

## Reviews for *No Child Left Different*

"This work raises important issues concerning the deteriorating mental health of American children. Contributors explore the societal and cultural issues related to this emerging phenomenon, as well as some related theories of psychosocial development and genetics."—Choice

"Over the past 15 years, there has been a 300 percent increase in the use of psychotropic medications for children and youth under the age of 20. This volume traces the emergence of this phenomenon and critically examines the establishment of drugs as the treatment of choice--rather than last resort--for children and teens diagnosed with mental illnesses."—SciTech Book News

"A group of authors from various disciplines explain why there has been a 300-percent increase in the use of psychotropic medications for children under the age of 20 and why prescriptions for preschoolers have skyrocketed. The authors question the causes, describe the risks and discuss how emotional, social, cultural and physical environments can both damage and heal young minds. The book also looks at the controversy of whether psychiatric medications are safe or effective for children and what is known about their effects on brains that are still developing."—District Administration

"Children in America are being given psychotropic medications at an ever-increasing rate, driven by the fashionable diagnoses like bipolar disorder. *No Child Left Different* charts the emergence of this phenomenon. The contributors grapple with the issues in a nuanced and constructive way rather than simply express their horror. But the bottom line is that the book labels what is happening as a folly in the classical meaning of the word--something that was or could have been recognized to be a mistake at the time it was happening. Follies can be amusing and harmless, but this one has the dimensions of a tragedy."—David Healy, Professor of Psychiatry, Cardiff University, author of *The Antidepressant Era* and *Let Them Eat Prozac*

"An important book raising critical concerns about childhood, drugs, and how unfettered corporate interests combine with the romance of a quick fix to undermine children's health."—Susan Linn, Ed.D, author of *Consuming Kids*, Associate Director of the Media Center of Judge Baker Children's Center and Instructor in Psychiatry, Harvard Medical School

"Sharna Olfman has masterfully edited this extraordinary volume that critically examines our nation's gullible faith in drugs as the treatment of choice for the rising tide of American children and youths diagnosed with mental illness. Through compelling statistics, wide-ranging research evidence, and poignant case examples, a renowned cast of contributing authors expose the clinical, industrial, and social conditions that have led to unwarranted drugging of our children. The chapters offer an incisive reminder that family, community, and societal supports combine with biology and are crucial for the development of every mentally healthy human

child. The clarity, passion, and power of the authors' writing strengthen their vital message. A MUST READ for parents, mental health professionals, and policy makers, and a forceful call to action."—Laura E. Berk, Distinguished Professor of Psychology, Illinois State University, author of *Awakening Children's Minds: How Parents and Teachers Can Make a Difference*

"This is a must read for anybody interested in the health and welfare of children....In ten compelling, often chilling, articles, helpfully organized and introduced by Dr. Olfman, the various authors, leaders in their respective fields, and drawn from a number of disciplines, demonstrate how a medical establishment obsessed with finding genetic causes routinely obfuscates environmental factors, and how a pharmaceutical industry obsessed with profits only sees self-interested opportunity in the suffering of children."—Joel Bakan, Professor of Law, author of *The Corporation*