

Final Project: Autistic Conversion "Therapy" Queerphobia & Ableism = ABA Violet Smith (They/Them) Support Autistic Kid's Futures WGSS367: Fall 2022 – WWU

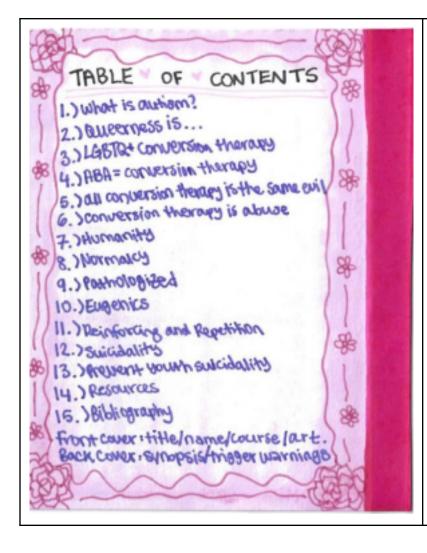


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Front cover: title/name/course/art. Back cover: synopsis/trigger warnings

~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~ WHAT IS AUTISM? "AUTISM is a developmental disability-and disability is a c natural part of human diversity Autism is something we are born with, and that shouldn't, 3 be changed. Autistic children 3 Should get the support they need to grow up into happy, self-determined Autistic Adults" (Autistic self advocacy Network, 2021) (cannowa, Carr, Breenspan, woodman, Li, 2022) "AUTISM IS A VIABLE WAY OF BEING IN THE VOD V. WORLD." VOD V. (Douglas, Gibson, 2018)

Lesbian Gender Non-conforming trans\* Gay Bigender Pangender NBLMNBLNB Bisexual/Biromantic Transsexual+++ Transgender /transfer /transmasc ASEXUAL omnigender polygender Hany Aromantic omnisescual/omniromantic Non-Binary Sapphic Third-Genderfag Genderfluid Achillean platonic partmers Agender Polyamorous other gender Gendergueer non-monogamous envity Gray (Acel Aro) Avother Neither gender Demi (Ace Anolgic 1 boy) WLW Spectrum Pansexual/Panromantic MLMdoke two Spirit / 25 FTM Studgender outlaw Altrogone NTFSame-gender-loving Butch Gender Neutral NBLW enbo Femme Gender Variant Questioning two spirit = Indigenous studie Black Terminology.

What is Autism? "Autism is a developmental disability- and disability is a natural part of human diversity. Autism is something we are born with, and that shouldn't be changed. Autistic children should get the support they need to grow up into happy, self-determined Autistic adults." (Autistic self advocacy network, 2021) (Cannava, Carr, Greenspan, Wooman, Li, 2022)

"Autism is a viable way of being in the world."

(Douglas, Gibson, 2018)

Queerness is... "gender & sexual non-conforming identities." (Douglas, Gibson, 2018)

Lesbian Gender Non-conforming Trans Gay Bigender Pangender NBLM NBLNB Bisexual/Biromantic Transsexual t4t Transgender/transfem/transmasc Asexual Omnigender Polygender trannny Aromantic Omnisexual/omniromantic Non-Binary Sapphic Third-Gender fag Gender fluid Achillean Platonic partners Agender Polyamorous other gender Gender gueer non-monogamous fruity Gray (Ace/Aro) Aro Ace Neither Gender Demi (Ace/Aro/girl/boy) WLW Spectrum Pansexual/Panromantic MLM dyke Two spirit/2S FTM Stud Gender outlaw Androgyne MTF Same-gender-loving Butch Gender Neutral NBLW enby Femme Gender variant Questioning

