

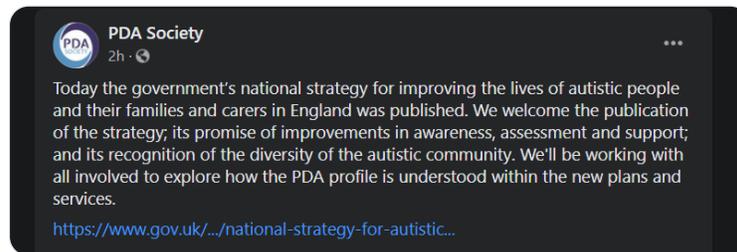


Richard Woods @Richard_Autism

Jul 21, 2021 · 27 tweets · [Richard_Autism/status/1417853491964436491](#)



That moment when you discover you have been stressing over a deadline, that does not even matter! Avoidable, avoidance of demands!!!!!!!!!! Argh!



My response:

PDA as a term, seems not to be mentioned. There are also other issues that it is unethical to favour viewing PDA as an ASD over its other proposed outlooks, when they await direct empirical testing...

...There is also the small point that non-autistic persons with PDA have the same rights to research, support and diagnoses, as autistic persons with PDA...

... So taking this position intrinsically discriminates against and violates universal rights of non-autistic persons with PDA. I should ask, why anyone should take the PDA seriously as a reputable organisation considering this? [@PDASociety](#)

I need to be clear also, that in the context of the systemically poor standards of autism, research & practice. As an autistic person & as an autism stakeholder, I cannot accept PDA being an ASD, unless divergent perspectives on PDA have been falsified.

There is no excuse not to hold PDA & [@PDASociety](#) to the highest standards possible on their conduct & how portray PDA. Its not in interests as an autistic person & autism stakeholder to accept an have an unethical & unscientific position that PDA is an ASD.

Simply because some have conceptualised PDA as an ASD, are trying to make prove their beliefs PDA is an ASD, does not mean PDA is an ASD. Nor does it mean that other perspectives on PDA are not valid, or mistaken.

The [@PDASociety](#) simply lacks the evidence to say PDA is an ASD.

Why as an autistic person & autism stakeholder, would I accept unethical & unscientific position, of PDA is an ASD, especially the broader systemic poor standards autism research & practice?

As an extension of other things to consider when adopting the "PDA is an ASD" outlook.

Divergent opinion, is any that does not conform to the main "PDA is an ASD" outlook. Which is based upon:

Called "Pathological Demand Avoidance" or "Extreme Demand Avoidance".

Originally a Pervasive Developmental Disorder.

A rare autism profile/ subgroup/ subtype.

Has unique strategies that are different to autism.

It is unethical to favour one position over another, and a balanced and accurate position should be taken. Scientific research should not favour a particular viewpoint, and it should be done to attempt to falsify hypotheses,...

... it is not done to "prove something". Conceptualising PDA as an ASD & attempting to gain evidence to that outlook is insufficient to say PDA is an ASD...

... Divergent outlooks would need to be falsified (e.g., PDA is conceptualised as an Attachment Disorder, and then this outlook's validity is tested)...

... Considering much of critical and divergent opinion is valid, requiring divergent outlooks to be falsified, is a risky position to adopt.

Critique of PDA that is often valid, such that by Elena Garralda, importantly predictions about PDA's clinical overlap, such as with depression (by myself), see Grace Trundle's research results...

... This is an issue when accounting for the general lack of engagement with divergent opinion & having prematurely formed a community of practice.

PDA is a "culture-bound concept" to the UK. Interest in PDA has significantly outstripped its evidence based.

Lobbying for PDA to be an ASD and treated like such in practice.

Systemic poor standards in autism research and practice.

Discriminating against non-autistic persons with PDA, and violating their universal rights to a diagnosis, research, and support.

Most autistic persons do not want autism to be divided, ignoring multiple precedents that we follow majority of autistic persons wishes.

That PDA is an ASD position requires fundamental understandings of autism to be mistaken.

The PDA is an ASD supporting research is small and much of it is poor quality, especially when compared to autism's research base.

Many studies indicate PDA is seen outside of autism, and this is supported by many experts.

The wider strong case PDA is not autism.

When a feature becomes "pathological" in nature is significantly lower than some PDA dx threshold's, demand avoidance does not need to be pervasive, or multiple

situations.

When presented with this outlook, one can predict the indicators of another autism scandal are present; i.e., “the writing is on the wall” that the “PDA is an ASD” bubble is going to burst badly. [@PDASociety](#)

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

Thank you in advance.

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