

## **ABA, PBIS/PBS and Autism Interventions**

**Created by Max Shinske, SLPA, EA**

- **Adverse event reporting in intervention research for young autistic children**
  - Kristen Bottema-Beutel, Shannon Crowley, Micheal Sandbank, and Tiffany G Woynaroski (2020)
  - <https://doi.org/10.1177/1362361320965331>
  - [Adverse event reporting in intervention research for young autistic children - Kristen Bottema-Beutel, Shannon Crowley, Micheal Sandbank, Tiffany G Woynaroski, 2021 \(sagepub.com\)](#)
  
- **Long-term ABA Therapy Is Abusive: A Response to Gorycki, Ruppel, and Zane**
  - Aileen H. Sandoval-Norton & Gary Shkedy & Dalia Shkedy
  - <https://doi.org/10.1007/s41252-021-00201-1>
  - [Long-term ABA Therapy Is Abusive: A Response to Gorycki, Ruppel, and Zane | SpringerLink](#)
  
- **Evidence of increased PTSD symptoms in autistics exposed to applied behaviour analysis**
  - Henny Kupfersetin
  - <https://doi.org/10.1108/AIA-08-2017-0016>
  - [\(PDF\) Evidence of increased PTSD symptoms in autistics exposed to applied behavior analysis \(researchgate.net\)](#)
  
- **How much compliance is too much compliance: Is long-term ABA therapy abuse?**
  - Aileen Herlinda Sandoval-Norton & Gary Shkedy
  - <https://doi.org/10.1080/23311908.2019/1641258>
  - [Full article: How much compliance is too much compliance: Is long-term ABA therapy abuse? \(tandfonline.com\)](#)
  
- **“Recalling hidden harms”: autistic experiences of childhood applied behavioural analysis (ABA)**
  - Owen. McGill & Anna Robinson
  - <https://doi.org/10.1108/AIA-04-2020-0025>
  - [McGill Robinson AA 2020 autistic experiences of childhood Applied Behavioural Analysis.pdf \(strath.ac.uk\)](#)

- **Why caregivers discontinue applied behavior analysis (ABA) and choose communication-based autism interventions**
  - Henny Kupferstein
  - <https://doi.org/10.1108/AIA-02-2019-0004>
  - [EMERALD\\_AIA\\_AIA636199 1..9 \(wordpress.com\)](https://www.wordpress.com/emerald-aia-aia636199-1-9)
  
- **Ethical Concerns with Applied Behavior Analysis for Autism Spectrum “Disorder”**
  - Daniel A Wilkenfeld & Allison M. McCarthy
  - <https://doi.org/10.1513/ken.2020.0000>
  - [Project MUSE - Ethical Concerns with Applied Behavior Analysis for Autism Spectrum “Disorder” \(jhu.edu\)](https://www.projectmuse.com/ethical-concerns-with-applied-behavior-analysis-for-autism-spectrum-disorder-jhu.edu)
  
- **"I was taught that my being was inherently wrong": Is applied behavioural analysis a socially valid practice?**
  - Therese M. Cumming, Iva Strnadová, Joanne Danker, & Caroline Basckin
  - <http://www.ijahss.com/Paper/05122020/1179451317.pdf>
  
- **Autism, Inc.: The Autism Industrial Complex**
  - Alicia A. Broderick and Robin Roscigno
  - <https://doi.org/10.1163/25888803-BJA10008>
  - [Autism, Inc.: The Autism Industrial Complex in: Journal of Disability Studies in Education - Ahead of print \(brill.com\)](https://www.brill.com/autism-inc-the-autism-industrial-complex-in-journal-of-disability-studies-in-education-ahead-of-print)
  
- **Pervasive undisclosed conflicts of interest in applied behaviour analysis autism literature**
  - Kristen Bottema-Beutel & Shannon Crowley
  - <https://doi.org/10.3389/fpsyg.2021.676303>
  - [Frontiers | Pervasive Undisclosed Conflicts of Interest in Applied Behavior Analysis Autism Literature | Psychology \(frontiersin.org\)](https://www.frontiersin.org/pervasive-undisclosed-conflicts-of-interest-in-applied-behavior-analysis-autism-literature-psychology)
  - **Summary:** This article discusses the various Conflicts of Interest (COI’s) that are prevalent in ABA/autism research. **Discussion:** “Our findings corroborate ethical concerns raised by autistic people, autistic researchers, and non-autistic researchers in regard to ABA autism intervention research. In the articles we examined, nearly all authors who were employed in clinical and training consultancy roles either omitted to declare them as COIs in their published reports (i.e., there was no COI statement provided), or falsely claimed that the authors held no COIs. In many instances, such statements were in clear

violation of the journal's submission guidelines. In our process of searching for these COIs, we found particularly egregious cases where researchers posted links or reference to their published research on websites advertising their private clinical/training consultancy services. As such, these individuals are using their research to market their clinical expertise to prospective clients, but still claiming that their research is free of COIs.”

