

24 January 2020

Emma Wilkinson

Dear Australian Government Productivity Commission

RE: MENTAL HEALTH BILL – MENTAL HEALTH SCREENING FOR 0-3 YEAR OLDS

Mental health of children is important. I had a happy and healthy childhood as I'm sure many people my age did. I'm 43 years old. It was a drug free childhood. Rarely if ever was anyone on medication for behavioural problems. Anyone who misbehaved was denied red cordial and lollies and the problem was usually solved.

I strongly disagree that mental health screening is required for children at any age but particularly 0-3 year olds.

Unless the child has a real medical issue such as diabetes or something of a similar nature, drugs are NOT needed.

Babies cry. Babies moan and some have a temper. They are in small bodies that can't communicate by talking what they want so they cry and throw tantrums. That isn't a mental health problem, that's not being able to communicate what they want.

It isn't unusual for children to have trouble sleeping, have tantrums, be overly excited or quiet or lose a favourite toy and get upset. That's children and not unusually, that human!

I'm not a scientist, a doctor or an expert but I am not aware of any VALID test to confirm that psychiatric or behaviour mis-function actually exists. If there is, I stand corrected and ask for this study be published.

I don't have children of my own. I missed that opportunity however I care about our future and do not want to be led by a generation of spaced out zombie adults who were psychiatric drugged children.

Please please do not pass this law. If the drugging of children with behaviour altering drugs with who-knows-what-side effects isn't a crime, it should be.

Consider the future of our country, our people and yourselves and do not drug our kids.

Trusting your ethical judgement

Emma Wilkinson