



Supporting the Enigma that is Autism

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16th June 2010



Autism is described as a processing difference.

Information received is **not processed in the **TYPICAL** way.**

Emotion Recognition and Brain Scan Results

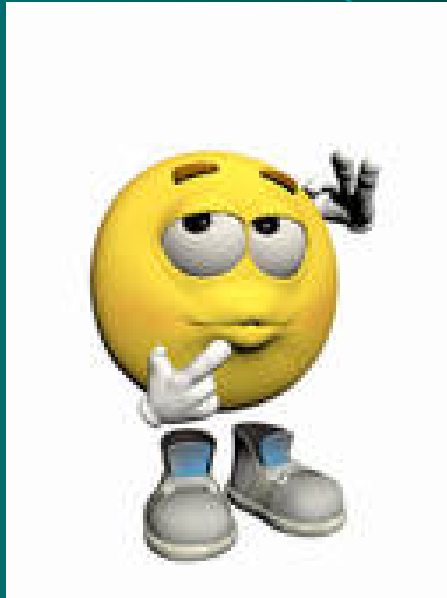
- A study at the University of California showed a series of faces to two groups of children, average age 12 yrs. One group had a diagnosis of Autism while the other did not.
- Each child was shown 80 faces, each of which expressed either anger, fear, happiness, sadness or a natural state.
- When the non-Autistic children saw the faces various parts of their brains lit up, including clumps of nerves called mirror neurons. These children all correctly identified the emotions in the pictures.
- Significantly, when the Autistic children viewed the faces, they processed the features but the mirror neurons did not light up, and they failed to correctly identify the emotions.

“To me the outside world is a totally baffling incomprehensible mayhem which terrifies me. It is a meaningless mass of sights and sounds, noises and movements coming from nowhere going nowhere”.

(Ros Blackburn)

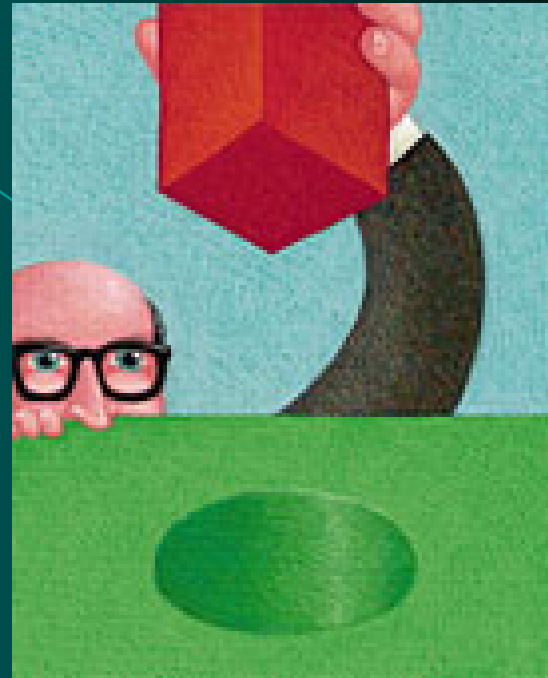
Principles of Normalisation

Normalisation is a set of principles that underlie the idea that people with an intellectual disability should live in ordinary places, doing ordinary things, with ordinary people: essentially experiencing the “normal” patterns of everyday life.



