



**Richard Woods** @Richard\_Autism

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Right. Would I ever consider PDA to be an ASD?

**\*Yes\*** it conformed to accepted understandings of autism. Problem there is, it would require a fundamental shift in how PDA is conceptualised. It mean not basing PDA on anxiety driven features/ behaviours.

It would mean PDA strategies not being about anxiety/ stress managment. It would mean not focusing on the demand avoidance, in order for it conform to accepted autism understandings.

I do not think such a reconceptualisation of PDA should happen. Or is required. I accept that for many persons PDA is providing an "understanding" of their behaviours/ features. Enabling appropriate support strategies.

Which means there is no real need to reconceptualise PDA to conform to accepted autism understandings.

One could argue PDA would need to be changed to conform to accepted autism understandings for it to be accepted as an ASD. As there much greater evidence & consensus over what autism is, compared to PDA.

[@threadreaderapp](#) Please could you unroll?

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