

IN RE ABIGAIL L.

Submitted on Briefs October 2, 2008
Decided November 13, 2008

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

MEMORANDUM OF DECISION

The mother of Abigail L. appeals from a judgment entered in the District Court (Bridgton, *Powers, J.*) terminating her parental rights to Abigail pursuant to 22 M.R.S. § 4055(1)(B)(2) (2007). Contrary to the mother's contentions, the court rationally could have found by clear and convincing evidence in the record that the mother (1) was unable to protect Abigail from jeopardy in a time frame reasonably calculated to meet the child's needs, or (2) was unable to take responsibility for Abigail within a time frame reasonably calculated to meet her needs. *See In re Marcus S.*, 2007 ME 24, ¶ 6, 916 A.2d 225, 227. The focus of section 4055 is not whether the *parent* has been given sufficient time to change the circumstances that placed the child in jeopardy, but rather whether these circumstances will change in a time frame that meets the *child's* needs. *See In re Annette P.*, 589 A.2d 924, 926–27 (Me. 1991) (noting that time must be seen from the perspective of the child). Similarly, the record supported the finding, by clear and convincing evidence, that termination of parental rights was in the child's best interest. *See In re Thomas D.*, 2004 ME 104, ¶ 21, 854 A.2d 195, 201.

The entry is:

Judgment affirmed.

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