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The impact of the method of differential reinforcement of other behavior (DRO) on decreasing of voice stereotypy in the case of 12 years old autistic boy

The subject of this empirical/qualitative case study was a 12 years old boy who received an ASD diagnosis when he was 4. I.D was engaged in voice stereotypy that impaired his daily activities especially when it comes to activities that required concentration. The aim of this study was to reduce the voice stereotypy by using a method of differential reinforcement of other behaviors (DRO), which is based on applied behavior analyses principles. DRO is a procedure during which the nonoccurrence of targeted behavior for decrease is reinforced for a predetermined fixed time interval. In the case of I.D, DRO procedure started after the analyses of voice stereotypy behavior, which function resulted to be sensory stimulation. Thus, the absence of voice stereotypy for the fixed time interval of five seconds, was reinforced with OLIVE which resulted high reinforcing tangible item for I.D. According to gathered data, the behavior was reduced considerably after eight months, from the highest shown frequency of 100 behaviors of voice stereotypy to 28 cases during three hours of one to one ABA sessions that I.D attended daily. The duration of voice stereotypy also dropped, from longest time 300 seconds to 90 seconds after eight months of the procedure. After this period, variable interval of delivering the reinforcement was used. The voice stereotypy frequency and duration continued to decrease.

Biography

Sunita Kurti has completed her MA in Clinical and Health Psychology at the University of Pristina. She works at Autizmi NGO in Pristina since 2015. She has started her work as a Therapist, and soon she advanced as a Supervisor of therapeutic work. She is an Activist in raising awareness for autism in the Kosovo society.

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