

Autism Stereotypes:

How Have They Affected You?

1. Think of some images of Autism that you saw on TV or in movies. If you can, name a few Autistic characters or figures you saw during this time.
2. Pick a few Autistic characters (or characters implied to be Autistic) and describe them in three to five words. For example, I might describe Dustin Hoffman's Rain Man as distant, a genius savant, and helpless.
Character: _____ Traits: _____
Character: _____ Traits: _____
Character: _____ Traits: _____
3. Complete the sentence: Before I knew better, I assumed all Autistic people were _____, _____, and _____.
4. In what ways are you different from these images of Autism?
5. Has anyone ever told you that you "don't look Autistic" or that you "can't be Autistic"? What do you think they meant by that?
How did hearing that feel?