

Persuasive Essay Example

The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time

Asperger's Syndrome

Asperger's Syndrome is an autism spectrum disorder (ASD) that affects mostly infants and children. It is a disorder that is characterized by difficulty in social communication and interaction accompanied with great interest in one particular subject or aspect. In the novel, 'The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time', written by Mark Haddon, the main character has this disorder, even though the society around him does not know nor understand him.

As noted, this disorder is characterized by difficulty in social interaction. In the novel, we see that when Christopher is confronted about the incidence of the dog and accused of killing it, he hits the policeman. He is therefore arrested and only released with a caution. It would just take a normal person some persuasive words to the policeman to avert the allegations, but with the ASD, Christopher could not control himself knowing that the allegations were false. Christopher felt like he had been wronged and the only way of expressing this was by hitting the policeman.

Feel free to address 300writers.com and order persuasive essay of the supreme quality!

Normally, in the society, law enforcers are highly respected and feared in such a way that any physical aggression towards them is considered unheard of especially from a young man. We can observe that due to its effect on the social interaction ability of a person, Asperger's Syndrome does not acknowledge this. In jail, if the authorities had taken sometime to understand the boys situation and assess the degree of his illness, they would have understood with caution. Therefore

Asperger's Syndrome patients should always be treated with caution and patience in order to facilitate their social interaction.

It is also noted in the novel that despite being his father's son, he constantly argued with him.

The authorities were the only people who could help the neighborhood to understand

Christopher's condition. That would have helped in the way his father approached him, because I believe Ed was oblivious of this. He restricts his son from doing some certain things, like being involved in the dog incidence only to be met by defiance. Naturally, children are supposed to be obedient to their parents and always believe that their parents' intentions are for their best of interest. Christopher fails to understand this when interacting with his father since he has an impaired ability to interact with him. Thus, every discussion between the two ends up in a bitter disagreement and sometimes a fight. If Ed could have spared some time, with the help of the law enforcers try and understand his son's condition, he would learn the root of his behavior and have a better way of approaching him.

The autism spectrum disorder also has an effect on the neural function of a person. Asperger's Syndrome makes the patient to have an intense interest in a particular aspect. In most cases the patients stick to a inflexible routine in a stereotyped and repetitive manner. It is noticed in the novel that Christopher expresses a strong interest in investigating the death of the dog despite being warned by his father. He chooses to defy him am continue with his investigation. In the middle of the investigation, he learns that the circumstances surrounding his mother's death are unclear and decides to dig deep in it. This is despite two year of living with his father as a single family and his father assuring him that his mother was dead. This follows a tip from the elderly Mrs. Alexander. Normally, kids are supposed to trust their parents more than they trust anybody else, but in this case, Christopher chooses the contrary. In the investigation, he finds out that

indeed, his dad lied to him. He finds a stash of letters addressed to him which his father had hidden them from him. This is a clear indication of the effect of Asperger's Syndrome in the character. He expresses a great interest knowing more about her mother, which takes him to London where she finds her mom married to Mr. Shears. It is as a consequence of the ASD's effect on the neural behavior of a person that Christopher expresses a great interest in the subject. If his father had taken time to learn about the disease, it would have helped him notice the stereotyped, rigid and repetitive behavior of his son, which would have come in handy when relating with him. It is also noted that Christopher has a great interest in mathematics as he insists on sitting for A-level exams for him to get a university admission.

From the novel, it is so clear the Asperger's Syndrome alters the normal way in which someone behaves. It is therefore the responsibility of the society to try and understand these patients in order to help us know the most appropriate way of interacting with them. It should be of great concern that the ASD affects the social interaction of the patient, even though it has an effect on their intellectual ability. Resources should therefore be set aside to enable adequate research about the disease. Up to date, the diagnostic conditions of the ASD are not clear. This is probably the main reason why Christopher could not interact well with most of the people and seemed to get in trouble whenever he did that. If research is done to the best levels and the diagnostic signs clearly established, it will help the parent of those kids suffering from this condition to predict and seek consultations from medical practitioners.

Parents should also be flexible when dealing with their kids. This might help in learning more about the condition in them. If Ed had given Christopher chances of expressing himself, he would have avoided the constant disagreements, and ultimately losing her son's custody to the mother. If Ed could avoid being rigid on Christopher especially on the interests of the boy, there

would be less disagreements. Probably this is one of the issues that built a rift between Ed and Christopher and made Christopher fail to understand or even realize the clinical conditions of his son.

It is noted in the novel that Christopher barely knew a lot of people in his neighborhood. This is one of the characteristics of social, interaction impairment that characterizes the disorder. People of this disorder express selective mutism, whereby they speak to few people. He manages to interact and form a good relationship with the elderly Mrs. Alexander; the old lady reveals to her a lot of things that changes his life. Just the same way the old lady took her time in forging a friendship with the boy, the society should also realize the interactive weakness of these patients and follow the old lady's suit.

Generally, the society should express more interest in this disorder and evaluate ways to help these patients. Setting up institutions to help them learn social interaction skill should be insisted on since most of them are bound to be misunderstood even by their own relations, just as Christopher was.

Work Cited

Haddon, Mark. *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time*. Seal Books, 2007.