

ASPERGER'S CHILDREN

THE ORIGINS OF AUTISM
IN NAZI VIENNA



EDITH SHEFFER

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Asperger's Children: The Origins of Autism in Nazi Vienna



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A groundbreaking exploration of the chilling background behind an increasingly common medical diagnosis. With vivid storytelling and wide-ranging research, Asperger's Kids will move visitors to rethink how societies evaluate, label, and treat those diagnosed with disabilities. In the 1st comprehensive history of the links between autism and Nazism, Sheffer uncovers what sort of diagnosis common today emerged from the atrocities of the Third Reich. 15 illustrations Nazi psychiatrists targeted kids with different kinds of minds?especially those considered to lack social abilities?claiming the Reich had room for them. Asperger and his co-workers endeavored to mold particular "autistic" children into productive residents, while transferring others they deemed untreatable to Spiegelgrund, one of the Reich's deadliest child-killing centers. But in this groundbreaking book, prize-earning historian Edith Sheffer exposes that Asperger had not been only mixed up in racial guidelines of Hitler's Third Reich, he was complicit in the murder of kids. Hans Asperger, the pioneer of autism and Asperger syndrome in Nazi Vienna, provides been celebrated for his compassionate defense of children with disabilities. As the Nazi regime slaughtered millions across European countries during World War Two, it sorted people according to race, religion, behavior, and physical condition for possibly treatment or elimination.



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A Very Good Book Vienna, Austria was the world's capital of psychoanalysis in the early twentieth century. Freud, Jung, all of the greats in the burgeoning field of psychoanalysis, had been based there. So was the pediatric psychiatrist, Hans Asperger. Born February 18, 1906 in Vienna, Asperger graduated from the University of Vienna in 1931. He had quickly become renowned for his focus on autistic psychopathy. Asperger, true to the times where he lived, claimed that only boys could be autistic. Girls were simply identified as having hysteria. Asperger and others like him must have been convicted of battle crimes against humanity! Second, despite vehement denials during his lifetime it has now been proven that Dr Asperger actively participated in referring multiple children under his care to NAZI child killing centers. Asperger firmly believed in tailoring treatment to the average person child, and this was how he trained personnel at a healthcare facility. The service quickly became world renowned for the like and care, as they were appeared at at that time, provided to each young one. Important read for anyone who functions in the field in addition to anyone interested in the history of the inner workings of the 3rd Reich. "Asperger's Children" is the most disturbing book We've ever read. Biased and Revisionist Hans Asperger was a sort, principled physician who himself survived through extremely difficult occasions. Asperger never joined up with the party, but his composing and analysis quickly shifted from psychiatric treatment of individual children to Nazi groupthink, meaning that he today made psychiatric diagnoses based on the patient's value to the Volk. Part of this included determining which children should be murdered for the nice of the state. Although there are few photographs of the kids in the reserve, the children whose images is there gaze out at the reader over the years, with a gaze that appears to be educated of what their ultimate fate would be. Although there is no existing evidence that Asperger personally recommended any children for killing, right now there is existing evidence that children he sent to Spiegelgrund were killed. The history of the T4 program is as fascinating since it is horrific. Compelling and beneficial. Adolf Hitler had risen to power, and on that date he annexed Austria into his growing Third Reich. Historian Edith Sheffer's work docs the cavalier attitude proven by Nazi officials and doctors when it found sending those they believed would become a burden to the Reich to become executed. The reminiscences of a few men and women who survived confinement at Spiegelgrund are both troubling and inspiring, as they illustrate how they, beneath the constant risk of execution, still put others above themselves when possible, as did a few associates of the staff. Physical disability, mental disability and disease, criminal and adverse behavior in college all became excuses to send children to the eliminating pavilions at Spiegelgrund. Most troubling will be the accounts of parents who switched their children to the Nazis, with the specific request that they become killed. Asperger 's theory was found in the 80's by the English speaking globe and popularized to describe a portion of the high functioning children who none-the-much less showed autistic characteristics, suggesting there is a spectrum of behavior seen in this disorder. Edith Sheffer reminds us of what was previously, and what could be again, if we don't heed the lessons of background. Asperger the Man and Asperger's Syndrome Excellent book about a low level Nazi/Catholic psychiatrist who formulated a theory about autistic children. Interesting Interesting background of Asperger's medical diagnosis of autism through the Nazi regime in Vienna. Psychology is a technology, no? The author allows Dr Asperger to make his case essentially that the Third Reich and the idea processes of eugenics had been an unavoidable product of the days. Then points out that they had been in charge of 65 million deaths during WW II and certainly were not benign or inevitable.. Dr. "Asperger's Children" finally brings to light a fresh episode in the ongoing tale of man's inhumanity to man.

