

John Simpson audio transcript from IDP

John, an autistic adult, stresses the importance of his special interests, as follows:

'Nothing can motivate me as much as my special interest. If it came to a choice between being in a situation with lots of different people and conversing and socialising and being on the buses, which is one of my special interests, or going to football or listening to the radio then, I would choose my special interest every time. I think that's really important to realise that you can't motivate someone with autism, using the same motivators as you would for any other child. Ideas and concepts like self-actualisation and self-discovery, those simply aren't important to anyone with autism. Far more useful and far more important are the special interests.'

