

March 12, 2012

Representative Shultz, Chairman  
House Insurance Committee

Re: HB ~~2674~~ *2764*

Chairman Shultz & Members of the Committee:

I am Nikki Naughton Jacobs, from Chanute. In September, our two year old daughter, Raylin, was diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder, (ASD). It has been difficult for us to know what kind of help is available in our rural community. My husband & I have started a support group for autism, in hopes of helping others. Raylin is on the EVER soooo long Autism Wavier, being number 200 something in October. I have heard that most of the money for the Wavier has gone to bigger cities.

Now a problem we face once they can get services from the KS Wavier, there is not very many certified in our area & the kids are already in preschool or above. Early intervention is best, but we have to wait or move our families to the city to help our children with special needs. Our support systems, jobs, and roots are here in a community we love and don't want to leave. We are asking for any type of help on issues with Autism. All therapies are important for our children.

Currently, ABA Therapy is not covered by our insurance. Quite frankly, we cannot afford to do it unless insurance is paying for it. As of now, there is not anyone providing ABA Therapy in our community. I know that it is costing our insurance company about \$3,000 to \$4,000 **per month** for us to have one hour of speech, 30 minutes of Physical Therapy, and 30 minutes of Occupational Therapy **per week**. Out of pocket AFTER our deductable is met, we pay about \$300 to \$400 for copay. My husband and I both have full time jobs and are feeling the financial crunch of raising a child with Autism.

Autism is becoming an epidemic. 1 in every 100 kids are diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorders. It is currently the leading childhood condition ~~above~~ childhood cancer, diabetes, and AIDS. To raise a child, through adulthood, with Autism will cost most families about \$3.2 million.

Please help us help the children of the future. Some of these kids CAN live "normal" lives if we have early interventions and support. These children can also be a **VERY** important link to our future. Attached, is a list of people with ASD.

Sincerely,

Nikki Jacobs  
Mother of an Autistic, 2 year old, Daughter  
2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Teacher  
President of Autism Hope for Families Support Group  
Chanute, Kansas

House Insurance  
Date: 3-12-12  
Attachment # 10

# List of people with autism spectrum disorders

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

This is a list of **notable** people known or speculated to have been diagnosed or misdiagnosed with autism, Asperger syndrome (AS), or another condition on the autism spectrum. Due to the fluctuating and imprecise criteria for the diagnosis of Asperger syndrome and of autism, even a formal diagnosis cannot be taken as certain proof that a given person is on the spectrum. Speculation and doubts continue about well-known autistic figures such as Donna Williams. Also, self-diagnosis of Asperger syndrome is common, and some doctors may overdiagnose in order to enable a child to receive special education, or for other reasons; see reliability of AS diagnosis.

## Contents

- 1 Asperger's syndrome
  - 1.1 High-functioning autism
- 2 Autism spectrum
- 3 Not on the autism spectrum
- 4 See also
- 5 References

## Asperger's syndrome

*Further information: Asperger syndrome*

- Julian Assange, computer hacker and founder of WikiLeaks<sup>[1]</sup>
- Phillipa "Pip" Brown (aka Ladyhawke), indie rock musician<sup>[2]</sup>
- Michael Burry, US investment fund manager<sup>[3]</sup>
- Lizzy Clark, actress and campaigner<sup>[4]</sup>
- Ryan Cleary, LulzSec hacker<sup>[5]</sup>
- William Cottrell, student sentenced for fire-bombing SUV dealerships<sup>[6]</sup>
- Paddy Considine, actor<sup>[7]</sup>
- James Durbin, finalist on the tenth season of *American Idol*<sup>[8]</sup>
- Robert Durst, American real estate developer accused of murder<sup>[9]</sup>
- Tim Ellis, Australian magician and author<sup>[10]</sup>
- Daryl Hannah, actress<sup>[11]</sup>
- Peter Howson, Scottish painter<sup>[12]</sup>
- Luke Jackson, author<sup>[13]</sup>
- Heather Kuzmich, fashion model and reality show contestant on *America's Next Top Model*<sup>[14]</sup>
- Adrian Lamo, American computer hacker<sup>[15]</sup>
- Clay Marzo, American professional surfer<sup>[16]</sup>
- Gary McKinnon, computer hacker who broke into high-security military and government sites<sup>[17]</sup>
- Robert Napper, British murderer<sup>[18]</sup>
- Jerry Newport, American author and mathematical savant, basis of the film *Mozart and the Whale*<sup>[19]</sup>
- Craig Nicholls, frontman of the Australian alternative rock band, The Vines<sup>[20]</sup>
- Gary Numan, British singer and songwriter<sup>[21]</sup>, although he has not been medically diagnosed.<sup>[22]</sup>
- Tim Page, Pulitzer Prize-winning critic and author<sup>[23]</sup>
- Dawn Prince-Hughes, Ph.D., primate anthropologist, ethologist, and author<sup>[24]</sup>
- Nicky Reilly, failed suicide bomber from Britain<sup>[25]</sup>
- John Elder Robison, author of *Look Me in the Eye*<sup>[26]</sup>
- Vernon L. Smith, Nobel Laureate in economics<sup>[27]</sup>
- Satoshi Tajiri, creator and designer of Pokémon<sup>[28][29]</sup>