Two spirit = Indigenous Stud = Black Terminology

LGBTQ+ Conversion "therapy" LGBTQ+ Conversion "therapy" @ ~ Sexual orientation and gender identity change Sexual ovientation and gender identity charge efforts; are attempts to repress and alter a efforts; are attempts to repress and after person's identity; often referred to as person's identity: often referred to as ~?~ "conversion therapy" (connava, carr, Green "conversion therapy". (Cannava, Carr, Greenspan, Wooman, Li, 2022) 13% of LGBTQ+ youth Span, Woodman, Li, 2022) 13% of LGBTRH youth reported being subjected to conversion thereby. reported being subjected to conversion therapy, with \$3% reporting it occurred when they were with 83% reporting it occurred when they were under age 18. (The Trevor Project, 2021) under age 18. (The Trevor Project, 2021) "there is "there is no justification for the violence. no justification for the violence that is trying to that is trying to impose a sexual identity an someone else." (segueraia, 2016) . impose a sexual identity on someone else." (Sequenzia, 2016) Die Ivar Lovaas had involvement in the . "Ole Ivar Lovaas had involvement in the Feminine Femining Boy Project during the 1970's, where Boy Project during the 1970's, where he he catalogued and developed interventions cataloged and developed interventions into the into the gender and sexual non-conforming Hentities of young people (boughas, Gibson, zon gender and sexual non-confirming identities of young people." (Douglas, Gibson, 2018) He engaged in this project: funding, 2 He engaged in the project: "funding, Supervising, and collaborating with his Student George Rekers who continues to be supervising, and collaborating with his student a central if controversion advocate for so George Rekers who continues to be a central if Called gay and trains "Conversion therapies" controversial advocate for so-called gay and (Dauglas, Gibson, 2018) These violent and trans "conversion therapies." (Douglas, Gibson, harmful practices continue today. His (LONG 2018) These violent and harmful practices actions are not a thing of the past continue today. His (Lovaas) actions are not a thing of the past. Applied Behavioral Analysis (ABA) = Conversion therapy APPLIED BEHAVIDRAL ANALYSIS(ABA)= "I propose that every time we write or talk "I propose that Everytime we write or talk about and we also write or say: Autistic Conversion Therapy. about ABA, we also write or say: Autistic Both Exectments" (tortunes) [queer + autistic intervention have the same root-the same father- Ivar Lovas Conversion Therapy. Both "treatments" (SOBUENTEIA, 2016) ABA IS CONVERSION (tortures) [Queer & autistic interventions] have the same root – the same "father" – Ivar "THERAPY "IT'S VIOLENCE Lovaas." (Sequenzia, 2016) ABA is Conversion and and and and CONTRACTOR CONTRACTOR "Therapy." It's Violence. "ABA is the most (ABA is the most commonly used and : commonly used and funded autism funded autism intervention today that intervention today that seeks to shape seeks to shape "normal behaviors in. "normal" behaviors in autistic children while autistic children while extinguishing. extinguishing those behaviors designated as those behaviors designated as autistic. autistic." (Douglas, Gibson, 2018) (pouglas, Gibson, 2018) Ivar Lovaas says Autistic children are severely disturbed. Ivar Lovaas says utistic children are severely disturbed Autistic children are retarded. whistic children are retarded. Autistic children do not express love autistic children do not express love? adequately. Autistic children are monsters, autistic Children are monoters, little monste little monsters. Autistic children should know autistic children should know that that there's no question in his mind that he no question in his mind that he would kill the would kill them. Autistic kids should be autistic Kids should be shown punishment shown punishment, not love. Physical not love. Physical punishment is loving punishment is loving. (Lovaas, Chance, 1974) (Lovalas, chance, 1974) mmmmmm

all conversion therapy is the same evil a such therapies [are intended to] deliver an autom-free and gender-conforming future ... Through the writing of Lovass and his co-authors, we can see the producing of the unlunderdeveloped audistic person who lacks full humanity without early interventions the gender non-conforming or teams child doomed without intervention we need to explore an examination of the overlap between the regulation of autism with that of gender and sexuality in the WORK OF OLE IVAY LOVARS."(Douglas, Gibson, 2016) A Queer Disability studies approach \* supports queer and autistic embadiments and futures as vital, inventive and viable \* (Douglas, Gibson, 2018

All Conversion therapy is the same evil "Such therapies [are intended to] deliver an autism free and gender-conforming future... Through the writings of Lovaas and his co-authors, we can see the production of the un/under-developed autistic person who lacks full humanity without early intervention; the gender non-conforming or trans child doomed without "intervention."