**Does treating people as equals
mean treating them the same?**

**Treating people as equals
means
recognising and
accepting their
differences and not
treating them the same**



TYPICAL people require TYPICAL norms

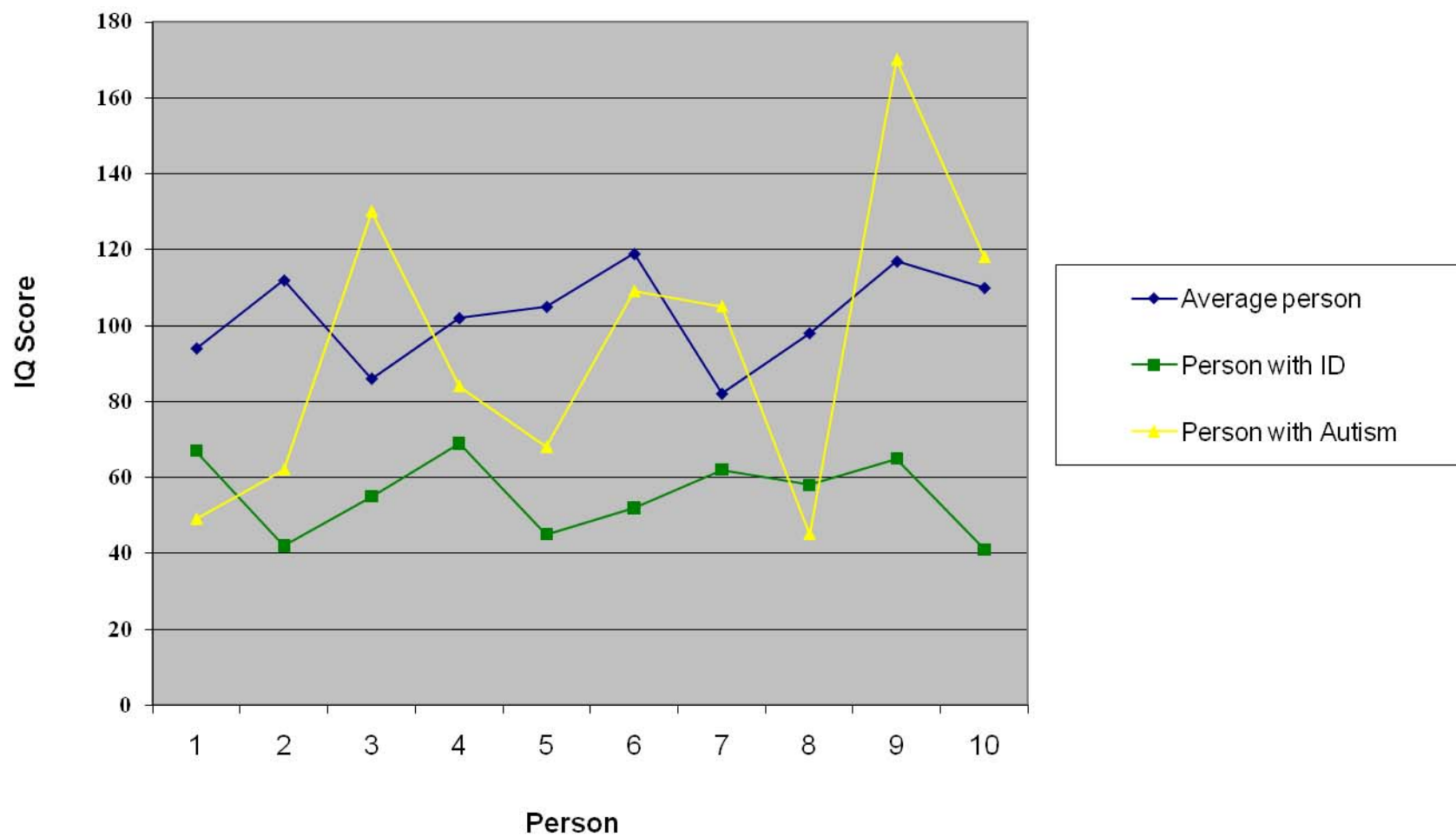
ATYPICAL people require ATYPICAL norms

A failure to recognise the difference in Typical and Atypical processing of information results in a failure to meet the specific needs of a person with autism

