

## **Language and neurocognition in ASD**

The paper will report on the results of a study to understand how the ability to carry on a conversation is related to information processing style in autism spectrum disorder (ASD). In particular, I plan to discuss findings related to fluency and information density in conversational and interview texts of youths diagnosed with ASD and a matched control group.

Jonathan Fine perceived language as a semiotic resource for meaning making, and he was the most consistent and productive researcher to contribute to the field of clinical linguistics from this functional perspective. He often emphasized the importance of analyzing texts in their micro-contexts to characterize local features, because it is through this kind of close analysis that the phenomenology of the disorder is most easily accessed. He was also deeply interested in neurocognitive contributors to the discourse patterns he observed. I will attempt to incorporate each of these aspects in my presentation.

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