We need to explore "an examination of the overlap between the regulation of autism with that of gender and sexuality in the work of Ole Ivar Lovaas." (Douglas, Gibson, 2018) "A Queer Disability studies approach supports queer and autistic embodiments and futures as vital, inventive and viable." (Douglas, Gibson, 2018)

Conversion therapy is ABUSE: "The crucity lies in interventions to dehumanized coence, regulate and do bodily violance to those deemed in need of a "curre" (Douglas, Gribson, 2016) " hese wore sustematic a trempts to slap, nout, reward, shock and grove autish, and gender non-conforming behaviors act & Children (Douglas, Gibson, 2018) Evidence from Louzzs himself. when he fidgets, cries, moves about, hency get a smart slap "" we scream "no" as loud as we can and we look furious and at the same time we shock them ""we know the shocks are Painful.""Spank them, and spank them good "" I just reached over and cracked her one right on the year. She was a big fat girl so I had an easy target "" After you hat a child, you can't just get up and leave him, you are hooked to that Kid!"" we used electric shock and spanking as punishment." "once you have taken it upon yourself to punish a child, you must then make a concerted effort to load him up with love" "Nobody punishes a child who doesn't also love that child." 17the fight for an autistic child's humanity requires saintly patience? Loves thinks his abuse is saintly. These are seen a public interim imagine what ease he did. (Lovaas, chance, 1974)

Conversion therapy is ABUSE: "The cruelty lies in interventions to dehumanize, coerce, regulate and do bodily violence to those deemed in need of a "cure."" (Douglas, Gibson, 2018) "These were systematic attempts to slap, shout, reward, shock, and ignore autistic and gender non-confirming behaviors out of children." (Douglas, Gibson, 2018) Evidence from Lovaas himself... "When he fidgets, cries, moves about, he may get a smart slap." "We scream "no" as loud as we can, and we look furious and at the same time we shock them." "We know the shocks are painful." "Spank them and spank them good." "I just reached over and cracked her one right on the rear. She was a big fat girl, so I had an easy target." "After you hit a child, you can't just get up and leave him, you are hooked to that kid." "We used electric shock and spanking as punishment." "Once you have taken it upon yourself to punish a child, you must then make a concerted effort to load him up with love." "Nobody punishes a child who doesn't also love that child." "The fight for an autistic child's humanity requires saintly patience" Lovaas thinks his abuse is saintly. These are from a public interview, imagine what else he did. (Lovaas, Chance, 1974)

humanity: 55 gueer and autistic people are often dehumanized. "the desires - and the HUMANITY- of people; were presented as objects to change, build or erase. Ethical concerns such as consent were effaced. This belief is particularly apparent in Lovass interviews about autistic children when he talked about his approach as "building a person." (Doug 126, Giloson, 2018) Louges Said that "you have a person in the physical Sense-they have hair, a nose, and a mouth-but they are not people in the psychological sense." (Lovaas, Charce, 1974) Seen as monsters primitive abnormal

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# Normalcy:

Heteronormativity: the attitude that Heterosexuality is the only normal and natural expression. Cisnormativity: the idea that being trans is abnormal/unnatural. Lovaas claims that ABA (Applied Behavioral Analysis) therapies caused; the children treated to become "indistinguishable from their normal friends." (Douglas, Gibson, 2018)

These ideas perpetuate a queerphobic and ableist society where differences are seen as wrong and deviant.

Queer and autistic "populations are expected to assimilate." (Foucault) (Tilland-Stafford, 2022)

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Pathologized:

"Reject the notion that disability is a pathology to be avoided or cured in favor of the view that variation of bodily form is natural or normal." (Ray, 2009) "While homosexuality was delisted from the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM) in 1973, this change did not eliminate the pathologization of sexual and gender deviance." (Douglas, Gibson, 2018) Pathologization of queerness and autism situate these identities as a deficit to a natural and normal humanity. It allows attitudes of forced assimilation and even eugenics to exist. Queer & autistic people: are not defective

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## eugenics:

