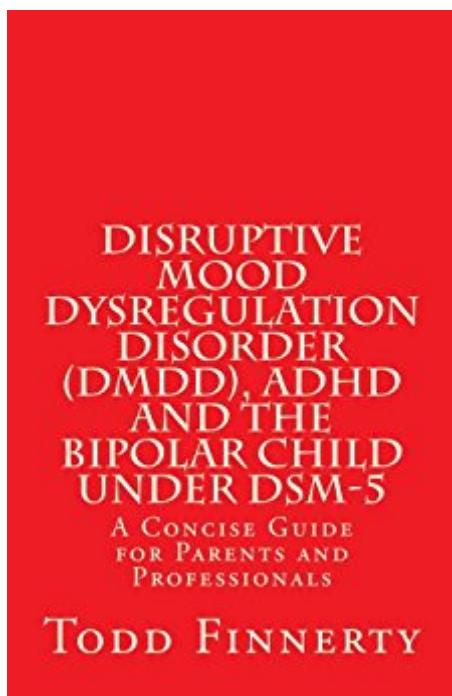


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# **Disruptive Mood Dysregulation Disorder (DMDD), ADHD And The Bipolar Child Under DSM-5: A Concise Guide For Parents And Professionals**



## Synopsis

In less than 10 years the rate that children are diagnosed with bipolar disorder increased a shocking 4000%! This was due in part to the increased use of alternative, unsanctioned approaches to making the diagnosis in children. As more research has been conducted and we've gained more experience with the bipolar child, it turns out that most don't grow up to have bipolar disorder and they're distinctly different from the much smaller number of children who really do have bipolar disorder. These kids not only have not had an early onset of bipolar disorder, they haven't had an onset of bipolar disorder at all. We must move forward with better research and better approaches to treatment. These children can't afford for us to cling to unsupported diagnoses. Under DSM-5 most of these kids are now better suited for the new DSM-5 diagnosis of Disruptive Mood Dysregulation Disorder (DMDD). DMDD is a unipolar (not bipolar) mood disorder characterized by very severe irritability. Any parent of a DMDD child can tell you that their problems are not simply normal, developmentally appropriate temper tantrums. Kids with DMDD are already in need of treatment, they're just not getting the best treatment that they could be. DMDD shares qualities with ADHD and ODD but also reflects substantial emotional concerns as severe as any bipolar disorder. In this book Dr. Finnerty confronts the popularized notion of the bipolar child and offers resources and less toxic advice for parents and professionals. If you previously thought that books like "The Bipolar Child" were a "bible" on early-onset bipolar disorder, you need to read this book now.

## Book Information

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## **Customer Reviews**

This pamphlet comes across as few hurriedly written pages of poor quality, rushed through publication, to maximize marketing potential by coinciding with the publication of DSM V. The author mostly repeats what DSM V says about DMDD, which is an artificial category made up mostly for political purposes, with not much clinical or scientific support for it. Repetitive statements to throw away some book the author does not like comes across as childish. One gets the impression the author does not have much experience being the ultimately responsible person for the treatment of children with severely troublesome behavior and serious mental illnesses and hence makes statements that come across as wishful fantasies to bolster one's way of thinking and practice. Many of the author's suggestions how to handle the problems of such children, are of little value and could even make the plight of these children worse or even dangerous. This pamphlet cannot be taken seriously and is even misleading for people who have serious interest and commitment to the welfare of mentally ill children.

Mr. Finnerty explains clearly why the editors of the DSM-5 decided to not include Childhood Bipolar Disorder in the DSM-5. As a professor of counseling in a county that has, what I believe to be a high incidence of children with bipolar disorder, I believe the decision the DSM-5 authors made, and which Mr. Finnerty affirms was incorrect. There are more than a dozen reasons why I disagree with them and with him. If the reader would like to read a summary of those reasons you may send me an email at [Henry\\_Virkler@pba.edu](mailto:Henry_Virkler@pba.edu)

This is not a book, but a pamphlet. It does not offer any helpful advice about treatment and spends the entire time talking about the controversy regarding its classification. Waste of money!

that cannot be found in the DSM 5. The information seems correct but is not worth the price under the circumstances. As I psychologist, I found this to be a long, direct dig against the Papalos' book. For example, he tells you to throw their book away four times in the 1st 30 pages. I believe we

should read various sources and draw our own conclusions considering he provides no data.

The book appears to be more of a rant against "The Bipolar Child." No review of literature or references are provided to support statements made throughout the book. A huge disappointment and waste of money.

I am a parent of a child who fits disruptive mood dysregulation disorder (DMDD) to a T. I am hopeful that the new diagnosis will help guide research that will help treatment of children like my daughter. This book is a well written overview of what is known about DMDD and other mood disorders in children. There are a few interesting points that I was not able to find via basic web searches. What I found most promising was the assertion that these kids don't have to be restricted to the same meds that bipolar kids get, and that antidepressants and stimulants be worth trying. However, this is more of a booklet than a book. It's about 80 pages with big fonts and a very large top margin. If it had fonts and margins more like a typical paperback book it would be about 50 pages. Expect to read it in about an hour.

I was expected to read scientific data but it turned out to be a kind of transcript from a radio show...disappointing...

Easy language and very clear explanation. I really enjoyed reading it. I recommend for professionals and patients of mental health.

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