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### **Being and Becoming with ADHD**

The distinction between the child as *becoming* and the child as *being* has come to play a central role in research on childhood. The 'becoming' child is seen as an adult in the making, an incomplete human entity characterized by vulnerability and incompetence. The notion of the 'being' child challenges this dominant developmental view by addressing children as active social actors. It focuses on what they are and what they do rather than what they will become. This paper examines the tension between being and becoming in medical and neurological models of Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder. It argues that the child with ADHD is seen as stuck in a disordered present but at the same time is addressed in terms of a productive and normalised future. Finally, the paper draws on Rosi Braidotti's theory of nomadic becoming to suggest some ways of rethinking childhood and childhood disorders.