



# **What is Mental Retardation? Ideas for an Evolving Disability in the 21st Century: Revised and Updated Edition**

*Edited by Harvey N. Switzky*

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# What is Mental Retardation? Ideas for an Evolving Disability in the 21st Century: Revised and Updated Edition

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## **What is Mental Retardation? Ideas for an Evolving Disability in the 21st Century: Revised and Updated Edition** Edited by Harvey N. Switzky

What is Mental Retardation? is a rare peek into the divergent-and at times contentious- points of view among the world's leading researchers on what the condition of mental retardation is and how it should be defined, measured, and implemented in the 21st century. This candid and insightful collection of 21 essays features expert opinion on issues ranging from whether mental retardation really is a slowing of mental development and what the disability should be called, to how cultural norms affect the definition of the condition worldwide and lessons learned from the Atkins v. Virginia case.

The definitions of mental retardation published from 1921-2002 by the American Association on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities provide the backdrop for this powerful discussion.

### Contents

Part I: The Concept of Mental Retardation: Critical Issues 2005 (6 chapters)

Part II: The 2002 AAMR System and Its Critics and Supporters (3 chapters)

Part III: Emerging Models and Definitions of Mental Retardation (12 chapters).

Also available:

User's Guide: Mental Retardation: Definition, Classification, and Systems of Supports, 10th Edition - ISBN 0940898950

Mental Retardation: Definition, Classification, and Systems of Supports - ISBN 0940898810

Since 1876, the American Association on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (AAIDD) has been providing worldwide leadership in the field of disabilities. AAIDD is the oldest and largest interdisciplinary organization of professionals and citizens concerned about intellectual and developmental disabilities.

AAIDD publishes books for professionals in developmental disability in the areas of:

- Supported living
- Definition of intellectual disability
- Disability funding
- Positive behavior support
- Palliative care
- Quality of life
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