

**TERMINATION OF PARENTAL RIGHTS
GROUNDS CHECKLIST**

GROUND	NOTES
<input type="checkbox"/> Abandonment as defined in § 36-1-102; TCA §36-1-113(g)(1) & 36-1-102(1)(A)(i)	Determine the relevant period.
<input type="checkbox"/> Willful failure to visit – 4 mo. before filing petition TCA §36-1-113(g)(1) & TCA §36-1-102(1)(A) (i)	Beginning:
<input type="checkbox"/> Willful failure to support – 4 mo. before filing petition TCA §36-1-113(g)(1) & TCA §36-1-102(1)(A)(i)	Ending:
<input type="checkbox"/> Child removed from home/found Dependent & Neglected – Placed with state or private agency-lack of efforts & concern TCA §36-1-113(g)(1) & TCA §36-1-102(1)(A)(ii)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Willful failure to visit or support for 4 months prior to birth TCA §36-1-113(g)(1) & TCA §36-1-102(1)(A)(iii)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Wanton disregard – Incarceration during all or part of the 4 months preceding action; engaged in conduct that exhibits wanton disregard for child’s welfare. TCA §36-1-113(g)(1) & TCA §36-1-102(1)(A)(iv)	Visits:
<input type="checkbox"/> Incarcerated and no visits for 4 mo. before jail TCA §36-1-113(g)(1) & TCA §36-1-102(1)(A)(iv)	Support:
<input type="checkbox"/> Incarcerated and no support for 4 mo. before jail TCA §36-1-113(g)(1) & TCA §36-1-102(1)(A)(iv)	Notes:
<input type="checkbox"/> Mother dropped off newborn (72 hours or less old) TCA §36-1-113(g)(1) & TCA §36-1-102(1)(A) (v)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Non-Compliance with permanency plan TCA §36-1-113(g)(2)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Child removed from the home for 6 months and conditions persist TCA §36-1-113(g)(3)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Severe child abuse or failure to protect child (or sibling, half sibling or other child residing in the home of parent) from abuse/neglect: TCA §36-1-113(g)(4)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Severe abuse –Likely to cause serious bodily injury or death. TCA §37-1-102 (21)(A)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Severe abuse -Likely to cause serious mental harm. (Expert required) TCA §37-1-102 (21)(B)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Severe abuse -Aggravated rape; aggravated sexual battery; promoting prostitution; rape of a child; incest; aggravated abuse and neglect or endangerment; especially aggravated sexual exploitation of a minor. (Conviction not required) TCA §37-1-102 (21)(C)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Severe abuse-methamphetamine made in home with child. TCA §37-1-102 (21)(D)	

<input type="checkbox"/>	Sentenced to more than two (2) years for conduct against a child, (Or sibling or half-sibling or other child residing with the parent.) TCA §36-1-113(g)(5)	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Sentenced to 10 years or more and child under 8 years of age TCA §36-1-113(g)(6)	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Wrongful death or intentionally killing of the other parent. TCA §36-1-113(g)(7)	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Mental incompetence TCA §36-1-113(g)(8)	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Aggravated rape (Child conceived of the rape) TCA §36-1-113(g)(10)(A)	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Severe abuse -conviction of sex crime against a child TCA §36-1-113(g)(11)(A)(ii), (12), (13) (11)(A)(ii)(a) Aggravated rape, § 39-13-502; (11)(A)(ii)(b) Aggravated sexual battery, § 39-13-504; (11)(A)(ii)(c) Aggravated sexual exploitation of a minor, § 39-17-1004; (11)(A)(ii)(d) Especially aggravated sexual exploitation of a minor, § 39-17-1005; (11)(A)(ii)(e) Incest, § 39-15-302; (11)(A)(ii)(f) Rape, § 39-13-503; or (11)(A)(ii)(g) Rape of a child, § 39-13-522; (12) Sex trafficking (victim need not be a child) (13) Sex trafficking of children	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Unwed fathers only – non-legal parent grounds TCAS36-1-113(g)(9)(A) (i) Failed to pay prenatal, natal and postnatal expenses (ii) Failed to pay guidelines child support (iii) Failed to seek or failed to use visits (iv) Inability and unwillingness to assume custody (v) Custody would risk substantial harm to the child (vi) Failed to file paternity action w/in 30 days of notice	
	Best interest factors (abbreviated) TCAS36-1-113(i) (1) Parent’s adjustments to make custody safe (2) Failure to make adjustments after reasonable efforts from social services (3) Regular visits with the child (4) Meaningful relationship between parent and child (5) Effect of change of caretaker on child (6) Parent or person in parent’s home a child abuser or neglectful (7) Safety and health of parent’s home (8) Parent’s mental status (9) Payment of guidelines child support	