

The Drugging of Our Best and Brightest
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ADHD	ODD	GT

Purpose of this presentation: to create an awareness of areas of possible misdiagnosis of gifted students and to encourage more careful and thorough assessment when considering a secondary diagnosis such as a learning disability, Oppositional Defiant Disorder (ODD) or Attention Deficit Disorder with or without hyperactivity (ADD/ADHD) in gifted students.

How to differentiate

- situations
- consistency
- antecedents

When the Learning Experience and the Student Don't Match •

- problems school environments
- problems with curriculum
- possible diagnostic pedagogies

The penalties for misdiagnosis

- the shame of the mis-label the misuse of the labelstunting creativity, enthusiasm, etc. with drugs _____
- _____

Consider drugs as a last resort.

Many gifted adults report that drugs like Zoloft “got them through school.” Our best and brightest should not just “get through school,” they should flourish, thrive and succeed. We can't afford to lose their abilities.

Gifted students don't need to be “cured.”