

11/01/2020.

Dear Commissioners,

I am writing to you about the productivity inquiry into Mental Health.

I am concerned due to the general nature of the screening questions. As someone who has studied nutrition for a number of years and is qualified as a Home Economist it greatly worries me that children as young as between 0 and 3 years young can be labelled mentally ill due to normal childhood activities at that age, such as temper tantrums, not finding their toys & becoming extremely sad, difficulty sleeping, eating, running around without reason etc. It has been my experience & observation that children at that age who are still growing & finding their way in their environment are easily effected by improper nutrition within their diet & inadequate sleep. At this age to then feed babies & young growing children psychiatric drugs, with well known adverse side effects, could severely alter not only their biochemistry of their young bodies for life, but also their future happiness.

I am very worried indeed for the future of our children & their physical & mental health ^{if this} program comes into being. It absolutely cannot happen.

JULIE STEPHENS.