

Down's syndrome – prejudices about mental ability

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INTRODUCTION: Down syndrome (DS or DNS) or Down's syndrome, is a genetic disorder caused by the presence of all or part of a third copy of chromosome 21. It is typically associated with physical growth delays, characteristic facial features, and mild to moderate intellectual disability. It is Named by British scientist John Langdon Down, who described it in 1866.

AIM : The aim of this study is to prove that children who have Down's syndrome have the opportunity of intellectual development, with a different approach. The aim of this research is also to break the myth of their mental capabilities and "peel off the label" with them in modern society.

MATERIALS AND METHODS: We conducted a survey among 3252 people in the age group 18-70 years. The largest number was between 18 and 30 years, and we chose them as an authoritative group (2972). The survey included 10 questions, and we have provided a test of intellectual abilities among children with Down syndrome.

RESULTS: 48.48% of respondents think that children with DS can intellectually thrive even above the expected features, 42.42% think that may or progress to the border, 1% of them think it could not possibly thrive, 8% think that they can progress, but very little. In the intelligence test, intended for children up to age 14, of 10 children with DS ,7 of them has reached the threshold of 75%, while the other three did not pass the test. Of 10 children without DS, 8 of them solved the test over 75%, one did not pass, and one had a 100%.

CONCLUSION: Although insignificant, we say that with a little different approach and attention we can raise the threshold of their IQ, to support them in it so that they are not labeled in society.

Keywords: Down Syndrome, test, progress

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