Autism, Advocates, and Law Enforcement Professionals

Recognizing and Reducing Risk Situations for People with Autism Spectrum Disorders

Dennis Debbaudt



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In this book, private investigator and autism advocate Dennis Debbaudt provides important information for both groupings. For folks with ASDs, he presents advice on how to behave in encounters with police and other police professionals. People with developmental disorders are seven times more likely than other people to come into contact with police and their responses to encounters with regulations may not continually be socially appropriate. He clarifies how usual manifestations of autism spectrum disorders, such as running aside, unsteadiness, impulsive behavior or failure to respond, could be misunderstood by law enforcement professionals, with severe consequences. How can the requirements and responses of people with autism spectrum disorders become reconciled with the duties of the police to serve and protect the community? Aimed at raising consciousness and facilitating conversation between people who have autism and police professionals, this much-needed book is a valuable resource for both communities.



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People who have developmental disorders are seven instances more likely to touch police than regular citizens." As such, we have create our wills and our estates to take care of him. As a parent, I utilized it to describe the activities of the police when they got my Autistic boy into custody for shop-lifting. Fortunately, as far as I understand, he was treated okay, but didn't recognize that a "holding cell" was jail. He was highfunctioning more than enough to cooperate with the personnel. Our local Autism Society chapter held a training session for all police and emergency medical staff with a well-qualified sheriff's deputy, who includes a child with Autism, from NORTH PARK, CA doing working out, and no one showed up, which showed a lack of interest in educating themselves, therefore there must be training incorporated to their official training! They have to understand behaviors and comprehension amounts common in those with Autism--both in men and women, which could vary. Such understanding could lessen adverse behavioral reactions, making the whole situation easier for everyone. A few years ago in our county, a developmentallydisabled young man with Autism, was killed by law-enforcement staff who didn't understand that he was struggling to understand what was going on.) Unfortunately, that book might not yet have already been written. It was helpful training EMS personnel. My motive in purchasing it was to learn how to help someone I understand well, who offers Asperger's Syndrome, deal with law enforcement officers (or even better, avoid them entirely. More for Law Enforcement than for Advocates Although I was personally disappointed in this publication, I can't fault the author. If they'd been qualified to identify symptoms, he could possibly be alive today. The second half of the reserve is fond of parents and caregivers - with good tips about informing local police of your son or daughter's condition, keeping your child safe in the home, in school, and while touring. The author's website is most likely just as helpful to advocates and higher functioning persons with autistic spectrum disorders as is this particular book. MUCH information. A must read Extremely insightful." Until this understanding is even more broadly disseminated, there will be too many of those situations. So, if you are a cop or understand one, buy this book and pass it along. The book does provide information to law enforcement officials in how to avoid what the writer terms "unfortunate situations. Perhaps, one day, this writer will write articles for those of us with a loved one who has autism, in order that we can educate him or her, for those times when the law enforcement or protection person has only minimal training, but nonetheless has authority. Excellent and sorely required resource This an excellent resource for law enforcement - and for those interested in helping people who have autism deal with potential contacts with law enforcement better. Detailed and Informative This book was very detailed and filled with information. Everyone should examine this book to comprehend the down sides that both sides face when encountering people of all age range with Autism in a law enforcement situation. Police ignorance of autism endangers communitites As a mom of a four season old autistic kid, I'm plagued with the worries of "what will happen to my kid when I'm gone. I wish every police organization would have this simply because REQUIRED reading within their training, with follow-up by a professional person with knowledge of Autism! However, there are even more practical issues to worry about that Dennis Debbaudt brings to light in his book. Should be "Required Reading" for Law Enforcement Personnel! Our autistic kids are socially impared, and the ignorance of the disorder is definitely rampant among law enforcement ranks and other "first responders" to a crisis situation. Often "autistic traits" can be mistenterpreted as drug abuse, hositlity and beliegerence, dementia, or suspicious behavior that may appear as criminal intent. This is an excellent primer for police and other first responders. People with autism have been accidentally killed in crime situations, or have given false confessions to crimes they didn't commit largely because of police ignorance of this disorder. It gives a good overview of why certain investigation techiques are not effective in working with autism. Debbault's book does help me understand how officers can and really should be trained in dealing with persons with autism, and I want such schooling were mandatory, since nowadays there are many, many potential complications because of the prevalence of autism in its different forms. There are also tips on spreading autism recognition to police and other first responders on a grassroots basis.

Excellent guidelines A must for law enforcement who are unfamiliar with autism and related behavior. It must be found in conjunction with "Harmful Encounters--Avoiding Perilous Circumstances with Autism" by Costs Davis. In 2007, Raymond Lee Mitchell, a guy with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD), died following a struggle with sheriff deputies from alleged autism-induced "thrilled delirium syndrome", a condition theorized to result in unexpected cardiac arrest. Raymond was throwing a tantrum and the mother felt forced to call the authorities. The deputies experienced challenging with the youth, who died consequently. The officers in cases like this might not have realized a person with ASD provides difficulty understanding verbal instructions and body gestures. To prevent tragedies such as Raymond's, recommendations provided in this reserve can be used by law enforcement and correctional officers concerning identifying aggression and demanding behavior in these youth. It must be used with real-life illustrations and in-depth training.



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