- **Research Review: Conflicts of Interest (COIs) in autism early intervention research – a meta-analysis of COI influences on intervention effects**
  - o Kristen Bottema-Beutel, Shannon Crowley, Michael Sandbank, & Tiffany G. Woynaroski
  - o <https://doi.org/10.1111/jcpp.13249>
  - o [Research Review: Conflicts of Interest \(COIs\) in autism early intervention research – a meta-analysis of COI influences on intervention effects - Bottema-Beutel - 2021 - Journal of Child Psychology and Psychiatry - Wiley Online Library](#)
  - o NOTE: This study is not open access but can be accessed through MacEwan Library's website.
  
- **So, what exactly are autism interventions intervening with?**
  - o Damian E. M. Milton
  - o [So what are autism interventions intervening with.pdf \(kent.ac.uk\)](#)
  
- **An insider's critique of the dominant psychological models of autism**
  - o Damian E. M. Milton
  - o [Autscape presentation.pdf \(kent.ac.uk\)](#)
  
- **Autonomously autistic: Exposing the locus of autistic pathology**
  - o Anna Williams
  - o <https://doi.org/10.15353/cjds.v7i2.423>
  - o [Autonomously Autistic | Canadian Journal of Disability Studies \(uwaterloo.ca\)](#)
  
- **Low Standards Corrode Quality of Popular Autism Therapy**
  - o Emily Sohn
  - o [Low standards corrode quality of popular autism therapy | Spectrum | Autism Research News \(spectrumnews.org\)](#)
  
- **Distorting Psychology and Science at the Expense of Joy: Human Rights Violations Against Human Beings with Autism Via Applied Behavioral Analysis**

- Kathleen P. Levinstein
- ["Distorting Psychology and Science at the Expense of Joy: Human Rights " by Kathleen P. Levinstein \(tennessee.edu\)](#)
- **When disability is defined by behaviour, outcome measures should not promote “passing”**
  - Ari Ne’eman
  - [When Disability Is Defined by Behavior, Outcome Measures Should Not Promote “Passing” | Journal of Ethics | American Medical Association \(ama-assn.org\)](#)

**These articles (below) are specifically on and about PBS/PBIS**

**(Risks and harms of behaviourist interventions)**

- **Risk markers for suicidality in autistic adults**
  - Sarah Cassidy Louise Bradley, Rebecca Shaw & Simon Baron-Cohen
  - <https://doi.org/10.1186/s13229-018-0226-4>
  - [Risk markers for suicidality in autistic adults \(biomedcentral.com\)](#)
  - This paper concluded that “camouflaging and unmet support needs appear to be risk markers for suicidality unique to ASC”.
- **What is autistic burnout? A thematic analysis of posts on two online platforms**
  - Jane Mantzalas, Amanda L. Richdale, Achini Adikari, Jennifer Lowe, & Cheryl Dissanayake
  - <https://doi.org/10.1089/aut.2021.0021>
  - [What Is Autistic Burnout? A Thematic Analysis of Posts on Two Online Platforms | Autism in Adulthood \(liebertpub.com\)](#)
  - This paper looked into poor mental health outcomes and burnout from living inauthentic lives, including links between masking and suicide
- **Death by suicide among people with autism: Beyond zebrafish**
  - Mikle South, Andreia P. Costa, & Carly McMorris
  - <https://doi.org/10.1001/jammanetworkopen.202.34018>
  - [Death by Suicide Among People With Autism: Beyond Zebrafish | Autism Spectrum Disorders | JAMA Network Open | JAMA Network](#)
  - This article discusses problems of autistic individuals masking to conform with societal expectations, “...Quantitative and qualitative research studies show that such camouflaging is exhausting and is associated with poor mental health, including suicidal thoughts and behavior. This has important

implications for many interventions” with a “risk of exacerbating a disconnect between the true self and performing self, potentially increasing anxiety and decreasing self-esteem.”

