

***THIS STUDY NO LONGER RECRUITING***

**Name of Study:** SPEAC (Study of Parent Emotions and Autism in Children)

**Institution:** Virginia Tech Autism Clinic, Blacksburg, VA

**Eligibility Criteria:** Mothers or Fathers of Children with Autism or Asperger's Syndrome, ages 3 through 16 years

**Principal Investigator:** Dr. Angela Scarpa

**Contact Information:** Dr. Angela Scarpa, [autism@vt.edu](mailto:autism@vt.edu)

Dear Parent,

SPEAC (The Study of Parent Emotions and Autism in Children) is being conducted by the VT Autism Clinic, directed by Dr. Angela Scarpa of the Psychology Department at Virginia Tech. Parents can often be overwhelmed at raising children with special needs, and are often concerned about how their mood affects their child. This project looks at the complex relationship between parental emotions and the behaviors of children with Autism Spectrum Disorders. We are attempting to unravel the relationships among emotions and behaviors that occur between parents and their children. Fathers or mothers (of children with ASD between ages 3-16 years) will be asked to complete questionnaires related to mood, stress, and their child's behaviors. Total time for the study will not exceed 45 minutes, and can be completed at your convenience. To participate in this online anonymous survey, go to <https://survey.vt.edu/survey/entry.jsp?id=1190746921442>

For more information, you may contact Angela Scarpa at 540-231-2053, or email me at [autism@vt.edu](mailto:autism@vt.edu).

Thank you in advance for your time and assistance. We look forward working with you in the near future.

Sincerely,

Dr. Angela Scarpa  
Virginia Tech Autism Clinic, Director  
Psychology  
Virginia Tech

IAN ref: SR00117