

INVITED SPEAKER EVENT



Healthy Sexuality for Individuals on the Autism Spectrum

Wednesday, October 23, 2019

9:00am - 4:00pm EDT

112 Merton Street, Toronto, ON

Isabelle Hénault, Ph.D.

Dr Isabelle Hénault is a sexologist, psychologist, author, and Director of the Autism and Asperger clinic in Montreal. Dr. Hénault's 5 star rated books, including *Asperger's Syndrome and Sexuality: From Adolescence through Adulthood*, provide clinicians and families a rare resource to navigate the complex issues of autism and sexuality in all facets of life. She has worked extensively with renowned psychologist Dr. Tony Attwood at his clinic and as co-authors, along with Dr. Nick Dubin, of *The Autism Spectrum, Sexuality and the Law...*

Learning objectives

- Identify social, medical, developmental, and environmental factors influencing sexual development.
- Describe strategies to enhance social skills related to intimacy and sexuality.
- List ways to respond to and to decrease inappropriate sexual behaviors in persons with ASD.

Description

Internationally renowned psychologist Dr. Isabelle Hénault will deliver practical information and advice on issues ranging from puberty and sexual development, to guidelines for sex education programs and maintaining sexual boundaries. Drawing from her widely delivered socio-sexual program (Hénault, 2005; 2019), the presentation will elaborate on strategies to improve the social and sexual skills of these individuals. The following topics will be addressed: Puberty and sexual development; Friendship (personal values, personality and interpreting different messages); Emotions: Reading facial expressions and emotions related to sexuality; Communication: verbal and nonverbal, Theory of Mind, role-playing; Sexual behaviour: enhancing appropriate behaviours, hyper-and hyposensitivity of the body; Intimacy: misinterpretations, limits; and Sexuality and the Law: Notion of consent.



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