These higher working autistic children were called having "Asperger's Syndrome. This book explains how everything changed to squeeze in with the brand new social criteria. Asperger became the administrator of University Children's Hospital of Vienna in 1933, where he extended his research that resulted in his theory on the syndrome that bears his name today. He tried to make a case post war that his existence was threatened because he was a believing Catholic and he was only preserved from incarceration by intervention of his mentor (there are no records of this; he was evaluated by the Nazis many times because he held a high position as clinic director but was not a party member. Important read. Anyone who, beneath the fresh Nazi outlook, was considered a burden on society.) Although he continuing to immediate his clinic and finally the complete Vienna Children's Hospital, he didn't publish anything about autism after the war. His post-war work was concerned mainly with the spiritual existence of the dying child. Edith Sheffer's story of origins of what was (and internationally still is) Asperger's syndrome speaks as much to what politics and culture's impact has on our look at of mental health, developmental disabilities and "diagnoses " since it does the role of one man's contribution to the field. The level of how it was done and covered up was mind-boggling." (In one case that consisted of a club feet, ears that "stuck out too much", and a step-mother who also didn't want anything regarding the 7 yo boy after his dad died in the war! Politics, research and the effects on society. Every time it was decided he was a reliable fellow who did not join the party because of his Catholic beliefs. Sheffer presents an in depth and thoroughly researched function. She delves into the dire and deadly perils faced by people who have disabilities beneath the Third Reich and the pervasive influence of Nazi philosophy on today's field of psychiatry and unique education. This work represents a critical missing piece in our current understanding of disability and neurodiversity, namely, by whose standards are we defining they? It should be needed reading for all educators and for parents of children with disabilities, specifically those who move within the autism community.) Definitely worthy of reading! He believed that dying children had finished souls and were ready to die. Asperger was not among those prosecuted, by the end of Globe Battle Two, for killing kids. And came March 12, 1938. He continued to achieve greater notoriety for his work with autistic kids, although he still held for some of his beliefs developed in the Nazi era until his loss of life in 1980. His theory was correct in some ways, incorrect in others but was quite definitely something of its time and of Nazi thinking. If you want to learn and learn about Autism and Asperger Syndrome, then this book isn't worth reading. Certainly convenient thoughts for a man who sent children to become killed because they " lived a lifestyle unworthy of lifestyle. Although during the Nazi regime he was pressured to discharge/transfer children in need of ongoing institutional care who had been totally beyond help from his Curative Education Clinic; I especially liked the survivors tales however they were scarred forever. I also loved that I was informed what occurred to the main perpetrators, though few ended up spending money on the crimes they committed. I'm happy I read it but it was an agonizing read. Government institutions in Austria were put in charge of Nazi officials, like the University Children's Medical center. My firsthand experience with him originated from a year-long program in clinical psychology he taught at the University of Vienna 1955-56. I was shocked by how many doctors, nurses, social workers, and parents were included and very few stated no. he in the meantime championed and unequivocally 'saved' legions of autistic children. Excellent Coverage of an Sad Secret Germany/Austria produced beautiful blue eyed blonde children because their medical personnel poisoned the rest. Hardly ever a Nazi or 'kid murderer' as defined. This book unfairly discredits a good man. You could conveniently

replace "autism" in this reserve with, "mental disease, mental retardation," etc. I found it just a little dry exceeding the medical info but most of this is history of how children were diagnosed and sent to hospitals where it had been determined if they lived or passed away. Asperger had studied under Franz Hamburger, and he expanded on Hamburger's analysis in pediatric psychiatry. Accurate history Attention to hist. context. A book about the impact of how nascent interpersonal norms changed the "scientific" definitions of psychology. Well crafted, deeply researched and quite scholarly book. If so, how do definitions, requirements, diagnosis, etc. suddenly transformation?" Afterwards that label was removed for just two reasons: Initial was a desire to acknowledge that autistic kids and adults were all " in a spectrum " and there was no definition of what classified someone as having Asperger's. The debate proceeds to rage on what can be classified as "autism" evidenced by the new DSM-V. It is much less about autism than it really is about bias in judgement structured not on "research" but on opinion and concern with fascist authority. This book is more about child death camps during the reign of the Third Reich and the medical quacks who avoided being convicted! There was no indication that he was "out of sync" with party positions. How looking at mental disease shifted from "person based" or "symptom based" to cultural based and the ramifications of that switch in outlook and repercussions. I found the book to be more a cautionary tale on what readily professionals are willing to change their perspectives on others when the wind blows in a fresh direction.



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