

**Children with Asperger's are often overlooked because:**

- Their language development is not delayed
- There may be no obvious cognitive impairment & they may be quite intelligent
- The difference between their ability & actual performance is often labeled as lazy or resistant

**Children who are left undiagnosed or untreated often struggle with:**

- Depression
- Anxiety
- Social Skills
- Academic performance
- Life Skills
- Suicidal thoughts
- And much more

**If you are concerned that your child may have Asperger's, ask your doctor for an evaluation or a referral to a professional that specializes in autism spectrum disorders**

**For more information & services contact**



Phone: 619-301-4041

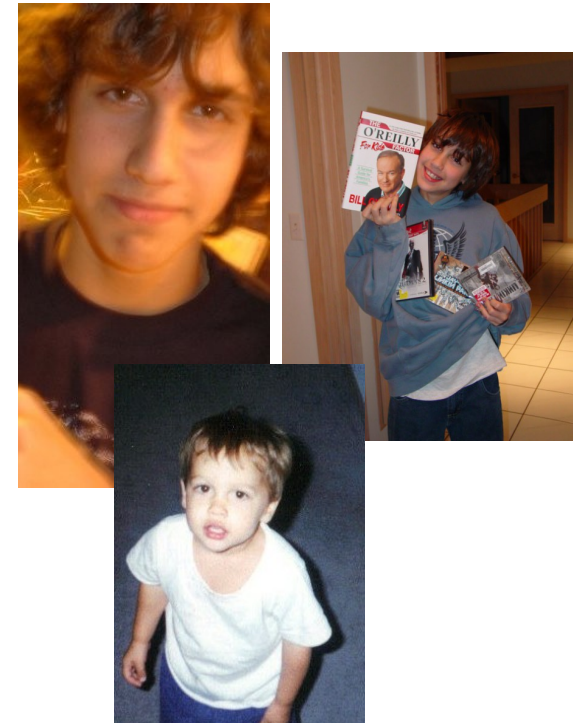
Website: [www.respectrum.org](http://www.respectrum.org)



**Could it be Asperger's?**

*In Loving Memory of  
David Ryne Olinger  
December 3, 1992-August 20, 2010*

Thank you to Southwest Autism Research & Resource Center (SARRC)  
ThinkAsperger's  
[www.autismcenter.org](http://www.autismcenter.org)





## think

### ASPERGER'S SYNDROME

- \* Is an autism spectrum disorder
- \* Is more prevalent in boys than girls
- \* **Impacts social functioning, behaviors, communication, learning & attention.**

#### **Children with Asperger's may exhibit different types of behaviors, difficulties, & characteristics.**

- \* Each possible sign *alone* does not necessarily mean a child has Asperger's
- \* A child does not need to exhibit *all* possible signs listed to have Asperger's
- \* **Any concern about one or a combination of more than one possible signs is reason enough to seek help!**

## Could it be...

### Possible signs of social impairment:

- avoids group play & tends to play alone
- has difficulty reading body language & non-verbal cues
- has difficulty making or keeping friendships
- has difficulty engaging on team sports
- seems not to understand or lacks interest in an other's perspectives, likes/dislikes, or emotions
- tends to be very literal (taking words for literal meaning & not intended meaning)
- has difficulty with conversation, especially with peers:
  - trouble with back & forth or leaving room for others to talk
  - limited topics of interest, frequently talking off topic, or persisting about a few particular topics
  - difficulty with personal space
- has trouble with keeping hygiene
- seems socially awkward or inappropriate
- seems extremely sensitive to criticism, others laughing, losing, or getting something "wrong"

## Asperger's?

### Possible signs of stereotyped, repetitive behavior or limited behaviors & interests:

- has interests (activities, objects, topics) that are all consuming
- engages in routines, repetitive behaviors, &/or rituals that don't necessarily serve a functional purpose
- has difficulty shifting from one activity to another, one place to another, or starting with new/unknown situations or places
- may find sports difficult or have poor coordination
- may have extreme behaviors or anger
- may be overly sensitive to light, sounds, textures, smells, tastes, etc.
- may be exceptionally good at some tasks & exceptionally poor at others
- all of the above:
  - may seem awkward (considering developmental age or level of intensity)
  - lead to difficult behavior, get in the way of social interaction, or affect learning