

IN RE CHILD OF LILLIAN J.

Submitted on Briefs May 19, 2021

Decided May 27, 2021

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

MEMORANDUM OF DECISION

Lillian J. appeals from a judgment entered by the District Court (Portland, *Cashman, J.*) terminating her parental rights to her child. Contrary to the mother's contention, the court did not err or abuse its discretion in determining, with an understanding of the mother's cultural background and experiences,¹ that the record contains clear and convincing evidence of parental unfitness because the mother remains unable to protect the child from jeopardy or take responsibility for the child within a time reasonably calculated to meet the child's needs, and that the termination of the mother's parental rights is in the child's best interest. *See* 22 M.R.S. § 4055(1)(B)(2)(a), (b)(i), (ii) (2021); *In re K.M.*, 2015 ME 79, ¶ 9, 118 A.3d 812.

The entry is:

Judgment affirmed.

¹ The evidence includes a thorough and culturally aware parental assessment report by a licensed psychologist, who was familiar with the mother's cultural background and experiences.

Jason A. MacLean, Bridgton, for appellant mother

Aaron M. Frey, Attorney General, and Meghan Szylvian, Asst. Atty. Gen., Office of the Attorney General, Augusta, for appellee Department of Health and Human Services

Portland District Court docket number PC-2018-74
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