

**SUCCESSFUL INCLUSION OF SPECIAL NEEDS
STUDENTS IN NORMALIZED EDUCATIONAL
ENVIRONMENTS: THE ROLE OF
COUNSELING AND CONSULTATION**

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Abstract: Definition of inclusion of special needs students in regular educational placements. Identification of the role of counseling and consultation to facilitate the successful integration process. Discussion of six critical issues in determining successful integration, with suggestions of counseling/consultation input: (1) the belief system, (2) the need for preparation and support, (3) resistances to inclusion, (4) understanding the organizational culture, (5) institutional entropy, and (6) political issues.

Keywords: inclusion, counseling, consultation, integration