

Autistic traits and challenging behavior in learning disability (mental retardation) : A new hope for treatment planning

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In this study, the parents of 30 children with learning disabilities were interviewed and information were obtained concerning the deviant behavior and present ability. The children were examined for the presence of core autistic traits displayed, identification of the degree of learning disability and finally exploring the association of autistic traits and challenging behavior in children with learning disabilities in order to design a comprehensive treatment planning for this group of patients. The data has revealed that about 40% of the autistic trait presented, especially in severe and profound degree of learning disabilities, and those with a higher number of autistic traits demonstrated a wide range of challenging behaviors. Many children with learning disabilities demonstrated many features of autism which were underestimated and diagnosed as a part of the learning disability criteria.