



The Culture of Families: We All Matter

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Growing Up with a Brother with Autism: What I Learned:

- Families are not universally treated with respect
- Inclusive practices work ALWAYS, when you plan!
- Tim was my brother first, last and always.
- It did not matter if he did not speak, because I could speak for him.
- Success, because I was allowed the opportunity to grow up with him.
- Teaching must be based on strengths
- All behavior is communication
- Restraint kills.

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“The Refrigerator Mother”



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The Power of Typical Kids!



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The Value of Strengths



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The Mantegna Family, Embracing Autism



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Arlene Mantegna

- Introduction

She and her husband Joe have two children.

She believes in the importance of family.

Traveling as a family

She believes in the power of typical peers.

Mia's school experience

She believes in building on her children's strengths

Mia at Inclusion Films

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Linda Gund Anderson and Brent: Celebrate Autism



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Linda Gund Anderson

- Introduction

Linda has two children.

She believes in the importance of family.

Working together

She believes in finding resources for her son.

Moving to California for a transition program.

She believes in building on her children's strengths

Involving Brent in writing the book.

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Temple Grandin and Eustacia Cutler



Each of us are building a better world for families in different ways.

Eustacia and Temple are building a better world through the Temple Grandin Eustacia Cutler Autism Fund

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CHANGING THE WORLD

- Arlene has been working with Families Together to build the Autism Families Together Network
- There is a handout on the Autism Families Together Network.

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AUTISM FAMILIES TOGETHER NETWORK



- Autism Families Together Network knows how important it is for families to connect and talk when they need someone to help or just listen.
- Right now the Network is signing up parents who have experience and knowledge and who interested in helping others.

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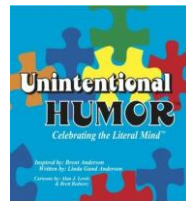
AUTISM FAMILIES TOGETHER NETWORK



- Once we build the network we will set up facilitated calls where the conversations will be guided by a staff person.
- The network will have sibling groups that meet together in online facilitated by Dr. Sally and parent meetings online.

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AUTISM FAMILIES TOGETHER NETWORK



Linda and her son wrote a book.

Linda is using the proceeds from the book to help others,

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KIDPOWER

- I started KIDPOWER because I believe in the positive aspects of being a sibling
 - Inner/Outer Strengths
 - Increased ability to see others perspectives
 - Ability to assess situations and prioritize needs
 - Appreciation of “boredom”

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As the Family Grows.....



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KIDPOWER

- KIDPOWER focuses on the special skills and talents that siblings learn as they grow up with a brother or sister with ASD.



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Food, Fun and Education



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KIDPOWER



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KIDPOWER NATION

- Join our online sibling group, KIDPOWER NATION™. We will be inviting small groups of siblings to get together online with Dr. Sally, the founder of KIDPOWER™. There will be groups for teen girls, teen boys, and older siblings.
- Sign up now by sending an email with your name, age, gender and email, and phone number to kidpowernation@famielstogether.org. For kids under 21 we also need your parents name and phone number.

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KIDPOWER NATION

- Siblings may sometimes “fear the future” as they approach dating, marriage and their aging parents.
- Siblings take on an important role and need support from professionals and other siblings.
- KIDPOWER NATION is an online approach to meeting with teens and young adults who have siblings with autism.

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Sally Burton-Hoyle: KIDPOWER Nation



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