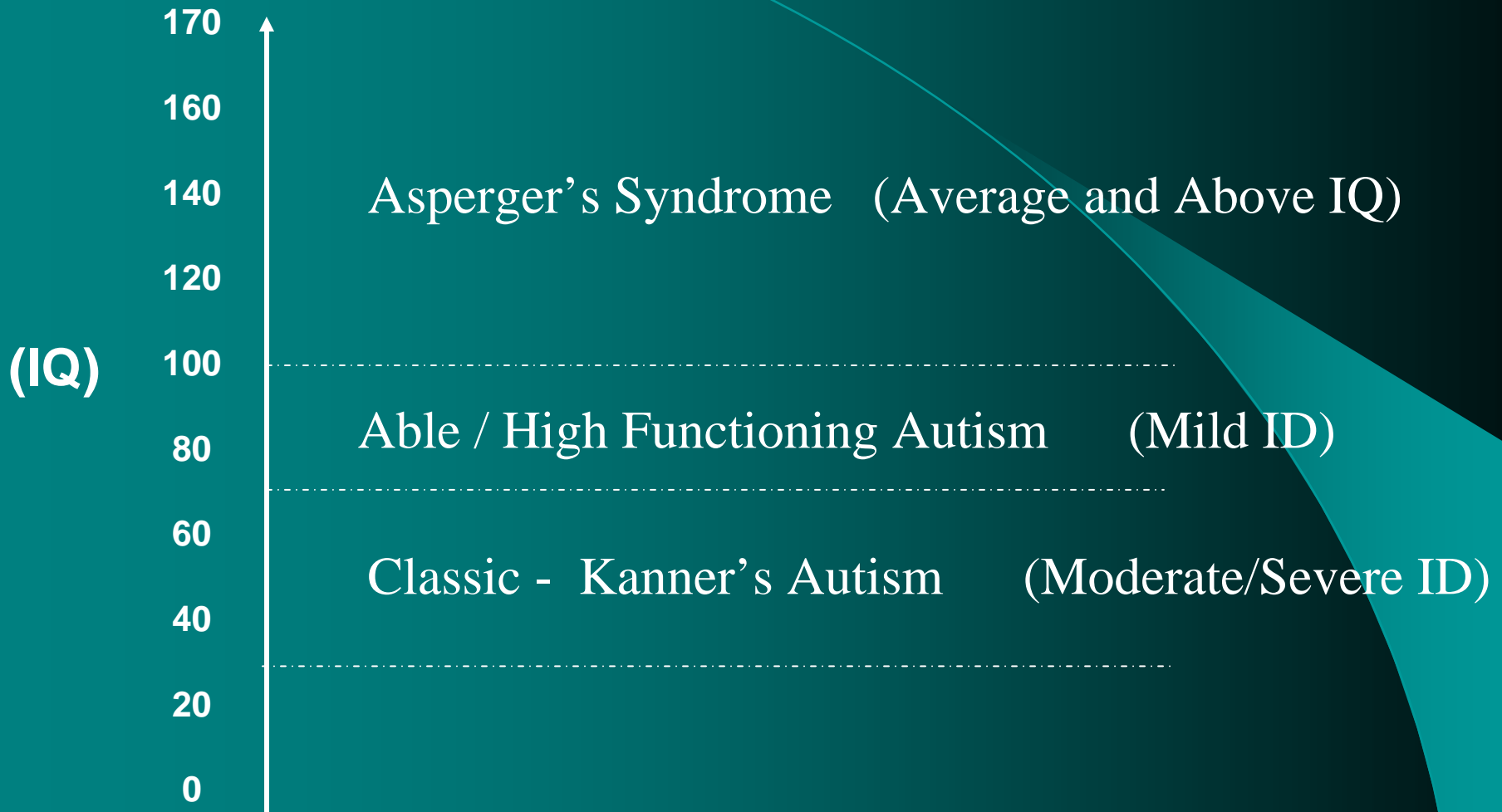


This in turn often results in the belief that:
Autism is considered to be a risk marker for
challenging behaviours (McClintock et al., 2003).

