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|  | After Dr. Rimland and his staff assembled all the information, they gave it to three judges who independently examined the data to decide whether or not the child had improved on a scale from 99 to zero. If the judges did not agree, that particular case was discarded. In cases where the judges were sure the child had improved a great deal the child got a score of 99. If the improvement was not spectacular he or she got and 80. Where there was probably no improvement he or she might get a 40 all the way down to zero which meant the child not only had not improved but here was some deterioration in behavior.  The results showed that well over 50 percent of the children improved significantly and about three percent got worse on the vitamins.  From the cases that Dr. Rimland has seen, he concluded: "It is my feeling that of these vitamins for children, B6 will be found to be the most important. Some of the children respond very well to niacin or niacinamide but in the most dramatic results weíve seen, partyicularly the classical cases of autism, they have proven to be B6 responsive"(Gerras 689).  There are also failures. Not all behavior problems stem from vitamin dependency. There are diseases that affect the brain; yet, according to studies, many autistic children have responded to nutritional therapy. "And it is remarkable for a disease that for decades has not responded at all to dozens of attempted treatments" (Gerras 690).  When I had finished collecting all the data and information from the study of Kenneth Clark, I made a final evaluation based on the evaluations of his parents and my personal observations. Kenneth significantly improved in the levels of symptoms associated with behavior, adaptations, communication and social interactions. This improvement was evident in his new willingness to communicate (eye contact, posing of questions), to accept change accompanied by less tantrums, and to participate socially in things he withdrew from before. I rated his improvement with a score of 90 (scale 99 to 0).  On a personal level, the change I noticed in Kenneth over the course of the study is immense. At first, Kenneth would not even acknowledge my presence unlike his brothers who knew me equally well. Though I have babysat for Kenneth and the family for several years already, only after the vitamin treatment did Kenneth start to act like he recognized me. I have had many experiences of going to the park with him and I got acustomed to seeing head banging and weeping each time we had to leave the park. Evidently, tantrums were Kenneth's usual response to change. However, during the vitamin therapy, I witnessed Kenneth become more and more acceptant of change. The first time that Kenneth did not have a huge tantrum when leaving the park, I was astonished.  According to my hypothesis, since Kenneth improved under the mega-vitamin therapy, the cause of his autism is related to a vitamin dependency. His improvement parallels the results of the experiment conducted by Dr. Rimland. This signifies that vitamins are a successful method of treatment. Signs of neurological dysfunction and physiological brain dysfunction frequently found in autistic seem to respond well to vitamin treatments.  A Vitamin Dependency  My study together with other research studies indicates that some dysfunctions involve unsuspected nutritional deficiencies, and may be helped by appropriate nutriotional therapy. There are two different kinds of vitamin deficiencies. The most common kind of deficiency is failure to eat or absorb a normal amount of the vitamin. This amount may vary by two or three times from someone else who requires good health. The second kind of deficieny involves a biochemical abnormality and may require hundreds time the usual omount of one or more vitamins for normalization. "It is something like pitching a thousand balls at a very clusy batter so that he can successfully hit at least one" (Gerras 667). In other case, huge amounts of vitamins are needed to block a biochemical reaction which is producing toxic products."Used in this fashion, megadoses of vitamins are something like gallons and gallons of water being poured on a fire" (Gerras 667).  The fact that there are more boys with autism than girls, 5:1 ratio, gives clues to the biological origin of autism. This is directly linked to their differences in biochemistry.  Since most drugs are abnormal synthetic substances, mega-vitamin therapy offers a more healthful environment in the body and is a safer procedure. This makes this concept very appealing. However, the use of larger-than-normal amounts of vitamins is more preventitive than curative. Vitamin therapy has a lot to offer, but is still controversial. |

*This Web Site is Best viewed with 256 or more colors.*

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