Meanings of autism, meanings of work
A research study led by Ariel Cascio

Meeting 1

Interview Schedule (semi-structured, conversational interview around the following topics)

1. First, I’ll ask you to tell me a little bit about yourself.

2. Then I’ll ask you to tell me what work means to you. I will ask you if work is important or not, what role work should play in someone’s life, and what else brings meaning to your life.

3. If you have a job, or had one in the past, I will ask you:
   a. How did you get this job?
   b. If you had a job interview, I will ask you to tell me how it went, what you liked and did not like, and what makes job interviews easier.
   c. Walk me through a typical workday for you.
   d. Do you have any worries about working at your current job? If so, what are they?
   e. Who are the other people at your job?
      i. In what ways are you the same as (similar to) them?
      ii. In what ways are you different from them?
      iii. Is it easy or hard to work together?

4. If you have not had a job, I will ask you about your job search. I will ask you:
   a. How do you feel about not having a job?
   b. What kind of work do you want to do?
   c. Do you have any worries about working the job you want to do? If so, what are they?
   d. How do you look for work?
   e. If you have ever had a job interview, I will ask you to tell me how it went, what you liked and did not like, and what makes job interviews easier.
   f. Who are the other people you think will be at your job?
      i. In what ways do you think you might be the same as (similar to) them?
      ii. In what ways do you think you might be different from them?
      iii. Do you think it will be easy or hard to work together?
5. I will ask you about some key topics in autism and employment research, for example:
   a. How can autism make things harder in the work place, if at all?
   b. How can autism make things easier in the work place, if at all?
   c. What would you like other people at work to understand about you?
   d. What would you like other people at work to understand about autism?
   e. What do you like at work/in your job search?
   f. What do you dislike at work/in your job search?

6. The most important think I want to know is what you think. I always end by interviews by asking: Is there anything else you would like me to know?