IQ of 30 People in Three Groups



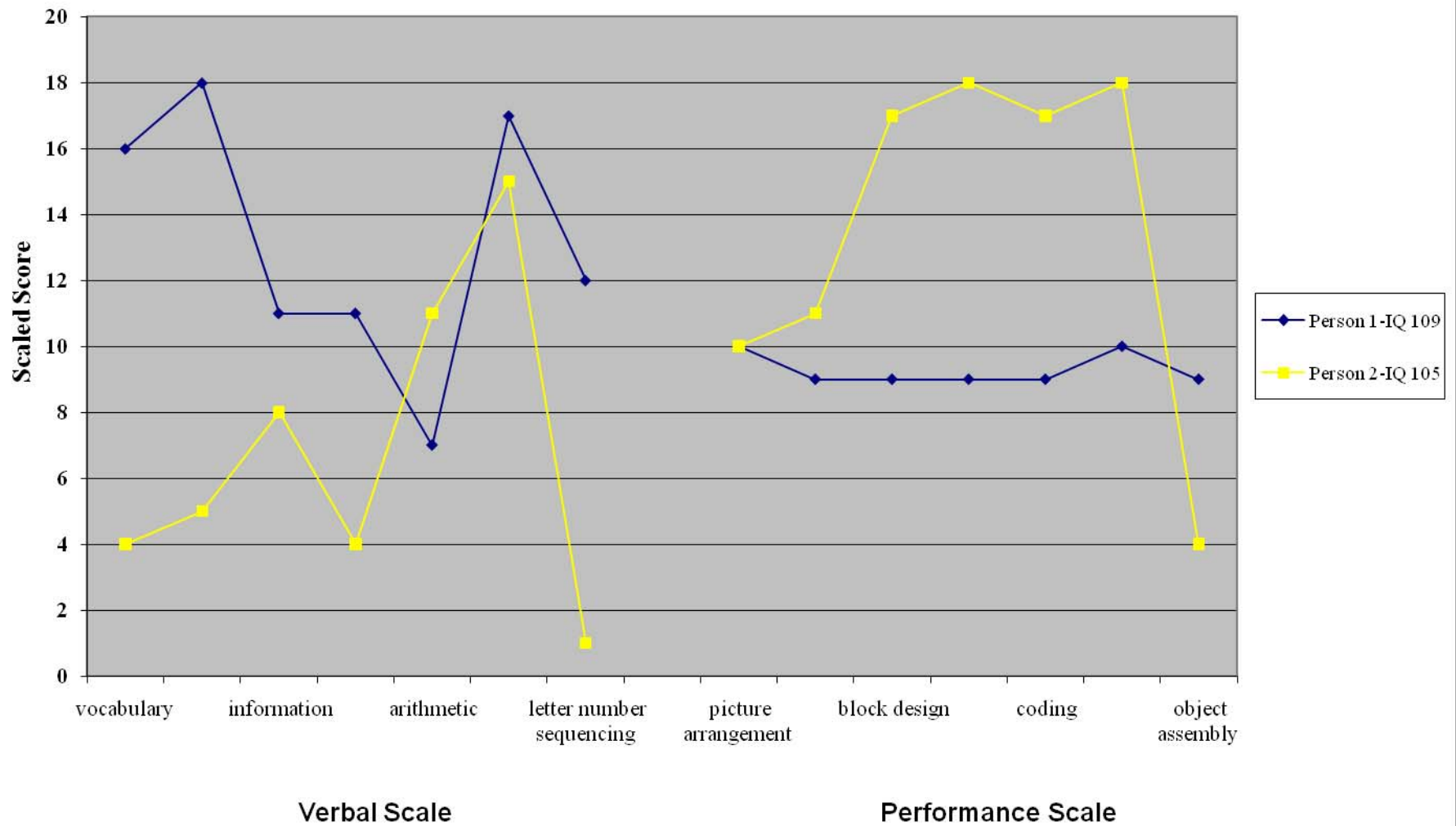
The Autistic Spectrum



The Triad of Impairments

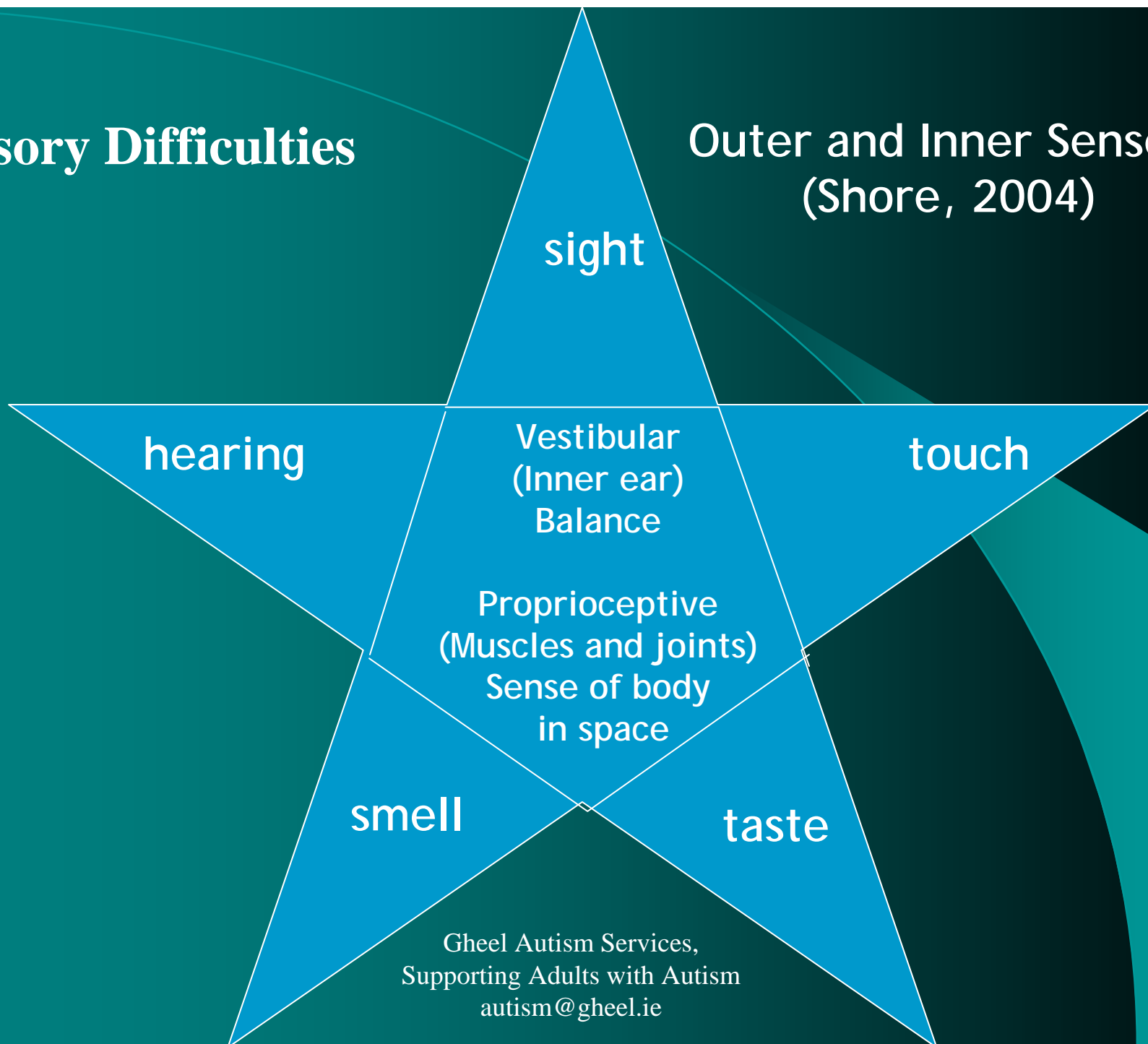
- Impairment of social interaction: the lack of the inbuilt ability to recognise that other people have thoughts and feelings. People may appear odd, aloof and lack empathy.
- Impairment of social communication: delay in language development, comprehension difficulties, repetition and literalness, talking at others, failure to read body language, inability to use gesture, diminished facial expression and intonation.
- Impairment of social imagination and play: inability to play imaginatively with objects/toys, need for predictability and sameness and resistance to change, ritualistic behaviours and obsessive interests.

