



**Richard Woods** @Richard\_Autism

Feb 17 · 13 tweets · [Richard\\_Autism/status/1494362199439069185](https://twitter.com/Richard_Autism/status/1494362199439069185)

Why am I passionate about holding PDA to typical research standards? Significantly due to the systemic poor standards associated with autism. That we should not tolerate, blatant biased & unethical conduct around PDA, like ignoring divergent views & blindly claiming it is an ASD.


**LBC**  
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"If you're a black Londoner, if you're a woman, how can you hand on heart say officers with these views aren't treating you differently?"

London Mayor Sadiq Khan responds to the Police Federation saying they have no confidence in him.

#SpeakToSadiq | @MrJamesOB



10:33 AM · Feb 17, 2022

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I have huge sympathies with Sadiq Khan's passion on the topic of The Met reform. How PDA is being propagated & pursued by some parties, in my view does nothing to change the entrenched poor standards in with autism. If anything they likely make things worse.

How does ignoring autistic person's wishes to not divide autism, by claiming PDA is an ASD, help autism studies research to be more inclusive?

How does disregarding others views on PDA, including that it names like "Rational Demand Avoidance", or that PDA is seen in non-autistic persons, make PDA research more inclusive and accessible?

How does tying strategies which are essentially good practice, to PDA, help improve how society & culture better treat & support ALL autistic persons?

How does claiming PDA has been over diagnosed & thus risk stripping vulnerable persons of PDA diagnoses & support packages help said affected persons?

PDA's clinical features include criminal acts like, harrasment, targeting abuse at others, like targeted blaming them, & stealing. How does potentially associating such acts with autism, help autistic persons be treated better by non-autistic society & culture?

How does erasing well-established clinical understandings of autism, like anxiety being a co-occurring difficulty, actually help autistic persons? How does such things help researchers?

How does potentially blurring the lines with what is autism, by arbitrarily including impulsivity & rapid mood changes, help autistic persons in, research & practice?

How does not following the approach of [@NICEComms](#) & others to PDA, actually help raise the standards of autism studies in the UK? Blatantly obvious answer is does nothing of the kind.

"ask "academic, activist, or advocate?"—and my answer is that I am all three. You cannot belong to a community that suffers from violence, marginalization, and suicide and not be." Botha 2021, p10

We are far too much crapped upon to tolerate shit standards being common with PDA.

Some people would say interest in PDA in the UK is detached from the evidence base. I would say interest in PDA in the UK is also detached from the academic debate on PDA, which is severely constested & controversial. We are still to have a resolution to the ethics around PDA.

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

Thank you in advance.

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