- **When autism researchers disregard harms: A commentary**
  - o Michelle Dawson, Sue Fletcher-Watson
  - o <https://doi.org/10.1177/13623613211031403>
  - o [When autism researchers disregard harms: A commentary - Michelle Dawson, Sue Fletcher-Watson, 2022 \(sagepub.com\)](#)
  - o The psychological risks of behaviourist methods have not been looked at in ABA literature. “Failures in addressing harms have proliferated across autism research...for reasons such as the embrace of low standard by journals, and the omnipresence of unchecked conflicts of interest.” See other papers above about COIs.
  
- **The National Autism Dividend Report**
  - o Valentina Iemmi, Martin Knapp, & Ian Ragan (NAP)
  - o [autism-dividend-report.pdf \(nationalautistictaskforce.org.uk\)](#)
  - o An extensive review into autism interventions noted on [page 93](#) “There are also concerns strongly expressed by some autistic people and their families and carers that some behavioural therapies (and this would include ABA and PBS) are unethical, trying to force people to adopt (or stop) certain behaviours, even when it causes considerable discomfort or even pain, and therefore can cause harm.”

(These all show that the **focus on stress, trauma, and regulation in PBS is inadequate**)

- [Experience of Trauma and PTSD Symptoms in Autistic Adults: Risk of PTSD Development Following DSM-5 and Non-DSM-5 Traumatic Life Events \(wiley.com\)](#)
  
- **Autistics are more likely to be victims of traumatic events because of the treatment by others in society:** [Victimization and Perpetration Experiences of Adults With Autism - PMC \(nih.gov\)](#)
  
- [Autism Spectrum Disorder: The Impact of Stressful and Traumatic Life Events and Implications for Clinical Practice - PMC \(nih.gov\)](#)
  
- \*See also first 3 articles in this section\*

- [Lived experiences of applied behaviour analysis : adult autistic reflections of childhood intervention - Strathprints](#)
  - o **Emerging themes:** ‘removal of autistic self’, ‘increased vulnerability’, ‘missed empathic response’ and ‘autistic led alternatives’, a clear antithesis between ABA practices and perceived wellbeing in comparison to experienced quality of life.
- This thesis focuses on the violence within ABA: [CiaraHarteThesis2019.pdf \(cityu.edu\)](#)
- [The Effects of Behavior-Based Models on Neurodevelopment and Learning with Alfie Kohn & Prof. Torres - YouTube](#)

**[\(Links to Gay Conversion Therapy\)](#) Ivar Lovaas, the founder of ABA, also created and founded the Feminine Boy Project which aimed to treat “prehomosexuality”; aka make gay boys “not gay” through the use of behavioural conversion therapy. The same techniques are used in ABA therapy.**

- [Disturbing Behaviours: Ole Ivar Lovaas and the Queer History of Autism Science | Catalyst: Feminism, Theory, Technoscience \(catalystjournal.org\)](#)
- [Treating autism as a problem: The connection between Gay Conversion Therapy and ABA - Nova Scotia Advocate \(nsadvocate.org\)](#)
- [The man behind ex-gay “conversion therapy” started out trying to make autistic children “normal” / LGBTQ Nation](#)
- [“Building a Person”: Legal and Clinical Personhood for Autistic and Trans Children in Ontario | Canadian Journal of Law and Society / La Revue Canadienne Droit et Société | Cambridge Core](#)
- [LGBTQ+ conversion therapy and applied behavior analysis: A call to action - Conine - 2022 - Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis - Wiley Online Library](#)
- [Editor's Note: Societal changes and expression of concern about Rekers and Lovaas' \(1974\) Behavioral Treatment of Deviant Sex-Role Behaviors in a Male Child - - 2020 - Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis - Wiley Online Library](#)

- [Autistic Conversion Therapy - Autistic Women & Nonbinary Network \(AWN\) \(awnnetwork.org\)](#)