Two People with Autism with Average IQ as measured by the WAIS-III



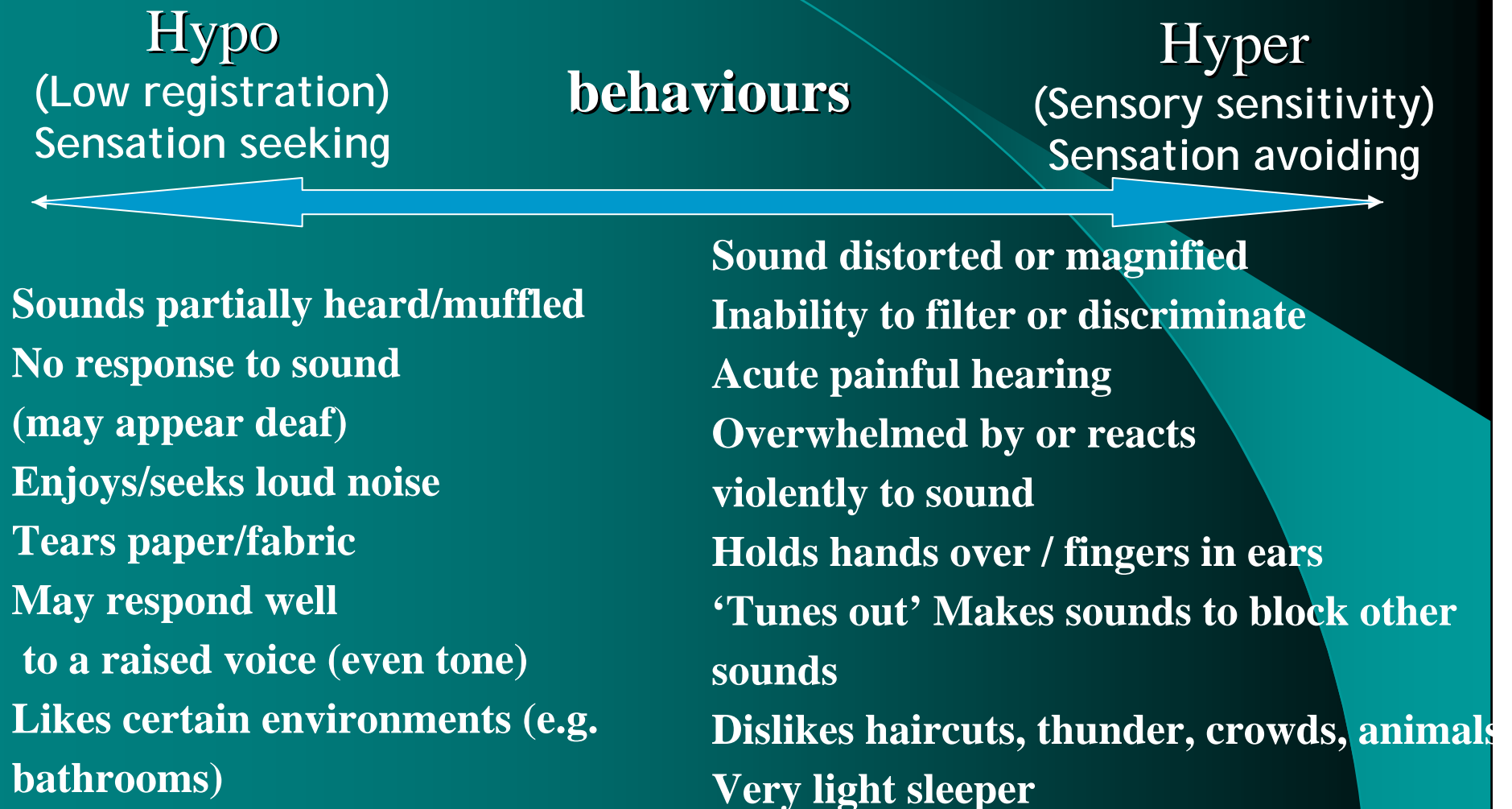
Sensory Difficulties

Outer and Inner Senses
(Shore, 2004)



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autism@gheel.ie

Hearing (auditory system)



18/06/2010

Gheel Autism Services, Supporting Adults with Autism autism@gheel.ie

Touch (tactile system)



