

The  
*Mislabeled*  
Child

By

**Brock Eide, M.D., M.A., and Fernette Eide, M.D.**

Over the past two decades, the number of children labeled as learning disabled has increased by over 150%. 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, anti-depressants, and anti-psychotics have shot up by over 250%, doled out to children as young as two years old.

In *The Mislabeled Child*, leading physicians, learning specialists, and parents Brock and Fernette Eide take on this mounting problem, providing an insightful and vital handbook for parents, teachers, and doctors everywhere. Guiding readers through the mire of common labels and treatments, they emphasize that 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. *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.

In clear, practical language that any parent can understand, *The Mislabeled Child* 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 Mislabeled Child* is a practical, reassuring, and timely handbook that both demonstrates the flaws in our current way of looking at learning disorders in children, and offers solutions to remedy the problem. Filled with a wealth of useful tools and information as well as cutting-edge studies and first hand accounts from children the authors have worked with, it is both helpful and empowering for parents and professionals alike and works to ensure that no child is a mislabeled child.

**About the authors:** Brock Eide, M.D., M.A., and Fernette Eide, M.D., are leading researchers and clinicians on learning disabilities. They run the Eide Neurolearning Clinic in Edmonds, Washington, specializing in the evaluation and care of children with school and learning challenges, and they lecture throughout the United States and Canada to parents, educators, therapists, and doctors about learning differences and difficulties in children, and about neurologically-based educational solutions.

**Visit the *Mislabeled Child* website at: [www.mislabeledchild.com](http://www.mislabeledchild.com)**

**THE MISLABELED CHILD**

**by Brock Eide, M.D., M.A., and Fernette Eide, M.D.**

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Contact: Christine Ragasa at: 212-456-0175

[Christine.Ragasa@abc.com](mailto:Christine.Ragasa@abc.com)

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### **PRAISE FOR *THE MISLABELED CHILD*:**

“*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.

“This comprehensive resource should be on the desk of every educator concerned about our youngsters and their path to success. *The Mislabeled Child* is filled with information that is practical and quick to find, in a very user-friendly format. I wish I’d had this book throughout my years as teacher and principal of both gifted and special education youngsters.”

- Judith J. Roseberry, President, California Association for the Gifted

“This book is absolutely the best resource available that clearly explains the learning challenges facing children and I think that every educator and health professional who works with children and teens should read it and use it as a basic reference. It will also be on my recommended list for parents who are seeking help for their children.”

- Margaret Gayle, The American Association for Gifted Children at Duke University

“With their new book, the Eides have rendered a valuable public service in helping professionals, laypersons, and parents better understand complex, often subtle or self-contradictory mixes of talents and educational difficulties. They have helped us differentiate more clearly between various traits and labels, always looking deeply into the diverse nature of each individual. This is important work.”

- Thomas G. West, author of *In the Mind’s Eye* and *Thinking Like Einstein*