

As a Great Grandmother I am alarmed at the prospect of new born to 3 year olds being checked for psychiatric/mental health disorders. The stated 'symptoms' such as irregular feeding, difficulty sleeping, whining, crying, temper tantrums, shyness, sleeping with the light on and hyperactivity, are a part of the day to life of any child this age and as such, to my mind absolutely outrageous.

I have seen all of the above in my own two children, my three grand children and my great grandson, who is 2 1/2 years old. All are normal, high achievers and totally sane individuals. The thought of the so called 'symptoms' leading to possible drugging of children who are merely adjusting to life as they grow up is abhorrent to me.

If there was proof of psychotic behaviour other than just some 'opinion' I could consider there may be some merit in this action. But as there isn't any provable disease or condition, I disagree with the implementation of the proposed screening of children from new born, 0-3 years old.

Childhood behaviour is perfectly described by these so called 'symptoms' it's a catch all of many aspects of the normal behaviour of a majority of children, at some stage in their early years, even beyond three as they become individuals and assertive human beings.

Should these 'symptoms' be found to align with the so called 'checklist' it seems bizarre to me, that any possible underlying medical condition would not be checked for first. There is little logic in the premise that there is a great propensity for 0-3 year olds needing to be screened for the prevention of mental illness or any so called 'symptoms' especially when life has hardly begun.

Come on, this is an insanity, and can only lead to a situation where young lives will be out of the control of their parents, and in the hands of the State. No thank you!

This has to be stopped!

This is not the government caring for the citizens, it's abuse of the individuals rights, masked as care. People need to be consulted about these jurisdictions and manipulations. The public need to be heard and listened to.

Sincerely,

Helen Bassett.

Concerned Great Grandmother