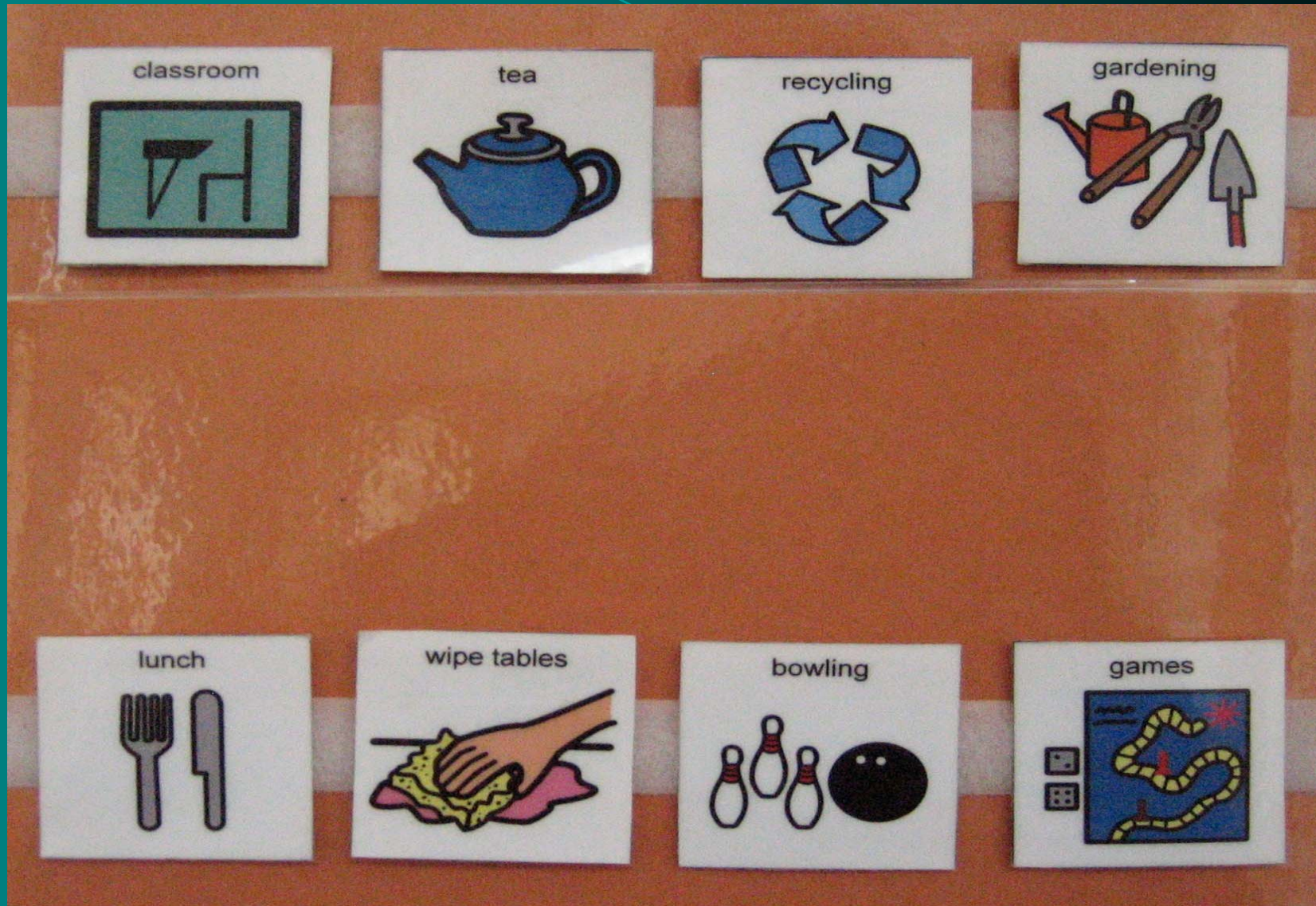
Sensory Overload

- “You just get this whole load of sensory impressions... you are going to run full tilt into a wall or into the traffic or harm yourself..... anything to stop the sensory overload happening because I would much rather have pain It’s one overriding sensation rather than getting a whole lot of confused jumbles.”

