

DIFFICULTIES FACING THE SERVICES PROVIDED TO AUTISTIC CHILDREN IN SAUDI ARABIA

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***ABSTRACT_** This study aimed at investigating the parents attitude towards the difficulties facing the services provided to autistic children in Saudi Arabia. The study controlled for the following variables: parents educational attainment, gender, age, number of autistic family members in the household and other variables. The population of the study consists of 2500 parents that registered with the Charitable Society of Autism families in Saudi Arabia. A questionnaire was developed and distributed to a sample of 736 parents. The results indicate that there is statistical significance between a parent's age and their educational attainment. Results also show that there is a statistically significant difference in age of parents and their attitudes. There is a statistically significant difference between the genders of the parents in the study in favor of females. There is no statistically significant difference in the gender of autistic children or the number of autistic children in the household. Recommendations were suggested in light of the results of the study.*

***KEYWORD:** difficulties, Autistic Children, parents.*