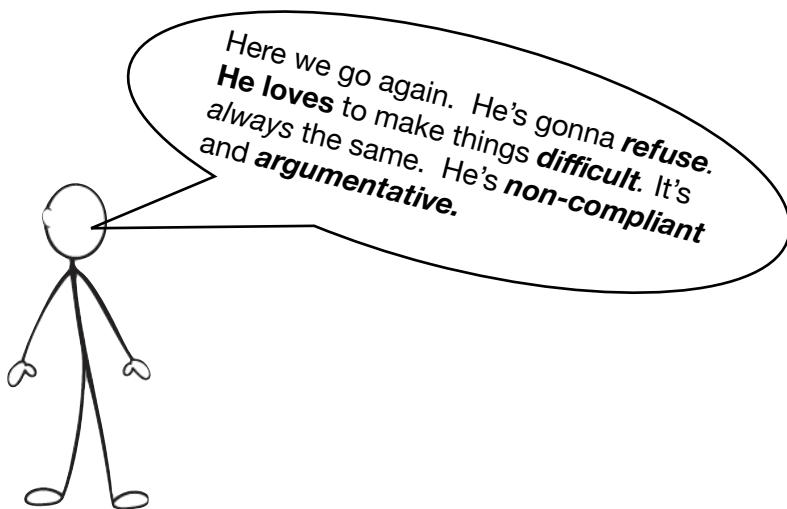


1.) People often make judgements about the behavior of autistic individuals, based on **their perception** and assuming it is part of the autistic person's innate **character**.



2.) These **“simple words”** frame the behavior of the person as problematic and are used as rationale for “educational” approaches that are **misguided, dismissive, and potentially damaging** (e.g., token economies, planned ignoring, control based “interventions”).



3.) These words and labels fail to capture the full context as well as the **autistic person's experience and reasoning in a situation**. They can be extremely harmful to **mental health**.

	My Experience
Physiological	- I slept 4 hours last night
Interoception	- I need to go to bathroom & don't know it
Sensory	- The therapist wears overwhelming floral perfume
Motor	- There is expectation of sitting in a chair for 45 minutes- I need to move
Cognitive	- I don't know what the schedule is for this group
Communication	- Everyone talks at once... so fast....
Social	- The people in this group are not "my people"

4.) Partners must strive to **understand the WHYS** and avoid biased, overly-simplified explanations that assign intention, motivation and deficiency to the person. It is critical that support is informed by and respectful of the real **autistic experience**.