"Certainly the desire to eradicate disability runs deep? (Clare, 2017) The history of Autism Studies pre-Lovaas can be traced to Kanner and Asperger. Hans Asperger: Collaborated with the Nazis; actively Contributed to the Nazi eugenics program: referring disabled children to a clinic he Knew participated in the Third Reich's child euthanasia program. (Baron-cohen, Buxbaum, Kiln, Silberman, 2018) This is a reason why the term Aspergers is no longer used for autism spects um diagnoses. What Lovass, Kanner and Asperger have in common is they were all non-autistic (allistic) white men. Not only did they not understand what being audiotic was they enforced barners in diagnosis and care white boys were the only people. tiognosed in youth ole ruled to change the culture

#### **Eugenics:**

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Reinforcing and repetition:

"Children received reinforcements and punishments [due to expressions of gender nonconformity] was an indication for the need of gender training and predictive of a feared future of [queerness]." (Douglas, Gibson, 2018) "Lovaas's experiments on autistic children used positive reinforcers for desired/"normal" behaviors such as giving food, saying "good boy", and/or giving the child a hug or pat for attending lessons, using spoken language, looking at, hugging or kissing the experimenter upon request. They also used violent aversives: slaps, electric shocks and reprimands for undesired/autistic behaviors such as flapping hands, rocking, banging body parts against objects, climbing on furniture, not coming to the experimenter when asked, not hugging the experimenter, or averting their gaze." (Douglas, Gibson, 2018) This is manipulation. This is manipulating CHILDREN. We need to end ABA to project kids.



# Suicidality

"LGBTQ Youth who were subjected to conversion therapy reported more than twice the rate of attempting suicide." (The Trevor Project, 2021) "21% of transgender and non-binary youth have attempted suicide. 52% have considered suicide, and 46% of these youth who wanted mental health supports were concerned about finding a provider who upheld LGBTQ competencies." (Cannava, Carr, Greenspan, Wooman, Li, 2022) Hedley et al. (2018) found that nearly half of their sample of youth with ASD (autism) spectrum disorder)) had depression and over one-third (1/3) experienced suicidal ideation." (Cannava, Carr, Greenspan, Wooman, Li, 2022) These statistics are alarming and indicative of a culture rampant with queerphobia and ableism. Queer and autistic youth deserve to know the future is for them.

Aprevent youth suicidality: X LGBTQ youth who had access to spaces that affirmed their sexual orientation and gender identity reported lower rates of othernyting suicide than those who did not. Transgender and nonbinany youth who reported having pronowns respected by all of the people they lived with attempted Suicide at half the tate of those who did not have their pronouns respected by anyone with whom they lived. Transpender and non-binary youth who were able to Change their marine analor gender manker on legal documents, such as drivers licenses and birth certificates, reported lower rootes of attempting as a define Travor Project, 2021) "Autistic conversion therapy is violence against our neurology, our identity, our homanity (sequenzia, 2016) While the neurology, identity and humanity the pronouns, names-affirming them saves lives. Autistic and queer lives are SD VALUABLE SO VAWABLE. 6 6 CRESOURCES: 0 Autistic Self Advocacy Network (ASAN) The Trevor Project (text/call or webchat ext: 678-678 Cas1: 1-866-488-7386 webchat: (the trevor Project.org) Autistic women & Nonbinary Nerwork (AMM Trans Lifeline: 877-565-8860 Suicide and crisis Lifeline: 988 Sins Invalid.org Bornferfect.org StopABA Support Autistics. home. blog Autisticscienceperson.com leurodivergentrebel 200 000 00 emotive communicat choory supports consent education rauma care Disability Justice suide lifelines 

**Prevent Youth Suicidality:** 

LGBTQ Youth who had access to spaces that affirmed their sexual orientation and gender identity reported lower rates of attempting suicide than those who did not. Transgender and non binary youth who reported having pronouns respected by all of the people they lived with attempted suicide at half the rate of those who did not have their pronouns respected by anyone with whom they lived. Transgender and non-binary youth who were able to change their name and/or gender marker on legal documents, such as drivers licenses and birth certificates, reported lower rates of attempting suicide. (The Trevor Project, 2021) "Autistic conversion therapy is violence against our neurology, our identity, our humanity." (Sequenzia, 2016) Valuing the neurology, identity and humanity-the pronouns, names-affirming them saves lives. Autistic and gueer lives are SO VALUABLE. SO VALUABLE.

