

[Make us your homepage](#) | [Add to favorites](#)



*Your Bilingual Community Newspaper
for the Entire San Fernando Valley*

The Mislabeled Child – offers new insight for understanding Learning Disabilities



Written by Information Provided to San Fernando Valley Sun
Thursday, 28 September 2006

For any parent of a child who struggles with learning disabilities, finding solutions and the right professionals to help their family can be a frustrating and costly experience. It has been described by parents like looking for a very tiny needle in a professional haystack of educators and medical doctors who have opposing and varied opinion and sometimes very limited knowledge about learning disabilities, or as some would say, "learning challenges."

Professionals can run a diverse and sometimes opposing gamut of people. Some who cite food allergies as the culprit for learning disabilities and others who maintain that kids labeled with learning disabilities is simply the "twinkie defense" of the day for wayward children. There are even those today that still believe that kids will ultimately "grow out" of the condition. Many children who struggle with learning disabilities are also prescribed medication that can be a painful process of trial and error to find the right drug.

"I'm sure glad, I didn't have all those books in my day proclaimed one grandmother of a diagnosed ADHD child, "He's fine, just leave him alone, she said. "You're the problem, you just worry too much," another mother was told. All parents of learning disabled children share a common experience of difficulty navigating the right school for their kids and finding that compassionate "expert." All parents of learning disabled children have their many horror stories and children who are unfairly judged as "behavior problems," can experience great emotional turmoil which can compound their challenges.

"The Mislabeled Child represents a significant step toward a rethinking of our understanding of struggling children. It...will enable us to customize education and parenting for children whose minds work differently from most!" —Mel D. Levine, M.D.

The *Mislabeled* Child

*How Understanding Your Child's Unique Learning Style
Can Open the Door to Success*



*Brock Eide, M.D., M.A., and Fernette Eide, M.D.
Founders of the Eide Neurolearning Clinic*

A new book by a husband and wife team, Brock Eide, a general practitioner and Dr. Fernette Eide, a neurologist is a compassionate step in a positive direction for providing research along with practical solutions for offering accommodations for learning disabled children. The book contains valuable information that will promote understanding for parents, teachers and fellow doctors.

And the need is clearly there.

The book titled, *The Mislabeled Child* makes the point that over the past two decades, the number of children labeled as learning disabled has increased by over 150%. And the path to finding solutions doesn't end with getting a "label." It takes understanding to consider the many different ways children can learn, even if they have a learning disability.

"The amount of diagnoses like ADD, autism spectrum disorder, and Asperger's disease has risen nearly as much, with nearly 10% of children meeting the diagnostic criteria for ADHD. Prescriptions for powerful behavior-controlling medications like stimulants, antidepressants, and anti-psychotics have shot up by over 250%, doled out to children as young as two years old and mental illness statistics reflect a growing tendency to treat children with learning and behavioral challenges as disordered rather than simply in need of further learning and development," say the doctors, "*The Mislabeled Child* rethinks the way we view and treat learning challenges, from difficulties with attention and reading, to autism to problems related to giftedness." Some children with learning

disabilities can also be gifted which is not commonly known

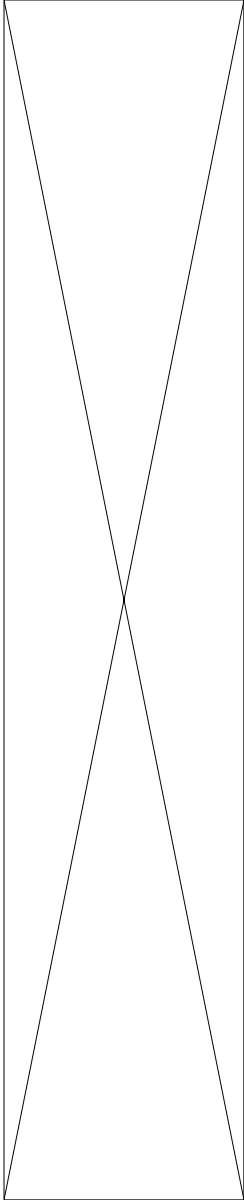
In clear, practical language that any parent can understand, their new book *Mislabeled* describes:

- How children who differ are often lumped together into a few overly broad diagnoses that fail to capture their individual diversity or the true causes of their difficulties
- How to look beyond these labels to find the root causes of children's difficulties with learning, attention, and social function, and provide them with the help they need to succeed in school
- How teachers are the first individuals to suggest the diagnosis of ADHD in nearly 60% of cases although they are not trained to do so • How in over half of cases where primary care doctors diagnose ADHD, they do so without formally assessing the child's attention, or following any established guidelines for making the diagnosis
- How learning challenges often represent focal differences in learning style or information processing, rather than general problems with learning and attention

The authors are currently on a nationwide book tour and will be revisiting the Los Angeles County area.

*Visit the *Mislabeled Child* website at: www.mislabeledchild.com*

Last Updated (Thursday, 28 September 2006)



[Contact](#) | [Classifieds](#) | [Classified Ad Network](#)

Copyright © 2006 San Fernando Valley Sun Newspaper All rights reserved.