**(Goes against autistic learning and what we know about it)**

- [The Problem with PECS® - Therapist Neurodiversity Collective \(therapistndc.org\)](#)
- Why many assumptions about autistic learning are not supported by current understanding: [Hyperlexia: Systematic review, neurocognitive modelling, and outcome - ScienceDirect](#)
- ABA methods have been called into question due to poor standards, evolution of ethical and societal standards, illustrating various areas where assumptions about autistic learning are not supported: [Should we change targets and methods of early intervention in autism, in favor of a strengths-based education? - PubMed \(nih.gov\)](#)
- Repetition of information (key feature of ABA) hinders ability to apply learning in new situations: [Perceptual learning in autism: over-specificity and possible remedies - PubMed \(nih.gov\)](#)
- Section 2.38.5 sets out history and incorrect assumption what lead behaviour analysts to believe ABA methods are a good way of learning for autistic people, inconsistent with more up to date research: [Learning in Autism | Request PDF \(researchgate.net\)](#)

**(The extent to which PBS/ABA are not supported is widespread.)**

- **Resolution Opposing Applied Behavioural Analysis (ABA) -**
  - o Ami Hyten
  - o [Resolution Opposing Applied Behavioral Analysis \(ABA\) \(advocacymonitor.com\)](#)
  - o (Plain Language): [Resolution Opposing Applied Behavior Analysis \(Plain Language\) \(advocacymonitor.com\)](#)
  - o Resolution passed against all forms of ABA, considered to be abuse – “ABA erases choice. The person doesn’t get a say in what they do. The Independent Living Movement says that society needs to change. The disabled person doesn’t need to change.”

- **A critique of the use of Applied Behavioural Analysis (ABA), on behalf of the Labour Party Autism / Neurodiversity Manifesto Steering Group**
  - **Dr. Damian Milton**
  - [Appendix to the Labour Party Autism / Neurodiversity Manifesto – Neurodivergent Labour \(ndlabour.co.uk\)](#)
  
- **The Autistic Community does not support applied behaviour analysis (ABA)**
  - [The Autistic Community does not support Applied Behaviour Analysis \(ABA\) – ABA Controversy Autism Discussion \(wordpress.com\)](#)
  - Evidence that autistic people should be listened to and the extent to which autistic communities do not support ABA, including the Autistic Self Advocacy Network
  
- **Applied behavioural analysis and the autistic community: time to listen**
  - Dr. Damian Milton
  - [ABA and the autistic community, time to listen.pdf \(kent.ac.uk\)](#)

**(Not supported by quality evidence)**

- **An investigation into positive behavioural support and quality of life**
  - Amber Simler (Supervised by Dr. Christopher Hartwright & Dr. Bronwen Davies)
  - [Corrected Thesis Friday 13th September.pdf \(cardiff.ac.uk\)](#)
  - “Although the Challenging Behaviour Foundation (2019) attest to their being “strong evidence that PBS is effective in producing positive outcomes, such as increasing the person’s skills and positive life opportunities”, this was not substantiated for adult service users in this review. The main output of this review for service users, their families, clinicians, services, and policymakers, is that there is a lack of scientific knowledge on the extent to which PBS is effective for adult service users. This is consistent with the evidence review undertaken by NICE (2015) who did not explicate PBS in clinical guidance due to the scarcity of evidence.”
  
- **Clinical outcomes in staff training in PBS to reduce challenging behaviours in adults with intellectual disability: Cluster randomised controlled trial**
  - Angela Hassiotis, Michaela Poppe, Andre Strydom, Victoria Vickerstaff, Ian S. Hall, Jason Crabtree, Rumana Z. Omar, Michael King, Rachael Hunter, Asit Biswas, Viv Cooper, William Howie, Michael J. Crawford

- <https://doi.org/10.1192/bjp.2017.34>
  - [Clinical outcomes of staff training in positive behaviour support to reduce challenging behaviour in adults with intellectual disability: cluster randomised controlled trial - PubMed \(nih.gov\)](#)
  - “Staff training in PBS, as applied in this study, did not reduce challenging behaviour. Further research should tackle implementation issues and endeavour to identify other interventions that can reduce challenging behaviour.”
- **Addressing the wicked problem of behaviour in schools**
- David Armstrong
  - <https://doi.org/10.1080/13603116.2019.1597183>
  - [Addressing the wicked problem of behaviour in schools | Request PDF \(researchgate.net\)](#)
  - **(Need to request copy from the authors)**
  - “Students with disabilities affecting their behavioural development or who have mental health difficulties (MH) frequently face disadvantage, suspension or exclusion as a result of the application of this model in practice. ... Evidence-based, initiatives designed to address this dilemma in the US since the late 1990s, using PBS (Positive Behaviour Support) and also SWPBS (School-Wide Positive Behaviour Support) are outlined but the conclusion is reached that these efforts do not appear to have been successful. Recommendations are made for progress in tackling this wicked problem and include wholehearted rejection of the manage and discipline model by practitioners... Finally, this article advocates radical change in attitudes by teachers toward student conduct in schools and argues that educational practice should align with insights about human behaviour arising from research in developmental psychology.”
- **US Dept of Defense 2020 Annual TRICARE Autism Report on ABA (pg. 30)**
- [Annual Report on Autism Care Demonstration Program for FY 2020 \(therapistndc.org\)](#)
  - This concluded (page 30) “**there is no way to know if the relatively small change observed here is the result of ABA services, other services received, or if this simply a result of maturation.... This finding strongly suggests that the small changes noted are not related to ABA services**”
- **Placebo-like Response in Absence of Treatment in Children with autism**
- Rebecca M. Jones, Caroline Carberry, Amarelle Hamo, and Catherine Lord
  - <https://doi.org/10.1002/aur.1798>

