

OPLÆGSHOLDER



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TITEL: "Sexuality & Gender issues"

OPLÆG

Romantic and Sexual Relationships among Autistic Individuals

Autism was long seen as something which divided people away from the rest of society, and so, the thought that autistic individuals might be interested in romantic attachments and sexual relationships was discounted. Fortunately, we have since surpassed this naïve and incorrect perspective. So, what do we know?

It is now clear that those autistic people desire relationships. But that these relationships come with some differences:

1. The impact of social communication skills renders clarity of communication deeply important, perhaps more so than for non-autistic people. Trust is developed through clarity of communication, and trust is central to all relationships.
2. Sensory issues are important and impose upon relationships. This means that relationships involving an autistic individuals may evolve differently to accommodate these sensory issues.
3. Sexual orientation and gender orientation are considerably more diverse among autistic people, and these both or in concert may bring about alternate relationship structures.
4. Diversity of sexual behaviour, many autistic individuals seek and desire sexual encounters that would be seen as alternate or very sensorily focused by many non-autistic people.
5. There is a markedly higher diversity of relationship commitment type and strength among those with autism.

Together, these factors and others besides renders relationships among autistic individuals as highly diverse and perhaps unique. Contrary to the early beliefs, many autistic people are very interested in romantic relationships, and many are very interested in sexual relationships.

Form: Oplæg
Målgruppe: Alle

NB: Oplægget foregår på letforståeligt engelsk og vil ikke blive tolket.