## Autism and Understanding

Walter Solomon

with Chris Holland and Mary Jo Middleton



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This book does not provide a ?miracle cure? for autism, although the authors aim to counteract the prevailing view that autism is a lifetime condition. Geoffrey Waldon?s philosophy of the development of understanding, which centers on helping children learn how to learn. The authors lay out an approach based on Dr. Authors Walter Solomon, Chris Holland and Mary Jo Middleton show that with the correct intervention, kids with autism – and other special requirements – can gain a fuller understanding of the world and learn to take a constructive and contributing place in it. The Waldon Strategy is provided through accounts of how it has helped to enrich many lives.



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A Must-Browse for Parents with Kids in Difficulty G. Waldon was a pioneer neurologist whose work revolutionized just how kids with delays are becoming helped -I should say in Great-Britain mostly, as it is ignored in america. It was a diagnosis they refused to accept, entrusting their son's potential instead to a doctor who, throughout a routine medical center appointment, informed them that Robert was 98 per cent deaf to the audio of the human voice but that he thought that he would be able to help him. It is impressive by its cleverness and its own originality and it opens doorways of expect parents who are trying to help the youngster. Instead, this presents a radically different - yet very efficient - approach. Waldon's extraordinary work doesn't apply to children within a specific analysis. In his biographical tale, Walter Solomon retraces the improvement of his autistic boy towards a happy life, yet in a afterwards chapter, he explains how the Waldon approach can help any kid with delays, whatever the cause. These begin with banging, which infants perform naturally when they are very youthful, and move onwards to obtaining and disposing of objects, and further into using equipment. His ability to lead a successful life in mainstream society bears tribute to the Waldon Approach's efficiency." [p. Solomon's work, regarding his co-authors, will have brought a lot of insight and understanding - a possible avenue for higher personal integration and curing - to a wider target audience. The book chronicles the author's son's life and advancement and clarifies how he has ultimately learnt to handle the disorder, get into mainstream education, work for his living and effectively bring up a family of his very own. It tells a most encouraging tale of perseverance in the face of adversity, it contains numerous other case studies of children at different amounts on the autism spectrum and comes with an extensive bibliography on the subject matter. Geoffrey Waldon. I was initially intrigued by the book's intellectual premise, and then had a chance to hear both Walter and Robert speak at a reserve signing for this book. Their tale was moving and eloquent. Waldon's unique insight that electric motor facilitation ought to be "asocial" is normally pivotal to the entire approach; Well, read this reserve. The phrase, "meaning originates from motion," is foundational to the Waldon Approach - and is currently being found relevant to other styles of learning and innovative expression. This premise also underlies the need for early mother-child play; particularly play which involves moving with the child. Robert, in particular, was inspiring - he holds down a professional work and is happily wedded. this is something that is a little bit novel to those folks who think that talking something through or offering verbal and visual feedback are essential to learning. Most remarkably, G. We am particularly intrigued by this publication because it gives, in Chapter 5, a calm and lucid synopsis of Dr. Waldon's theories and the neurological and developmental insights underlying the Waldon Approach. Much as Piaget offered his developmental stage theory simply because cognitive development due to progressive reorganization of mental procedures (resulting from increasing biological maturity in addition to a child's encounters), the Waldon Approach couches learning in terms of a succession of more and more complex motor works. You would like to know how? They are very complimentary methods to understanding how a child grows in cognition and various other abilities. In this sense alone, Waldon's function is very worth taking into consideration in the pantheon of early child developmental research. For the lay target audience - in particular, for parents, teachers, and school administrators - this book by Solomon offers a candid insight into the practical aspects of applying the Waldon Strategy, as well as supplying a useful and reasonably total summary of the intellectual premises underlying the technique. Many people will find the human interest aspect of this book both fascinating and highly relevant to their needs. Chapters 1 - 4 present Robert's tale in some detail, tracing how he matured from an infant