- [Placebo-like response in absence of treatment in children with Autism - Jones - 2017 - Autism Research - Wiley Online Library](#)
- NOT open access. Can be accessed through MacEwan
  
- **Autistic People’s Organization A4A Ontario Summary of ABA Evidence (2020)**
  - Anne Borden King
  - Summary: [2020 was not a good year for ABA: A research review – A4A Ontario](#)
  - Full report with citations: [2020 was not a good year for ABA.pdf \(a4aontario.com\)](#)
  
- **Why not Positive Behavior Support (PBS), Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS), or Positive Reinforcement? / Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) / Social Skills Training**
  - Therapist Neurodiversity Collective: Organization consisting of multidisciplinary therapists and educators
  - [Positive Behavior Support \(PBS\) | Therapist Neurodiversity Collective \(therapistndc.org\)](#)
  - [Applied Behavior Analysis \(ABA\) | Therapist Neurodiversity Collective \(therapistndc.org\)](#)
  - [Social Skills Training | Therapist Neurodiversity Collective \(therapistndc.org\)](#)
  - ALL of this is cited by current research. See links on each page (I have also included the majority of the research in other categories)
  - “PBS, PBIS and Positive Reinforcement are all forms of ABA. Despite some industry changes in ABA and therapy models, ABA practices will always be based upon a foundation of compliance, coercion, and behaviourist principles. It is impossible to practice ABA even gently or playfully, without attempting to control and manipulate a person’s behaviour. The fundamental goal of ABA is compliance with the will of the person in position of authority. This is completely counter-intuitive to self-advocacy, self-determination and upholding human rights and dignity”.
  
- **Why positive reinforcement isn’t so positive: troubling questions about behaviourism**
  - Alfie Kohn & NJACE
  - [Why Positive Reinforcement Isn’t So Positive: Troubling Questions About Behaviorism – New Jersey Autism Center of Excellence \(njace.us\)](#)

- **Intensive behavioural interventions based on applied behaviour analysis for young children with autism: An international collaborative individual participant data meta-analysis**
  - Mark Rodgers, Mark Simmonds, David Marshall, Robert Hodgson, Lesley A. Stewart, Dheeraj Rai, Kath Wright, Esther Ben-Itzhak, Svein Eikeseth, Sigmund Eldveik, Hanna Kovshoff, Iliana Magiati, Lisa A. Osborne, Phil Reed, Giacomo Vivanti, Ditzza Zachor, & Ann Le Couteur
  - <https://doi.org/10.1177/1362361320985680>
  - [Intensive behavioural interventions based on applied behaviour analysis for young children with autism: An international collaborative individual participant data meta-analysis \(sagepub.com\)](https://www.sagepub.com/journalsPermissions.nav?lang=en&path=/journals/autism/article/doi/10.1177/1362361320985680)
  
- **For whose benefit? Evidence, ethics, and effectiveness of autism interventions**
  - ASAN (White paper)
  - [For Whose Benefit?: Evidence, Ethics, and Effectiveness of Autism Interventions - Autistic Self Advocacy Network \(autisticadvocacy.org\)](https://autisticadvocacy.org/for-whose-benefit-evidence-ethics-and-effectiveness-of-autism-interventions)
  - [PL-Ethics-of-Intervention.pdf \(autisticadvocacy.org\)](https://autisticadvocacy.org/pl-ethics-of-intervention.pdf) (Plain lang. version)
  
- **Is ABA Really “Dog Training for Children”? A Professional Dog Trainer Weighs In.**
  - **Carol Millman**
  - [Is ABA Really “Dog Training for Children”? A Professional Dog Trainer Weighs In. » NeuroClastic](https://neuroclastic.com/is-aba-really-dog-training-for-children-a-professional-dog-trainer-weighs-in-2/)
  - This article takes a deep dive into the ABA Code of Ethics and compares it to the Code of Ethics for dog training (CCPDT). The general consensus? Dog training was found to be MORE humane than ABA.
  