(Lindsay Weeks)

The Importance of Predictability

Visual Schedule



Literalness of language

- An angry mother says to her son ... “don’t talk to me”
- “pull up your socks”
- “Can you post this letter for me”
- “Where’s my DVD?....God only knows”
- “...if you do that again I’ll kill you”

The lesson is:

**Say what you mean
and mean what you say**

People with autism often experience difficulties in transitioning

- Starting
- Stopping
- Executing
- Continuing
- Combining/switching







Obsessive Interests in Autism

Obsessive interests

- Provide motivation
 - To think
 - To learn
 - To communicate
- Provide a structure where new information can be “anchored” to existing knowledge
- Provide new opportunities



Equality Policy Customers

providing essential labour market services for our all programmes and services in a fair and equitable way. We will promote equality proactively and work to prevent unfair treatment of any customer, who meets stated objective criteria for programmes because of their membership of a group under equality law, membership of a group under any of the nine grounds, eligibility for FAS programmes and services.

TO ENSURE THAT ALL ITS SERVICES:

are provided in a fair and equitable way, and that:

the nine grounds covered by the Equality Act 2010 are taken into account in all our work, and that we are specific to particular groups.

provision for people with disabilities, and the nine grounds, by promoting equality of opportunity and ensuring full equality of access to our services.

customers and employees are treated with respect and dignity, and that we are aware of the needs of all our customers and employees, and that we are aware of the needs of all our customers and employees, and that we are aware of the needs of all our customers and employees.

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MARITAL STATUS SEXUAL ORIENTATION
RELIGIOUS BELIEF FAMILY STATUS RACE
OF THE TRAVELLER COMMUNITY GENDER



Extension Numbers	
Managers Office	10
Kitchen	11
C.E. Office	13
Small Office	14
House	15
	17
	19
Mobile	51

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Cinema

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★★★★★ Letters to Juliet	NEW!	 
★★★★★ 4.3.2.1		 
★★★★★ A Nightmare On Elm Street		 
★★★★★ Alice In Wonderland		 
★★★★★ American: The Bill Hicks		 

THIS COMING FRIDAY...

★★★★★ His and Hers	 
★★★★★ Killers	 
★★★★★ MacGruber	 
★★★★★ Our Family Wedding	 
★★★★★ Please Give	 

MOVIE NEWS...

Sin City Director For Deadpool?

MOVIE REVIEWS...

Sex and the City 2 ★★★★★

Coming amidst the type of fevered anticipation you'd normally associate with moody vampires and shirtless teenage werewolves, Sex and the City 2 is somewhat of a return to the acerbic form of the series after a self-indulgent freshman outing for... [MORE](#) (Mike Sheridan)



Internet | Protected Mode: On 100%



19:29

GALWAY

11:30 PLAT

CALLING AT

KILDARE

TULLAMORE

CLARA

ATHLONE

BALLHASLOE

WOODLAWN

ATHENRY

GALWAY

.....
PLEASE REMAIN ON
MAIN CONCOURSE UNTIL
PLATFORM IS
DISPLAYED

ON TIME

SERVICE
SHACK CAR

NEWBRIDGE

11:35 PLAT

CALLING AT

PARKWEST FORTHILL

ADAMSTOWN

HAZELNATCH

SALLINS

NEWBRIDGE

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PLEASE REMAIN ON
MAIN CONCOURSE UNTIL
PLATFORM IS
DISPLAYED

ON TIME

CORK

12:00 PLAT

CALLING AT

THURLES

LINERICK JCTN.

MALLOW

CORK CHARGE

AT LINERICK JCTN FOR
LINERICK

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PLEASE REMAIN ON
MAIN CONCOURSE UNTIL
PLATFORM IS
DISPLAYED

ON TIME

SERVICE
SHACK CAR

KILDARE

12:05 PL

CALLING AT

PARKWEST

FORTHILL

ADAMSTOWN

HAZELNATCH

SALLINS

NEWBRIDGE

KILDARE

.....
PLEASE REMAIN ON
MAIN CONCOURSE UNTIL
PLATFORM IS
DISPLAYED

ON TIME













Philosophy

“If you would help me, don’t try to change me to fit your world. Don’t try to confine me to some tiny part of the world that you can change to fit me. Grant me the dignity of meeting me on my own terms –

recognise that we are equally alien to each other, and that my ways of being are not merely damaged versions of yours. Question your assumptions. Define your terms. Work with me to build more bridges between us.”

(J. Sinclair: Personal Essay-High functioning individuals with autism. E. Schopler and G., Mesibov, 1992)