

As a child consumer and safety advocate, I am deeply disturbed by the over-prescribing of psychiatric drugs of the State's foster children. We know that these pharmaceutical drugs come with a litany of concerning side-effects, including violence-inducing behaviors. Cornell-trained MD and NYU School of Medicine-trained Psychiatrist Dr. Kelly Brogan, who also holds a degree in Neuroscience from MIT, has written extensively in both the scientific literature and in the media on the long-term risks of the over-prescribing of these psychiatric medications to both the child and society. Notably, she has also presented research in her book *A Mind of Your Own* on the lack of evidence that these drugs are effective in treating mental health issues.

We must protect our children from being commoditized by the pharmaceutical industry, who has paid out billions in fines for bribing doctors to prescribe these medications for children.