- **Confessions of a Previous ABA Technician**
  - Anonymous (see reader note at top of article).
  - [Confessions of a Previous ABA Technician - Therapist Neurodiversity Collective \(therapistndc.org\)](https://therapistndc.org/confessions-of-a-previous-aba-technician)
  
- **An ASHA Certified SLP’s Personal Perspective on Collaboration, Interprofessional Practice and ABA**
  - Julie Roberts, M.S., CCC-SLP, Therapist Neurodiversity Collective
  - [An ASHA Certified SLP’s Personal Perspective on Collaboration, Interprofessional Practice and ABA - Therapist Neurodiversity Collective \(therapistndc.org\)](https://therapistndc.org/an-asha-certified-slp-s-personal-perspective-on-collaboration-interprofessional-practice-and-aba)

## Accessibility Version

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“Pervasive Undisclosed Conflicts of Interest in Applied Behavior Analysis Autism Literature”

<https://www.frontiersin.org/articles/10.3389/fpsyg.2021.676303/full>

\*\*\*This particular paper goes over all of the COIs that are riddled in ABA research. It basically says that many ABA researchers fail to report their potential COIs in their research that influences the validity of their studies.

“Research Review: Conflicts of Interest (COIs) in autism early intervention research – a meta-analysis of COI influences on intervention effects”

<https://acamh.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/jcpp.13249>

(Not open access but can send a copy of this as well. It is similar study to that above)

“Low standards corrode quality of popular autism therapy”

<https://www.spectrumnews.org/features/deep-dive/low-standards-corrode-quality-popular-autism-therapy/>

“Distorting psychology and science at the expense of joy human rights violations against human beings with autism via applied behavioral analysis”

<https://trace.tennessee.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1105&context=catalyst>

On PBIS/PBS

(Risks and harms of behaviourist interventions)

“Risk markers for suicidality in autistic adults”

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An extensive review into autism interventions noted on page 93 “There are also concerns strongly expressed by some autistic people and their families and carers that some behavioural therapies (and this would include ABA and PBS) are unethical, trying to force people to adopt (or stop) certain behaviours, even when it causes considerable discomfort or even pain, and therefore can cause harm.”

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Autistics are more likely to be victims of traumatic events because of the treatment by others in society

“Autism Spectrum Disorder: The Impact of Stressful and Traumatic Life Events and Implications for Clinical Practice”

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“Lived experiences of applied behaviour analysis : adult autistic reflections of childhood intervention”

<https://strathprints.strath.ac.uk/66678/>

**Emerging themes:** ‘removal of autistic self’, ‘increased vulnerability’, ‘missed empathic response’ and ‘autistic led alternatives’, a clear antithesis between ABA practices and perceived wellbeing in comparison to experienced quality of life.

Reframing Compliance: Exposing Violence Within Applied Behaviour Analysis

<http://repository.cityu.edu/bitstream/handle/20.500.11803/811/CiaraHarteThesis2019.pdf>

Links to gay conversion therapy:

- [Disturbing Behaviours: Ole Ivar Lovaas and the Queer History of Autism Science | Catalyst: Feminism, Theory, Technoscience \(catalystjournal.org\)](#)
- [Treating autism as a problem: The connection between Gay Conversion Therapy and ABA - Nova Scotia Advocate \(nsadvocate.org\)](#)
- [The man behind ex-gay “conversion therapy” started out trying to make autistic children “normal” / LGBTQ Nation](#)
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- [Autistic Conversion Therapy - Autistic Women & Nonbinary Network \(AWN\) \(awnnetwork.org\)](#)
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- [Editor's Note: Societal changes and expression of concern about Rekers and Lovaas' \(1974\) Behavioral Treatment of Deviant Sex-Role Behaviors in a Male Child - - 2020 - Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis - Wiley Online Library](#)

The extent to which PBS/ABA are not supported is widespread:

