



THEY DON'T SPEAK FOR US!

We¹ are autistic, and we reject

- * The medical model of disability, and the current pejorative criteria for identifying autism
- * Scaremongering descriptions of autism as “a terrible illness, worse than cancer”, “a devastating disability”, “a growing epidemic”, or “the most serious challenge facing medical science today”
- * The idea that “low-functioning” appropriately describes those autistic people whose behaviour others find hardest to understand.

We say:

- ➔ **These negative attitudes cause terrible harm**
- ➔ **Our value does not depend on our capacity to behave like you**
- ➔ **With accommodation and support autistic people can contribute greatly to the common good.**

please sign the petition at

www.bit.ly/autismspeaks

Nothing about aUtiSm without aUtiStics

¹ We (autistics and non-autistic allies) are: Outreach (Europe wide), the London Autistic Rights Movement (LARM) and local ARMs developing around the UK, ASAN the Autistic Self Advocacy Network (in the USA, Canada, and Israel), and the Autism Hub (international).

Most people automatically get the accommodation and support they need just from fitting into society and being understood.

We say: ***LUCKY THEM!***

If society were more receptive and accessible, more people would fit in.

We say: ***REJECT NEGATIVE STEREOTYPES!***

If more autistic people had access to communication technology, more of us would be understood.

Not being able to speak is not the same as not having something to say.

UK government guidelines say everyone with a communication disability has a right to information and communication technology (ICT) to help them make choices, and to make their choices known.

We say: ***MAKE ACCESS TO ICT A REALITY!***



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www.autreach.org.uk



www.london-arm.org.uk

Autreach, LARM, and ASAN are controlled entirely by people on the autism spectrum. We believe that autistic people deserve their own independent campaigning voice, and seek to change public opinion about autism and to push for the full rights of autistic people in society.