**Source Evaluation**

**Name:** Student Example

**Title of Source:** "Mental Illness Gets A Rethink For Kids"

**Author(s):** Wang, Shirley S.

**Publisher/Provider of Information:** The Wall Street Journal

**Date:** October 19th, 2012

**What Source Variety Requirement Does this Source Meet?:** Primary Source, Secondary Source, and a Newspaper Article.

**Source Citation in MLA Format:**


**Primary or Secondary Source:** This source could be considered both a primary and secondary source because it references both scientific research and people’s opinions about the matter. Since the source stays pretty objective and gives a lot of very good statistics and research, I will be using it as a primary source.

**Summary of Source:** This article talks about mental illness in children, specifically bipolar disorder. There’s a new disorder that they’re considering making official and 60% or so of children who are likely candidates for the new diagnosis are currently diagnosed with bipolar disorder. Wang goes on to say that classifying mental illness is an imperfect science, which is why it was hard for these doctors to determine whether they should start diagnosing kids with Disruptive Mood Dysregulation Disorder or keep them all diagnosed as bipolar. One of the committee members named Charles Zeanah referred to this decision as “perhaps the most important child issue” in the revision of the manual. Why it is such a big problem is because some of these kids that are diagnosed as bipolar may be being overmedicated, which can have long-term effects on someone’s health.
Defense of Source:

The article was published October 19th of 2012, which makes it and its information pretty current. It was revised several days after and the link is functional, so I gave it a ten for currency.

The clear purpose for using this source is all the scientific research and studies it refers to about children with mental illness, which is all quotable information. I learned a lot of new things about my topic through all the data, but I hadn’t looked at a variety of sources before choosing this one so I gave it a nine for relevance.

Shirley Wang, the author of the article, received a bachelor's degree from Princeton University and a doctorate in clinical psychology from Yale University. Previously, she covered the pharmaceutical industry and served as co-lead writer of the Health Blog. She also cover news on a number of medical conditions with a particular focus on mental health and brain disease like Alzheimer's. She has been cited at least nine times and the newspaper she writes for (The Wall Street Journal) has won the Pulitzer Prize. It is on the Top Publication list, and it’s the largest newspaper in the US by circulation. Her educational and journalism background make her a reliable source on mental illness and the newspaper is well respected, so I gave authority a ten.

It is uncertain whether the information has been peer-reviewed, supported by evidence from more than one source, and if the author claims in another source. There is a bibliography at the end of the article and there are no spelling, grammar, or typographical errors, so I gave accuracy a seven. The article was made to inform people about diagnosing children with mental illness and that it’s not black and white. Both views are shown in an objective, respectable manner and have evidence to back it up. Also, the tone of the author is unemotional. I gave the article a ten for purpose.