“Resolution Opposing Applied Behavioural Analysis (ABA)”

<https://advocacymonitor.com/resolution-opposing-applied-behavior-analysis-plain-language/>

(Plain language version^)

<https://advocacymonitor.com/ncil-resolution/resolution-opposing-applied-behavioral-analysis-aba/>

(Regular ^)

A critique of the use of Applied Behavioural Analysis (ABA), on behalf of the Labour Party Autism / Neurodiversity Manifesto Steering Group

<https://ndlabour.co.uk/aba-appendix/>

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<https://orca.cardiff.ac.uk/id/eprint/125558/1/Corrected%20Thesis%20Friday%2013th%20September.pdf>

Clinical outcomes in staff training in PBS to reduce challenging behaviours in adults with intellectual disability: Cluster randomised controlled trial

<https://www.cambridge.org/core/journals/the-british-journal-of-psychiatry/article/clinical-outcomes-of-staff-training-in-positive-behaviour-support-to-reduce-challenging-behaviour-in-adults-with-intellectual-disability-cluster-randomised-controlled-trial/67FB170576C79140E9725DA51525088C>

Addressing the wicked problem of behaviour in schools

<https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/13603116.2019.1597183?journalCode=tied20>

US Dept of Defense 2020 Annual TRICARE Autism Report on ABA (pg. 30)

<https://therapistndc.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/Annual-Report-on-Autism-Care-Demonstration-Program-for-FY-2020.pdf>

This concluded (page 30) “**there is no way to know if the relatively small change observed here is the result of ABA services, other services received, or if this simply a result of maturation.... This finding strongly suggests that the small changes noted are not related to ABA services**”

Placebo-like Response in Absence of Treatment in Children with autism

<https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/aur.1798>

(Not open access, but I have a copy I can share)

Autistic People’s Organization A4A Ontario Summary of ABA Evidence (2020)

Summary:

<https://a4aontario.com/2020/12/06/2020-has-not-been-a-good-year-for-aba-a-research-review/>

Full:

[https://a4aontario.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/2020\\_was\\_not\\_a\\_good\\_year\\_for\\_ABA.pdf](https://a4aontario.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/2020_was_not_a_good_year_for_ABA.pdf)

Intensive behavioural interventions based on applied behaviour analysis for young children with autism: An international collaborative individual participant data meta-analysis

<https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/10.1177/1362361320985680>

For whose benefit? Evidence, ethics, and effectiveness of autism interventions

Plain Language:

<https://autisticadvocacy.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/12/PL-Ethics-of-Intervention.pdf>

All Versions: <https://autisticadvocacy.org/policy/briefs/intervention-ethics/>

Other:

Why not Positive Behavior Support (PBS), Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS), or Positive Reinforcement? / Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) / Social Skills Training

<https://therapistndc.org/positive-behavior-support-pbs-positive-behavioral-interventions-and-supports-pbis-or-positive-reinforcement/>

<https://therapistndc.org/applied-behavior-analysis-aba/>

<https://therapistndc.org/therapy/social-skills-training/>

Why positive reinforcement isn't so positive: troubling questions about behaviourism

<https://njace.us/why-positive-reinforcement-isnt-so-positive-troubling-questions-about-behaviorism/>

Is ABA Really “Dog Training for Children”? A Professional Dog Trainer Weighs In

<https://neuroclastic.com/is-aba-really-dog-training-for-children-a-professional-dog-trainer-weighs-in/>

○ This article takes a deep dive into the ABA Code of Ethics and compares it to the Code of Ethics for dog training (CCPDT). The general consensus? Dog training was found to be MORE humane than ABA.

Confessions of a Previous ABA Technician

<https://therapistndc.org/confessions-of-a-previous-aba-technician-part-1/>

An ASHA Certified SLP's Personal Perspective on Collaboration, Interprofessional Practice and ABA

[https://therapistndc.org/an-asha-certified-slps-personal-perspective-on-collaboration-interprofessional-practice-and-aba/?fbclid=IwAR1KIGa4XE5\\_wFM7mUSL4cAuq46GS\\_xANxrujs6PXZX1kMUNOgxjditMspU](https://therapistndc.org/an-asha-certified-slps-personal-perspective-on-collaboration-interprofessional-practice-and-aba/?fbclid=IwAR1KIGa4XE5_wFM7mUSL4cAuq46GS_xANxrujs6PXZX1kMUNOgxjditMspU)