

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

Interview Guide – Professionals & Advocates

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

1. Tell me a little more about yourself.
2. What are the goals of your work/advocacy?
3. Meanings of Work
 - a. Tell me what work means to you.
 - b. What do you think is a productive employee?
4. Meanings of Autism
 - a. In your own words, what is autism?
 - b. How can autism be a hindrance in the work place, if at all?
 - c. How can autism be an advantage in the work place, if at all?
 - d. What are the challenges of working with someone with autism?
 - e. What are the good things about working with someone with autism?
5. Similarities & Differences
 - a. In what ways are you similar to the person who referred you for this interview, if at all?
 - b. In what ways are you different?
 - c. In what ways is that person the same as (similar to) other people at work?
 - d. In what ways are they different?
 - e. Is it easy or hard to work together?
6. Now I want to ask you some questions about topics that autistic people have written about and talked to us about, to hear what you think about them. Some topics are: neurodiversity, autism acceptance, sensory barriers, autistic burnout, masking, disclosing autism.
7. Is there anything else you would like me to know about autism and employment, or your role?