



# THE EFFECTIVENESS OF AN EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM FOR IMPROVING SOCIAL INTERACTION SKILLS AMONG AUTISTIC CHILDREN IN AUTISM CENTERS IN KHARTOUM STATE

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**ABSTRACT\_** *The study aims at evaluating the efficiency of an educational program in improving the social interaction skills between the autistic children in autism centers in Khartoum state. Experimental method is used with its quasi-experimental design (one group). The study community represents by the autistic children in the autism centers. The study sample comprises (17) children –boys and girls enrolled in two autism centers selected through intentional method. Social interaction skills measurement designed by the researcher is used, in addition to the suggested program to improve social interaction skills, designed by the researcher. The study reaches the following findings;-Training program proved efficiency in improving social interaction skills for autistic children, There are discrepancies of statistical significance in training program efficiency on social interaction skills based on the educational level of the parents and the severity of autism, age of the autistic child, No noticeable variations are observed in social interaction skills according to the gender of the autistic child, the family and educational level of the mothers, No social interaction points to the gender of the autistic child correspond with the degree of disability on the improvement of social interaction skills. The study concludes with reviewing its findings and suggesting some recommendations includes;-Autistic centers should apply this program and others proved to be efficient in improving the skills of autistic children, Teachers should consider individual differences and severity of autism when designing training programs for autistic children.*

**KEY WORDS:** *Educational Program, Social Interaction Skills, Autistic Children, Autism Centers.*

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