

Mental health enquiry

Productivity Commission

The Commissioner

Dear Sir/Madam

It has come to my notice that there is a proposal designed, in my opinion, which will adversely affect all children of both pre-school age and school age combined.

The cost of implementing this proposed program would far outweigh the benefits. In fact, I really can't see any benefits arising from the program anyway.

The way in which the questions for children are framed would result in every child taking the test to prove positive to a potential mental health condition, which, would result in the unnecessary prescribing of a drug designed to prevent the condition from occurring.

I know of no research done which would allow someone to predict a potential mental condition of a child.

I, also, disagree with the fact that this proposal would result in the alienization of the child from its parents. It would potentially remove the rights of the parent to decide what is best for the child.

I understand that the program will include the prescribing of drugs, which, in my experience with my relative's children, will result in the child being harder to teach and control.

I would ask: Please do not go ahead with this program as it will cause more problems than it is intended to prevent.

Linda Munn

Scientific Officer (retired)

11/01/20