

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?