



# The RDI Book: Forging New Pathways for Autism, Asperger's and PDD with the Relationship Development Intervention Program

By Steven E Gutstein, Ph.D.

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In a highly readable, carefully detailed manner, The RDI Book chronicles the integration of cutting-edge theory and powerful clinical tools resulting in a program that has provided new hope to thousands of families with an ASD child. Dr. Gutstein describes the process in which parents are empowered and carefully trained by skilled professional consultants, to guide the cognitive, social and emotional development of their children. Through the framework of a unique dynamic intelligence curriculum, children become motivated to seek out new challenges and overcome their fear of change. Based on over ten years of research, Dr. Gutstein honors the delicate choreography critical for children of all ages to grow into independent, emotionally connected, responsible adults. The RDI Book is a landmark publication demonstrating how every family can apply their inherent wisdom and courage to attain success.

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- Sales Rank: #65264 in Books
- Published on: 2009-05-29
- Number of items: 1
- Binding: Perfect Paperback
- 373 pages

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## **Editorial Review**

### Review

From our perspective, this book comes as a most welcome up-to-date overview of the thinking and practice of this original and potentially revolutionary therapeutic approach to intervention with families who have a child on the autism spectrum. In the RDI Book, Dr Steven Gutstein writes in a style that is admirably accessible and engaging but not at all simplistic, deeply thoughtful and academically informed but neither pretentious nor abstruse, and therapeutically illuminating (indeed inspiring) but nowhere prescriptive nor formulaic. He offers a vision of the interpersonal grounding for communication and mental development development that he relates to the functioning of our dynamic brains and moves with ease between an account of typical early development and a subtle yet powerful analysis of the difficulties faced, but also the opportunities presented, in fostering development among children with autism. Through the committed and rigorous application of developmental principles underpinning guided participation to forge new pathways for individuals on the autism spectrum, the author not only provides an invaluable guide to parents and other caregivers or professionals seeking to help affected children, but also enables us all to appreciate what autism really means. This is a wonderful and often moving book about a hugely significant approach to parent-led intervention for children with autism. R.Peter Hobson, Tavistock Professor of Developmental Psychopathology in the University of London. --Peter Hobson, Tavistock Professor of Developmental Psychology in the University of London

The major contribution of this book for working with people diagnosed with ASD is the focus on dynamic intelligence as distinct from static skills. The review of dynamic processes is well grounded in current research and clearly points to the promotion of quality of life and the building of family strengths and supports as the primary treatment goal. The book also integrates relationship development models showing the importance of co-regulation and bridging as dynamic processes that foster and sustain dynamically adaptive ways of relating to the world. Alan Fogel Department of Psychology University of Utah --Alan Fogel, Department of Psychology, University of Utah

It is a great work. I am pleased to see how RDI is maturing and becoming a theoretical and practical approach. May things I like about the book: it describes social development in ways that every parent should understand; it focuses on the parents as the main therapists; the consultant role has expanded to include both hands-on help and help through the internet; the possibility for parents to send short clips of interactions with their child to the internet site, where they can be viewed by the therapist; the succinct and accurate presentation of the shortcomings of some of the ABA approaches. All in all a really great book. Peter Tanguay, MD Ackerly Professor of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry University of Louisville --Peter Tanguay, MD, Ackerly Professor of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, University of Louisville

### About the Author

Dr. Steven Gutstein earned his Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology from Case Western Reserve University and conducted his Internship and Post-Doctoral work at Rutgers Medical School. Between 1979 and 1987, he served as an Assistant Professor of Psychiatry and Pediatrics at Baylor College of Medicine and the University of Texas Medical School. During this tenure, Dr. Gutstein also served as the Director of Psychology for Texas Children's Hospital and Director of Family Therapy Training for the Baylor College of Medicine. Prior to focusing his efforts on remediating Autism Spectrum Disorders, Dr. Gutstein was recognized as a nationally renowned developer of innovative clinical programs for children and teens with high-risk conditions. In 1983, he received the largest grant ever awarded by the Hogg Foundation for Mental

Health, to develop family-based intervention programs for severely suicidal youth. He has developed innovative, family-based programs for children with various medical conditions and Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorders. He has also developed school programs for children with problems related to Executive Functioning. Since 1995 Steve and his wife, Dr. Rachelle Sheely, have served as the co-directors of RDIconnect, in Houston, Texas, which provides training and support to thousands of professionals and families around the world. He is also the Director of the Relationship Development Research Institute and the Gilbert Hall School in Los Angeles, California.

## **Users Review**

### **From reader reviews:**

#### **Nancy Sanchez:**

Book is to be different for every grade. Book for children right up until adult are different content. As it is known to us that book is very important usually. The book *The RDI Book: Forging New Pathways for Autism, Asperger's and PDD with the Relationship Development Intervention Program* was making you to know about other understanding and of course you can take more information. It is rather advantages for you. The reserve *The RDI Book: Forging New Pathways for Autism, Asperger's and PDD with the Relationship Development Intervention Program* is not only giving you much more new information but also to get your friend when you experience bored. You can spend your spend time to read your book. Try to make relationship using the book *The RDI Book: Forging New Pathways for Autism, Asperger's and PDD with the Relationship Development Intervention Program*. You never really feel lose out for everything in case you read some books.

#### **Cornelius Callaghan:**

Playing with family in the park, coming to see the marine world or hanging out with pals is thing that usually you will have done when you have spare time, after that why you don't try factor that really opposite from that. One activity that make you not feeling tired but still relaxing, trilling like on roller coaster you have been ride on and with addition details. Even you love *The RDI Book: Forging New Pathways for Autism, Asperger's and PDD with the Relationship Development Intervention Program*, you are able to enjoy both. It is great combination right, you still wish to miss it? What kind of hangout type is it? Oh occur its mind hangout guys. What? Still don't obtain it, oh come on its identified as reading friends.

#### **James Stover:**

This *The RDI Book: Forging New Pathways for Autism, Asperger's and PDD with the Relationship Development Intervention Program* is brand-new way for you who has interest to look for some information because it relief your hunger info. Getting deeper you on it getting knowledge more you know or perhaps you who still having bit of digest in reading this *The RDI Book: Forging New Pathways for Autism, Asperger's and PDD with the Relationship Development Intervention Program* can be the light food to suit your needs because the information inside this kind of book is easy to get by means of anyone. These books produce itself in the form and that is reachable by anyone, yep I mean in the e-book form. People who think that in publication form make them feel sleepy even dizzy this guide is the answer. So there is not any in reading a guide especially this one. You can find actually looking for. It should be here for an individual. So , don't miss that! Just read this e-book variety for your better life and knowledge.

**Catherine Kuntz:**

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