I dont know how to place a submission as I have never had to, so I am writing to you to pass this on. I have a step child with FASD, the journey is and continues to be very difficult. She was diagnosed by Arbias who are no longer working with children. Her IQ is 74 and she just falls outside disability support and yet at 16 she still has to be reminded how to wash, clean her teeth and dress appropriatley. She is young of mind vunerable, she cannot manage money, read bus timetables etc. When out of our rountine her world falls apart.

Unlike many children she is charming and likeable and has very convincing verbal skills that cover her problems adeptly, be it either by changing the subject, asking other questions...she is a trickster and chamilion.

The other day a woman in the specialist clinic (she has multiple allergies, asthma and excema) asked her to sign a form, she didnt know what is was, couldn't read or comprehend it but signed it anyway because she had been asked by a trustful looking person.

We have battled the education over many years, we are exhausted no one understands. What assurances have we got for her future when we are gone, she signs anything when asked...... what is going to happen when others take avantage of her, for exmple credit cards.

I have only touched briefly on our journey, I cannot express the pain and anguish of dealing with the situation with no formal support. My hat goes of to the few women who have got together to enable a sharing of voice and concerns, No FASard