Resources: Autistic Self Advocacy Network (ASAN) The Trevor Project (text/call or webchat) Text: 678-678 Call: 1-866-488-7386 Webchat: (thetrevorproject.org) Autistic Women & Nonbinary Network (AWN) Trans Lifeline: 877-565-8860 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline: 988 SinsInvalid.org BornPerfect.org StopABASupportAutistics.home.blog Autisticscienceperson.com Neurodivergentrebel.com

Alternative Communication Sensory Supports Consent Education Trauma Care Disability Justice Suicide lifelines

Bibliography= Cannava, Amy, Carr, Samuel, Greenspan, Scott B. BIBLIOGRAPHY= Woodman, Ashley C., Li, Yena. "Identified Cannava, Amy, Carr, samuel, Green-Protective Factors to Support Psychological Well Span, Scott B, woodman, Ashley C., NO. Being amount Gender Diverse Autistic Youth." Li, yena." Identified Protective Taylor Francis, Journal of LBGTQ Youth, 2022. factors to support psychological Douglas, Patty, Gibson, Margaret F. "Disturbing Well-being among gender divorse Autistic Behaviors: Ole Ivar Lovaas and the Queer History youth! Taylor Francis, Journal of LOBTO of Autism Science." Catalyst: Feminism, Theory, youth, 2022. Douglas, Patty, Gibson, Margaret F." Disturbing Behaviors: Technoscience, 2018 Sequenzia, Amy. "Autistic Conversion Therapy." ole Ivar Lovaas and the Queer History of Autism Science': Catalyst: Feminis Autistic Women & Nonbinary Network, 2016. Theory technoscience, 2018. Sequenzia, Ray, Sarah Jo. "Risking Bodies in the Wild." \* Amy ." Autistic conversion Therapy" Autistic Journal of Sport and Social Issues, SAGE, 2009 \$ women & Nonbinary Network, 2016, Ray Clare, Eli. "Notes on Nocturnal Worlds, Disabled Sarah Jo"Risking Badies in the wild! Bodies, and a Politics of Cure." Disability Student Journal of Sport and social Issues, SAGE and the Environmental Humanities: Toward an \$ 2009. Clare, Eli. "Notes on Notural world; Eco crip Theory, Nebraska, 2017. Disabled Bodies, and a politics of cure" Disability A Tilland-Stafford, Anika. "Powerpoints." Studies and the Environmental Humanities Canvas, WGSG367, 2022. Toward an eco-cnp Theory, Nebraska, 2013 0 The Trevor Project National Survey 2021. Tilland-Stafford, Anika."powerpoi Lovaas, Iver, Interview conducted by Paul Canvas, wessalet, 2022. The Trevor Project National Survey 2021. Lougas, Juar. Inter Chance. LISTSERV Archives. Psychology Today, Conducted by Paul chance, LISTSERV AN 1974. Merriam-Webster. astedow-main-meter velot endorbac Feminist Queer Disability Studies: \*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\* The origin of Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) an K Feminist Queer Disability Studies: autism "therapy" coincides with LGBTQ+ Conversion therapy. ABA is conversion therapy The origin of Applied Behavioral and is violent and abusive. Queerphobia and Analysis (ABA) an autism "Herapy" ableism have life threatening consequences. coincides with LGBTQ+conversion Suicidality is common in these vulnerable therapy. ABA is conversion therapy populations – especially when exposed to and is violent and abusive. Queerolibia conversion therapy. Pathologization and 6 and ableism have life threatening consequences. Suicidality is Common eugenics are still hurting us today. Seeing those in these vulnerable populations-Coppecially when exposed to conversion

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therapy. Pathologization and eugenics

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with these identities as abnormal is dehumanizing. This needs to change. Autistic and queer lives are very valuable and deserving of thriving in their futures- as themselves.

## TRIGGER WARNING:

suicide/ableism/abuse/queerphobia/slurs: both quoting derogatory use and reclaiming terms.