
Title: The art of autism: the art of relationships
Authors: Generous A; Bowers K.
Source: Autism Asperger's Digest, 2017, February-April, pp. 30-32
Abstract: Alix, who also has a TED talk "My inner life...", believes that the most important aspect of relationships is reciprocity. She discusses how this is not naturally easy for autistic people but that successful relationships are a two-way street.
Publication date: 2017
Keywords: Relationships; Communication; Autism spectrum disorders; Girls; Friendships
Availability: Available from the NAS Information Centre
CID: 47087
Classification Journal Collection

Title: What About the girls? Sex-based differences in autistic traits and adaptive skills
Authors: Ratto A. B. et al
Abstract: There is growing evidence of a camouflaging effect among females with autism spectrum disorder (ASD), particularly among those without intellectual disability, which may affect performance on gold-standard diagnostic measures. This study utilised an age- and IQ-matched sample of school-aged youth (n = 228) diagnosed with ASD to assess sex differences on the ADOS and ADI-R, parent-reported autistic traits, and adaptive skills. Although females and males were rated similarly on gold-standard diagnostic measures overall, females with higher IQs were less likely to meet criteria on the ADI-R. Females were also found to be significantly more impaired on parent reported autistic traits and adaptive skills. Overall, the findings suggest that some autistic females may be missed by current diagnostic procedures.
Publication date: 2017
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Keywords: Girls; Sex differences; autistic traits; Adaptive skills; Autism spectrum disorders; Diagnosis
CID: 47040

Title: An exploration of the positive and negative experiences of teenage girls with autism attending mainstream secondary school
Authors: Rainsberry T.
Abstract: There are interesting questions about the similarities and differences in how males and females on the autism spectrum present and respond to the world. Are there differences in how they perceive and experience school, staff, lessons and friendships, for example? This paper explores the experiences of three girls with autism at secondary school gaining their views directly from diaries and discussions, in addition to speaking to their mothers. As expected, although they share the diagnosis, they have different abilities, interests and desire for friendship and one girl is not aware that she has autism. These factors play a part in how they manage school and its demands and are reflected in their accounts. All three girls appear to have issues with the physical and sensory environment and are most engaged with lessons which suit their learning style or link to their particular interests. Being understood by peers and staff is also paramount. These issues also affect neurotypical (NT) pupils but often to a lesser extent as they can more easily use strategies to avoid and manage situations which are likely to distress them. Studies of both groups, autism and NT and both genders within the same secondary school would help to examine these differences further.
Publication date: 2017
Address: Trudi Rainsberry, Warwickshire; email: trainsberry@gmail.com
Download from: If you are an NAS employee you can read this journal online from your NAS computer. Click here for the username and password.
Keywords: Exploration; Adolescents; Girls; Autism spectrum disorders; Mainstream schools; Secondary schools
Availability: Available from the NAS Information Centre
CID: 47010
Classification Journal Collection

Title: Fandoms are family
**Title:** The art of autism  
**Authors:** Fulgham C; Bowers K.  
**Source:** Autism Asperger's Digest, 2017, May-July, pp. 22-24  
**Abstract:** 'Boys are more likely to have autism than girls' so say the statistics. However, researchers are challenging this and the article discusses how girls and women diagnosed as autistic need to be more outspoken. This is especially important as it enables them to then get the support and services they need.  
**Publication date:** 2017  
**Keywords:** Women; Autism; Autism spectrum; Diagnosis; Social communication; Social skills  
**Availability:** Available from the NAS Information Centre  
**CID:** 46939  
**Classification** Journal Collection