

What is Happening to Individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD)

who compensate?

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Abstract

Many treatments for individuals with ASD focus on shaping their behaviour to fit in society. As a result, they may look like typical individuals and able to get along in social life but, they still have cognitive impairment. This phenomenon known as compensation. In addition to its benefits, there are also negative effects of compensation. However, studies show that the benefits of compensation outweigh the risks. Future research should focus on shaping better environment for individuals with ASD.

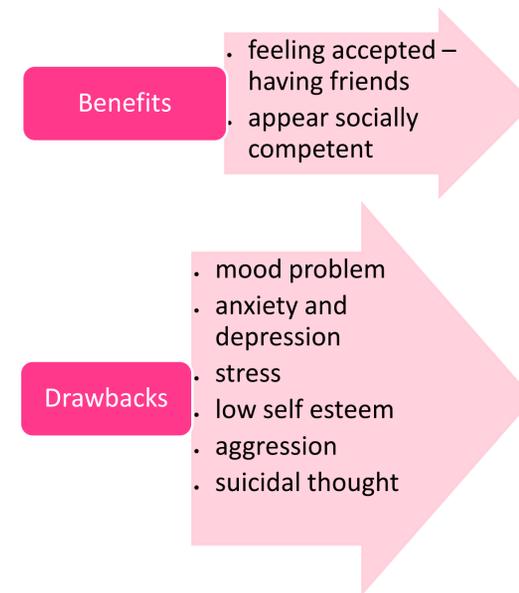
Gender Differentiation

Gould & Ashton-Smith 2011; Livingston et al., 2019; May et al., 2012

	Female	Male
Quantity	❖ Compensate more	• Compensate less
Type of Problem	❖ Having internalizing problems	• Having externalizing problems
Neural Responses	❖ Similar with typical female	• Differ with typical male

Benefits and Drawbacks

Hull et al, 2017

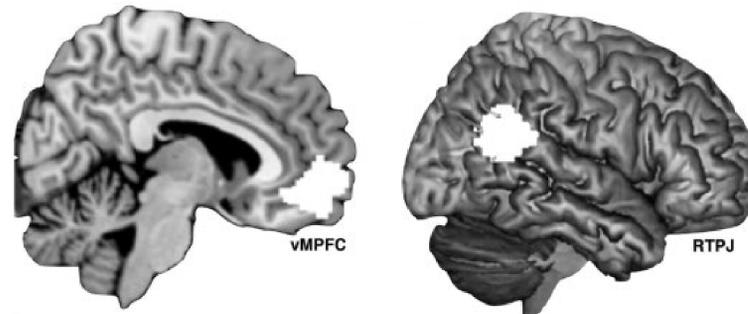


Conclusion

Treatment for ASD individuals aims for a better fit between them and the environment. Compensation alone is ineffective, even harmful. It is also shown that compensation's risk exceeds its benefits. Therefore, creating an environment which supports and values individuals with ASD should be studied in the future for better treatment.

Compensation in Autism Spectrum Disorder

Individuals with ASD have challenges to control repetitive behaviour, to socialize, to communicate and to interact in social life. By compensating, they can face those challenges. For instance, a young boy may mimicking the gesture and verbal behaviour of a popular boy in order to be seen as a sociable person, but when the social situation is unknown, he may struggle to do so (Atwood, 2006). Mandy (2019) suggested the importance of environment role as a factor that urges individuals with ASD to fulfil the need of the environment. When autistic students refuse to go to school, maybe it is not only because they have autism but it is also because the demand for school environment outweighs her capacities.



vMPFC : ventromedial prefrontal cortex
RTPJ : right-temporo parietal junction
Resource : Lai et al., 2019

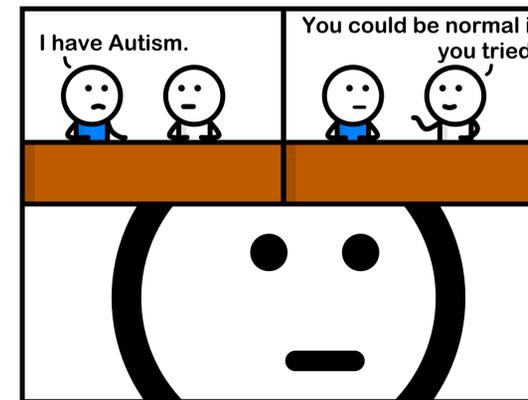


Illustration of Individuals with ASD
Resource : <https://i.redd.it/yd09kozp3ao11.png>

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