

Stellingen behorend bij het proefschrift:

Tackling Teenage

A randomized controlled trial to examine a psychosexual training program for adolescents with autism spectrum disorder (ASD)

1. The inappropriate sexual behavior described in scientific research on adolescents with ASD cannot be explained by how the adolescents perceive or judge the appropriateness of sexual situations. (dit proefschrift)
2. Adolescents with ASD and their parents differ in their reports on multiple domains of psychosexual functioning, and these differences in reports are larger than between adolescents without ASD and their parents, indicating the importance of using multiple informants in research and clinical practice with adolescents with ASD. (dit proefschrift)
3. The Tackling Teenage Training (TTT) program significantly increases psychosexual knowledge and insight in interpersonal boundaries in adolescents with ASD. Furthermore, the high satisfaction with the TTT program of the adolescents with ASD, their parents and the professionals indicate a high social validation. (dit proefschrift)
4. It is recommendable to provide adolescents with ASD with the Tackling Teenage Training program in early adolescence, in order for the adolescents to benefit most in psychosexual knowledge as well as in social functioning. (dit proefschrift)
5. Sexual problems and sexual inappropriate behavior portrayed by adolescents with ASD decrease over the course of one year, irrespectively of following the Tackling Teenage Training program or not. (dit proefschrift)
6. Researchers could use self-report questionnaires for people with ASD more often, because they are capable of responding adequately to questionnaires when asked to report their own emotions, and their answers have good internal reliability and good test-retest reliability (Mazefsky et al., 2010; Berthoz en Hill, 2005; Hill, Berthoz & Frith, 2004; Baron-Cohen et al., 2001).
7. Interventions with a strong evidence-base as well as a high social validity (i.e. preference-base) are more likely to be used and disseminated than merely evidence-based interventions (Foster & Mash, 1999; Kazdin, 1977).
8. In research on the psychosexual development of adolescents with ASD, too much attention is focused on deficits and inappropriate sexual behavior rather than on positive sexual functioning (Dewinter et al., 2015).
9. Reluctance to talk about psychosexual themes with adolescents with ASD is more problematic for parents and professionals, than it is for the adolescents with ASD themselves (Gougeon, 2010).
10. It is more unethical to provide patients with non-evidence-based interventions, than to provide them with the chance to contribute to the scientific scrutiny of interventions in randomized controlled trials (Everitt & Wessely, 2008).
11. "An inability to empathize is not the same as an inability to love. Love is a powerful feeling for another person, often defying logic" (Graeme Simsion, The Rosie Project).