

IN RE CHILD OF ANDREA C.

Submitted on Briefs February 24, 2021
Decided March 4, 2021

Panel: GORMAN, JABAR, HUMPHREY, HORTON, and CONNORS, JJ.

MEMORANDUM OF DECISION

Andrea C. appeals from an order entered in the District Court (Skowhegan, *Benson, J.*) terminating her parental rights as to her two children. Contrary to her contentions, the record provides ample support for the court's finding, by clear and convincing evidence, of at least one ground of unfitness and that termination of her parental rights is in the children's best interests. *See* 22 M.R.S. § 4055(1)(B)(2)(a), (b)(i)-(ii) (2020); *In re Cameron B.*, 2017 ME 18, ¶¶ 10, 11, 154 A.3d 1199.

We review her equal protection claim for obvious error because it was not raised in the trial court. *See In re Child of Lacy H.*, 2019 ME 110, ¶ 9, 212 A.3d 320. Obvious error is "seriously prejudicial error tending to produce a manifest injustice." *Id.* (quotation marks omitted). Further, the manifest injustice must be "of the exceptional kind that seriously affected the fairness or integrity of the proceeding." *Morey v. Stratton*, 2000 ME 147, ¶ 10, 756 A.2d 496 (alterations omitted) (quotation marks omitted). The record reveals no manifest injustice. The mother provides no statistics to support her assertion that similarly situated individuals from a different class would have been treated any differently by the trial court. *See In re Adoption of Riahleigh M.*, 2019 ME 24, ¶ 28, 202 A.3d 1174.

The entry is:

Judgment affirmed.

Julian Richter, Esq., Richter Law, LLC, Gardiner, for appellant mother

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Office of the Attorney General, Augusta, for appellee Department of Health and
Human Services

Skowhegan District Court docket numbers PC-2018-68 & PC-2019-02
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