

# **A Comparative Study of Social Prejudice Towards typically Developing School Children and Children with Sen. Suggestions for Buffering Maladaptive Effects**

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## **Abstract**

In this study we aim to evaluate and compare the social context of acceptance and rejection of typically developing and children with a label of special educational needs SEN. Our purpose was to discover the strengths which could be used to support children with SEN, and the weaknesses (inappropriate behaviour, influential factors, social and psychological causes) which need to be considered in order to buffer and prevent the negative consequences of rejection and prejudicial attitude. By revising and comparing the literature of rejection and prejudice on typically developing and children labelled with SEN, we concluded that the latter are different from typically developing peers on some aspects of the causes and primary consequences of rejection. However, secondary and long term consequences are similar for typical and disabled children. Effective buffering techniques and strategies used in child social psychology are presented.

## **Keywords**

social acceptance, social rejection, children with SEN, prejudicial attitudes, consequences of rejection, buffering factors.