013 ME 57, ¶¶ 16, 17, 19, 20, 67 A.3d 558; see also In re Michaela C., 2002 ME 159, ¶¶ 24-28, 809 A.2d 1245 (granting substantial deference to the trial court on the issue of the best interest of the child and affirming termination of the mother's parental rights despite a bond between mother and child, stating that that is but one factor the court considers).

The entry is:

Judgment affirmed.

¹ The mother has not challenged the court's findings as to parental unfitness, and we therefore do not address that portion of the court's judgment. *See In re T.B.*, 2013 ME 49, ¶ 22 n.3, 65 A.3d 1282.

On the briefs:

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Janet T. Mills, Attorney General, Nora Sosnoff, Asst. Atty. Gen., and Shiela Nevells, Law Student Intern, Augusta, for appellee Maine Department of Health and Human Services

Newport District Court docket number PC-2009-13 For CLERK REFERENCE ONLY