

THE ROLE OF IMAGE NORMS IN THE CAREER DECISIONS OF INDIVIDUALS WITH ASD

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ABSTRACT

The stigma attached to autism, as well as stereotypes and images of jobs, occupations, and careers for individuals with ASD, may play a role in understanding the career experiences of individuals with ASD. Images of individuals with ASD may influence the occupational choices of Generation A. Individuals with autism have recently been featured in literature, television shows, and movies. Including characters with ASD in popular media may help reduce the stigma associated with autism and create image norms that can change perceptions about the types of occupations that individuals with ASD can pursue.

Keywords: Autism, Image Norms, Stigma, Careers, Neurodiversity