



What has critical autism studies ever done for us?



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## First, a diversion

### [The Sex Robots Are Coming - All 4](#)



- Dehumanising and objectifying women?
- Or humanising robots?
- Adds to the sense that humans and machines are equivalent.

# Critical Autism Studies

O'Dell et al (2016) 'different kinds of knowledges of autism' – 'epistemic communities' -what is experienced and how autism is understood varies by culture (and through time).

Time trends & Institutional drivers

Autistic people are thought of as machines

DREAM does use of AI to assist promote the above



# What can CAS offer AI development?

Self determination/ epistemic community .

Foregrounding of epistemic authority of those with lived experience.

Awareness autism is not 'fixed' -feedback loops

Be aware your research itself influences and shapes category of autism

Caveats to CAS approach:

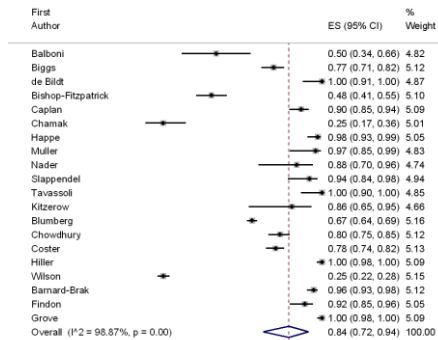
Communities use 'master's tools'

FGM

Heterogeneity of views in the community

# Hacking

The contested production of expert and especially lay knowledge...how there is an interplay of social movements, health institutions and scientific experts that creates and shapes how we view autistic people & ultimately what we understand autism to be.





**Exploring Diagnosis (@ExDx\_UoE)**