identified as having autism, to a young man who successfully completed his Bar Mitzvah ceremony, to an adult who had taken responsibility for learning computer programming skills, acquiring a job, creating a relationship with a young woman, and forming an effective marriage. Author (under the nom de plume Alay'nya) of "Unveiling: The Inner Journey" Mourning Dove Press, 2011 An inspiring "must browse" When Robert Solomon was just two years old doctors gave his parents the heartbreaking information that he was "remote control and subnormal" and that eventually he would not have the ability to be looked after at home and would have to be admitted to an institution. One sentence from this book is particularly poignant: "Today it is not the course teachers that you have to convince, however the executive and managerial layer who tend to be looking at cumulative targets as the results rather than the developmental gaps which precede it. It really is a mine of knowledge, the tale of a long family journey and a beautiful hope for all. 98] In short, the challenge with getting the Waldon Strategy into full and widespread application is not so much a problem with parents or teachers, but instead with school administrators and the complete legislative program that enforces a restricted perspective on the real character of education. Creating change in our school system structures and mandated objectives is the task which will take the longest period and the most concentrated attention. Through his "motivation and genius" Robert's entrapped persona was steadily released and today, now in his 40s, he leads a normal life in America along with his wife and two children. It is a must-read for just about any parent with an autistic child or, indeed, any wellness or educational professional who is working with children identified as having this condition. Readable, and very educational. This might potentially result in a much less intellectual, and even more spontaneous and playful selfexpression through dance. If this proves to be useful at all, then Dr. Waldon's work could have influenced far even more than the community assisting those suffering from autism. Further, Mr. Intelligently Written, Detailed Yet Accessible, Candid and Thought-Provoking In "Autism and Understanding," author Walter Solomon with co-authors Chris Holland and Mary Jo Middleton vividly portray the challenges - and potential way forward - for helping an autistic kid.l thoroughly endorse and recommend this book, not only to parents, teachers, and school administrators dealing with autistic kids, but also to those who use movement for just about any form of expression, including dancers and actors. Alianna J. Maren, Ph.D. Later on chapters present shorter - yet still valuable - case research from a variety of sources. Waldon created a incredible method, all his very own, that allowed the child who had skipped milestones in his early years to catch up. On a far more personal note, I am excited about applying some insights gained out of this book - extremely indirectly - to dealing with adult dance learners.The remarkable story of his recovery and that of Dr Geoffrey Waldon, the late Manchester neurologist and educator who made it possible, is told by Robert's father, Walter Solomon in this inspiring - and very readable - book. As the previous medical correspondent of the Manchester Evening News I interviewed Dr Waldon at that time he was dealing with Robert and I am gratified to note that Walter Solomon offers included the article I wrote within the webpages of his book. Moreover, I am even more gratified to possess played a little part in helping to spread the Waldon gospel also to know that "Autism and Understanding" is currently playing its component in helping other kids like Robert. Although I have a long-term interest in the mind and in neurophysiology (my first publication, the Handbook of Neural Computing Applications, Academic, 1981, constructed on that interest), it is not the research represented here that intrigues me as much as the prospect of using these insights in a practical way with individuals who are already very practical - and typically highly-qualified professionals with full and active social lives. Necessary reading by all concerned with autism Autism and Understanding draws on the author's experience as the father of an autistic child who has benefited from a groundbreaking teaching approach pioneered by Geoffrey Waldon for kids born with a neurological disability. This publication was influenced when Mr. Solomon's own autistic boy, Robert, was considerably helped through the protocols produced by Dr.With a forward by Professor Colwyn Trevarthan, this important contribution to understanding and living with autism is written in a style and language which makes it a must for anybody with an intention in autism, with connection with autism and for educational and medical researchers alike. Exceptional, compassionate and inspiring book An interesting publication about the Waldon approach, which is used widely in some countries to treat autism and is virtually unidentified in other countries. A wonderful and inspiring personal accounts of how a child was helped out of autism by his parents, and he has gone on to lead a successful and happy lifestyle with a stable work, and loving wife and children. It is these folks who may benefit from a more holistic method of dance that assists them reconnect with early childhood encounters.



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