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## **Psychosocial Effects of a Parent-Child Communication Activity on Siblings of Children with Autism**

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Poster Presentation 51

**PSYCHOSOCIAL EFFECTS OF A PARENT-CHILD COMMUNICATION ACTIVITY  
ON SIBLINGS OF CHILDREN WITH AUTISM**

Caryn Terril and Linda J. Kunce\*

Department of Psychology, Illinois Wesleyan University

In this project, I attempted to decrease the worries of siblings of children with autism through a parent-child communication activity. In addition, the quality of parent-child relationship and the accuracy of the parent's perception of the child's worries were explored. Participants were recruited through school districts and support groups serving families of children with autism. The siblings of children with autism ranged from six years old to thirteen years old. Half the child-parent pairs were randomly assigned to the treatment group, which completed a workbook activity designed to enable the siblings to talk about their autism-related worries with their parents. The other child-parent pairs were assigned to a placebo-control group in which children and their parents played games together.