



ADHD introduction

Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder or ADHD brings together a number of my interests and pursuits. It involves education and allows me to draw on my own experience. It involves science, or what purports to be science in the form of psychology. It involves community and family as these institutions have been involved in identifying, accepting, and treating the disorder. And it involves neurofeedback therapy, which I do, and which plays a valuable part in helping people with ADHD issues.

I thought I would only need to read a few books but it turned out to be a kind of rabbit hole: the more I looked into it, the more questions I had. And in the end I spent a year researching the topic and found myself spending much of my time studying the people and institutions who are involved with identifying, defining, managing, treating and suffering with it. Like the Salem witch trials, a lot of ADHD is about who points the finger, and not who the finger is pointed at.

My research came together only after I traced the history of the "disorder." I put the word disorder in quotes because, as it turns out, ADHD does not exist and never did. It has been invented, as becomes perfectly clear when you see the whole picture.



ADHD has grown like a fungus in the unwashed crevices of science, capitalism, state controlled education, therapy and the crumbling family structure. It has prospered because it offers something to everyone -- at least everyone who has the institutional power to make a difference, which does not include children -- and partly because in this post-renaissance, reductionist society authority and knowledge has been splintered between a thousand specialists, and no one sees the whole.

ADHD is the creation of a psychologically managed society for the purpose of maintaining its deceptions. The kids labeled as ADHD are just those kids who won't follow the rules. These kids are dangerous. But rather than just destroy their will our society has found a way to make them a profit center. So just as the Chinese government executes a dissident and charges their family for the bullet, our society lobotomizes noncompliant children and charges their families for the therapy. But I'm getting ahead of myself.

I concluded my research with a long paper that argues this conclusion. Part of my thesis is that the institution of American psychology would never allow the sort of self examination that I apply to the field. Not surprisingly, the paper was summarily rejected by American Psychological Association's Psychology Review. I proceed down the chain of authority looking for the most widely read journal with integrity. In the mean time you can download the paper as a [PDF from my website](#).

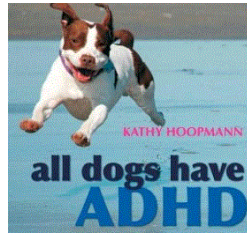
It's a circuitous path in getting to the bottom of ADHD. It will take us into the politics responsible for the difference between psychiatry and psychology, which is interesting in itself. It will require turning over the garden bed of public education which, it may surprise you to learn, grows from the same composed shit as fascism, Soviet socialism, and eugenics. And it will lead us to the morally compromised fields of academic psychology, clinical therapy, and managed care.



"Before parents start accepting fact that their child's teacher is diagnosing their child with ADD/ADHD,

parents need to do their own due diligence by reflecting on their entire life to determine what might be causing their child to exhibit inattention, lack of concentration and lack of focus."

- from [Alternatives to Ritalin for ADD/ADHD](#)



Following Charles Dickens I'll serialize my article into newsletter form. If it bores you I apologize, but my ulterior motive is to create something popular and accessible; something that I can give as a handout at public presentations.

I'll end this letter by giving you the outline of the installments, which will appear in follow emails.

The Politics and Commerce of Childhood ADHD

- Definition of ADHD
- The Institutions
- The Experts
- The Individual
- ADHD as a Whole-System Virus

Remember the movie "THX-1138" in which Robert Duvall becomes a fugitive from his dystopian society for the crime of criminal drug evasion? That's where we're going with ADHD. Drugging children for the purposes of compliance was suggested by the psychologist educators who, in their mercenary capacity, originally designed the public education system according to political mandate. We'll get to that...



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