Reviewer's report

Title: Developmental Trauma Disorder: Pros and Cons

Version: 1 Date: 9 February 2012

Reviewer: Andrea Roberts

Reviewer's report:

The manuscript is quite long, but very thorough. It could be shortened considerably without much loss of content. It effectively presents the pros and cons of the proposed diagnosis.

The writing style makes the manuscript a little hard to follow. The sentences are long and convoluted, perhaps reflecting the style in German. In any case, the manuscript would benefit from editing for length and style.

I have few comments on the contents of the manuscript. It is well argued and thought provoking.

Specific comments:

It’s not clear what the purpose of creating DSM-like cutoffs for the proposed disorder. What benefit do these cutoffs provide in terms of understanding the course of the syndrome, the treatment, the biology? What validity do they have? They seem a bit arbitrary as presented.

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being published

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests