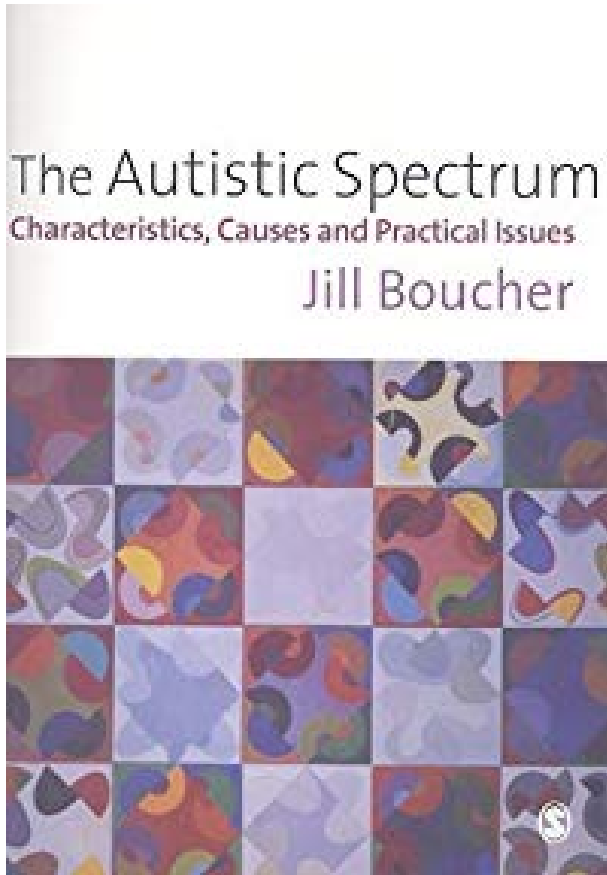


The Autistic Spectrum: Characteristics, Causes and Practical Issues



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What are the historical foundations of autism and what precisely is meant by the autistic spectrum? How can we explain behavioral patterns of people with autism, young or old, and what are the major theoretical bases for understanding these? What is the latest thinking regarding diagnosis, and what are the most effective strategies for assessment, education and care for people with autism? This book charts developments in understanding the nature and causes of autistic spectrum disorders, guiding students through theories at the psychological, neurobiological and 'first cause' levels to methods of assessment, intervention, education and support.