- Raymond Thompson, New Zealand scriptwriter and TV producer<sup>[30]</sup>
- Liane Holliday Willey, author<sup>[31]</sup>
- Travis Meeks, lead singer, guitarist and song writer for acoustic rock band Days of the New<sup>[32]</sup>
- Adam Young, multi-instrumentalist, producer and the founder of the electronic project Owl City<sup>[33]</sup>

## High-functioning autism

*Further information: High-functioning autism*

*High-functioning autism* is an informal term, not an official diagnostic category. Compared to diagnostic criteria for the official ASDs, descriptions of HFA tend to align most closely with Asperger syndrome.

- Michelle Dawson, autism researcher and autism rights activist<sup>[34]</sup>
- Temple Grandin, food animal handling systems designer and author<sup>[35]</sup>
- Caiseal Mór author, musician, and artist<sup>[36]</sup>
- Hikari Ōe, Japanese composer<sup>[37]</sup>
- Dylan Scott Pierce, wildlife illustrator<sup>[38]</sup>
- Jim Sinclair, autism rights activist<sup>[39]</sup>
- Donna Williams, Australian author; this diagnosis is controversial<sup>[40]</sup>

## Autism spectrum

*Further information: Autism, autistic savant, and autism spectrum*

- Amanda Baggs, advocate of rights for autistic people<sup>[41]</sup>
- Marty Balin, singer and songwriter with Jefferson Airplane and Jefferson Starship<sup>[42]</sup>
- Lucy Blackman, university educated author<sup>[43]</sup>
- Alonzo Clemons, American clay sculptor<sup>[44]</sup>
- Tony DeBlois, blind American musician<sup>[45]</sup>
- James Hopley, British dancer and 2011 Britain's Got Talent finalist<sup>[46]</sup>
- Jonathan Jayne, contestant on American Idol<sup>[47]</sup>
- Christopher Knowles, American poet<sup>[48]</sup>
- Bhumii Jensen, grandson of Bhumibol Adulyadej, King of Thailand<sup>[49]</sup>
- Leslie Lemke, blind American musician<sup>[50]</sup>
- Jonathan Lerman, American artist<sup>[51]</sup>
- Jason McElwain, high school basketball player<sup>[52]</sup>
- Thristan Mendoza, Filipino marimba prodigy<sup>[53]</sup>
- Tito Mukhopadhyay, author, poet, and philosopher<sup>[54]</sup>
- Derek Paravicini, blind British musician<sup>[55]</sup>
- James Henry Pullen, gifted British carpenter<sup>[56]</sup>
- Matt Savage, U.S. autistic jazz prodigy<sup>[57]</sup>
- Birger Sellin, German author<sup>[58]</sup>
- Henriett Seth F., Hungarian autistic savant, poet, writer and artist<sup>[59]</sup>
- Daniel Tammet, British autistic savant<sup>[60]</sup>
- Richard Wawro, Scottish artist<sup>[50]</sup>
- Stephen Wiltshire, British architectural artist<sup>[61]</sup>

## Not on the autism spectrum

- The late Kim Peek, one of the people used as the basis for the movie *Rain Man*,<sup>[50][62]</sup> was once thought to be autistic, but his diagnosis has now changed.<sup>[63]</sup> A 2008 study<sup>[54]</sup> concluded that Peek probably had FG syndrome, a rare genetic

syndrome linked to the X chromosome which causes physical anomalies such as hypotonia (low muscle tone) and macrocephaly (abnormally large head).<sup>[64]</sup>

## See also

- List of fictional characters on the autism spectrum
- Historical figures sometimes considered autistic

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title=List\_of\_people\_with\_autism\_spectrum\_disorders&oldid=481016104"

Categories: Autism | Lists of people with disabilities | People on the autistic spectrum

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