Don’t Stand So Close To Me: Doing More By Doing Less For Young People on the Autism Spectrum
Rhonda J. Greenhaw, MA, BCBA
Chief Clinical Officer for
Advancing Abilities of Wisconsin

Board Certified Behavior Analyst
Parent of a daughter on the spectrum
Board of Directors for A.L.A.S.
Member of several think tanks and workgroups on disability and autism-related issues
U.S. State Department Professional Fellow to Serbia to increase capacity in their disability community

What are your hopes?
What are your fears?
Adults on the spectrum inform our understanding
Learn from adults on the spectrum:

They’re not like my kid!
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KmDGvquzn2k
More alike than not
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4iVektXsNRI
The right to be accepted \textit{AS IS}
Give social data
Exposure is important
How do you know it is a true choice?
Behavior
Over-policing of our young people
Holding them to a higher standard
What’s the real issue?
Bad Behavior is Poor Self-Advocacy
– Jim Sinclair
What TO DO
Teach Self-Advocacy
Teach Self-Accommodation
Tell children’s their perceptions and judgments are important: 

Even the cat knows when someone’s mad at it
Teach them to deal with difficult people – you will not like everyone and everyone will not like you.
Respect Their Public Image
Teach them to put a name to things that are wrong
They are the experts on themselves
Normalizing their Behavior: It isn’t always because they’re autistic
Real Skills: The value of Lying, Sneaking and Calling in Sick
The Civil Right to Fail
Education not Restriction
Right to Sexuality