

Commentary on: Silva JA, Ferrari MM, Leong GB. The case of Jeffrey Dahmer: sexual serial homicide from a neuropsychiatric developmental perspective. *J Forensic Sci* 2002 Nov;47(6): 1347–59.

Sir:

I had in my care for one year a child placed through a therapeutic foster care program. Multiple psychiatric evaluations were performed. The child was at first diagnosed as mentally retarded in early childhood. His educational testing revealed moderate retardation with an IQ of 70 consistent over five years in his educational setting which was in a school for special needs children with physical and mental impairment. At age ten after five months of behavioral and nutritional intervention, his IQ score increased by 25%, this is documented and the same psychologist did the testing

at admission to the special education school and the later testing which resulted in his release to regular education. In a therapeutic environment which included focus on education, he improved academically and was moved to the regular education classroom; he was reading and writing on a second grade level. Prior to therapeutic foster care, he had not mastered even writing his name. He was also diagnosed with post traumatic stress syndrome and attachment disorder. Thorough and multiple evaluations were performed and in his evaluations the medical professionals stated this child had a Jeffrey Dahmer type personality profile and he was recommended for institutional placement which was provided. At no time was Asperger syndrome or any autism spectrum condition suggested or suspected.

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