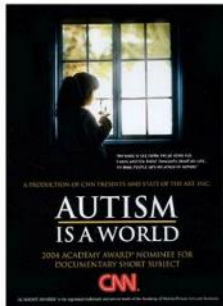# Neurodiversity & support

How to shape future services

What is neurodiversity

- Judy Singer – 1997
- Sociologist, on the ASD spectrum
- HU
- describes the diversity of all people
- autism, ADHD, learning difficulties
- Promote equality c inclusion

Why do we have to ask?

CHANGING FACE OF AUTISM

- name
- definition
- diagnostic criteria
- numbers

CONSTANTLY CHANGING !

The first face

TRIPLETT FAMILY ARCHIVES

- Donald Grey Triplett
- First autism diagnosis
- 1943
- ~~Institution~~
- Family
- Small town – social network
  - Social skill practice
  - Communication skill practice
  - Acceptance, Protection

https://www.bbc.com/news/magazine-35350880

My story

- Family farm

Lots of job to everyone → **individualised tasks**

- Strict daily schedule → **predictability**
- Big social network → **inclusion**
- ~~TV , mobile phone~~ → **low sensory stimulation**

~~WORD~~ FOR AUTISM → **PwA !**

The first person with autism I ever met

This picture is an illustration

Older sister of my best friend

- did not speak much

- smiled a little oddly

- loved gardening

- clumsy – slow

➢ included (social discipline)

Inclusion

My Mom

- Teacher (mathematic)
- ~~Word~~ of inclusion
- Never left any student behind
- **Modified the curriculum** – considering the **students' individual needs**
- „Give him (her) time! – (s)he will get there"

My high school classmate

This picture is an illustration

- Slow
- Amazing math skill
- Lonely
- But still **Included**

➢He became a special need teacher

Autism (ND) friendly environment

All the knowledge

Wording

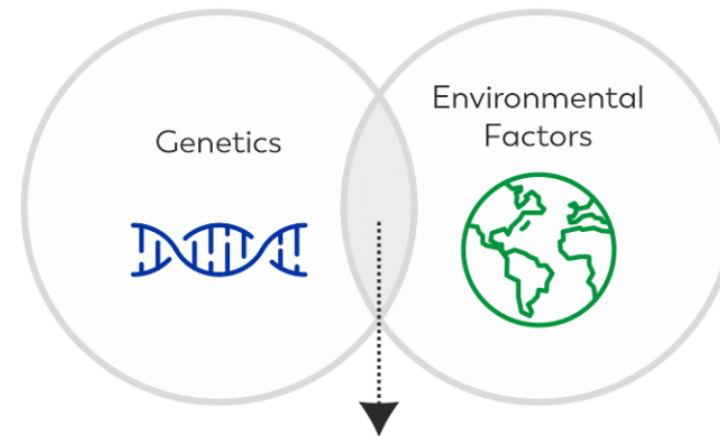Validated diagnosis tools

Guidelines

We just DON'T do it

WHY NOT?

Environment ?

- Air pollution ?
- Unhealthy food ?
- Older parents?
- Too many screentime?
- ???

What Causes Autism?

Genetics

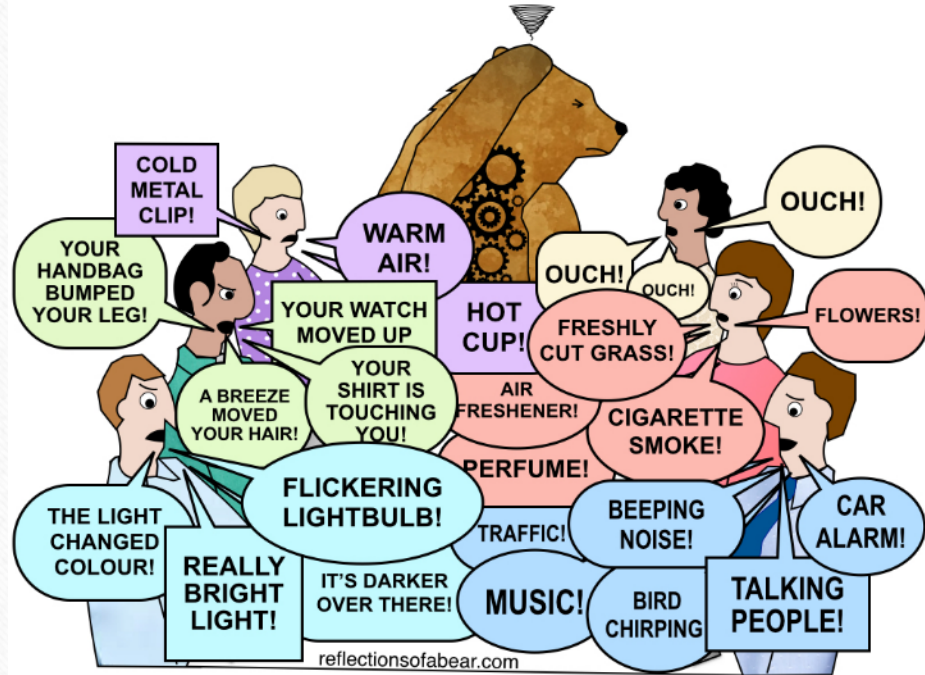Environmental Factors

1.9%
of children in the U.S. are diagnosed with ASD

Most common factor of the environment

Society

- Life is extreme fast - unpredictable
- Too many sensory stimuli
- No small local communities

(Single parent with an autistic child)

- Communication is an industry
- Big school groups (30+ children in a class
- Open office places

How to shape future services

- Use the knowledge – we need professionals
- Structure - Predictability
  - Time (schedule)
  - Space (architecture)
- Focus on individual needs
  - Modify the curriculum
  - Modify the communication (AAC tools)
  - Create meaningful tasks
- Decrease sensory stimuli
  - Smaller classes
  - Less screens
- **Be patient!**

Thank you !