

January 22, 2020

Re: Proposal: "Social and Emotional Wellbeing Checks" of children aged 0 to 3 years old.

Dear Commissioner,

I am writing to you as I am very concerned about the proposed "Social and Emotional Wellbeing Checks" of children aged 0 to 3 years old.

This was brought to my attention recently and I was horrified to learn that the proposed "checks" could lead to the drugging of children for normal behaviour such as crying for their parents, shyness and difficulty sleeping, amongst others. All children go through various challenges that tend to be overcome with routine parenting and/or medical treatment for physical conditions that could be preventing them from sleeping well, and so forth.

From what I understand no routine medical testing (blood panels, physical examinations, etc) will even take place to determine if an underlying medical situation exists, but instead it will be based on opinion and unproven "treatment" through drugs. Drugs that have been solidly proven to cause more harm than good in many cases I personally know of.

The very harmful effects of psychiatric drugs are well documented. They do not help, but instead destroy lives and harm those unfortunate enough to have been prescribed them. My best friend was prescribed psychiatric medication...one month later she killed herself. If you knew her, you would know that this was totally uncharacteristic behaviour for her. She loved life and people and would have been the first person to talk another out of such a thing. I later found out that the drug she was prescribed had a "side-effect" of "possible suicide". I mean, how is that an acceptable "possible side effect" of anything? That psychiatric drug "treatment" cost us dearly. I will let you imagine the untold devastation her parents, family and friends experienced due to that psychiatric drug "solution". Unfortunately, this was not an isolated experience for me, and I have become convinced that psychiatric drugging is extremely harmful.

And now, here we are, looking at prescribing such abhorrent drugs to tiny babies. What has the world come to? Honestly, it sounds like some of the stories I have heard out of the concentration camps in Nazi Germany (where psychiatry has its roots, I might add). I cannot sit back and allow this to happen. Think of your own children. Your own grandchildren. And ask yourself if you would even contemplate giving them a sleeping pill, let alone a mind-altering drug that could permanently damage them or even kill them? I know I wouldn't. We have a duty of care to protect our children and only give them the best possible future - one that does NOT include drugging defenceless babies.

Thank you in advance for your attention to this matter, and I trust you will consider this proposal with humanity and decency and do the right thing to ensure the protection of our children.

Yours Sincerely,
Vanessa Walker