

Enhancement or “Dehancement?” The Use of Psychostimulant Drugs on Children with ADHD

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Abstract: If ADHD is defined as a non-existent disorder or a social construct, then physicians have been treating some healthy children with psychostimulant drugs. It is not entirely clear whether in this case medical intervention has any enhancing effect, or if it causes harm to children’s moral agency instead. In this paper, I explore the possibility that psychostimulants in healthy children can indirectly enhance their moral capacities, and I discuss some ethical constraints on psychostimulant use.

Keywords: ADHD, Moral bioenhancement, Moral agency, Ethics and psychostimulant drugs.

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