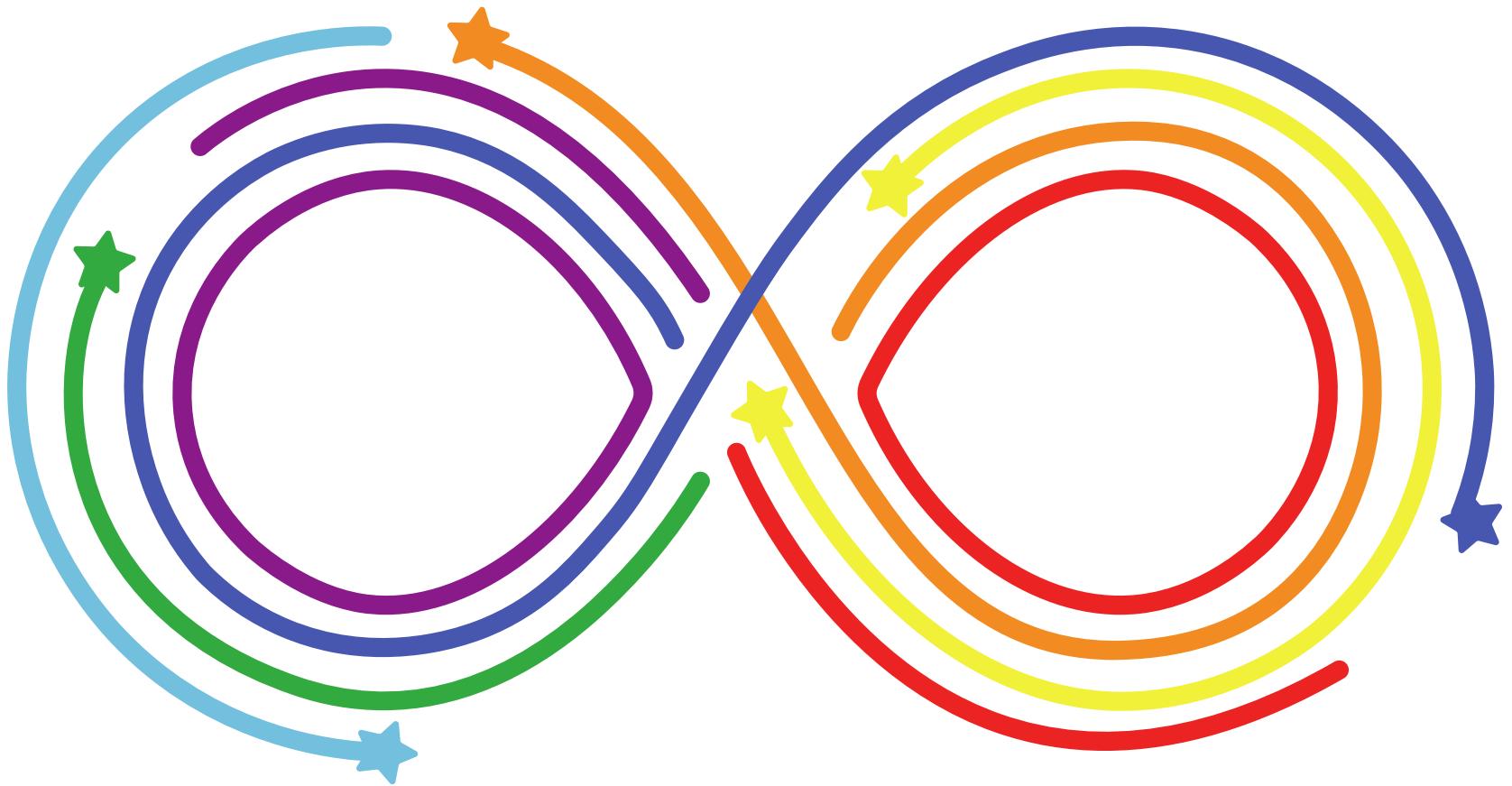


# Apocalypse is coming



Out with the old,  
in with the new!





April is hard for Autistic people because the world wants to only talk about us in ways that create distance between Autism and their non-autistic humanity. The world wants to only see a snapshot of autism from an aerial view, looking down on us as lower in the invisible hierarchies people create.



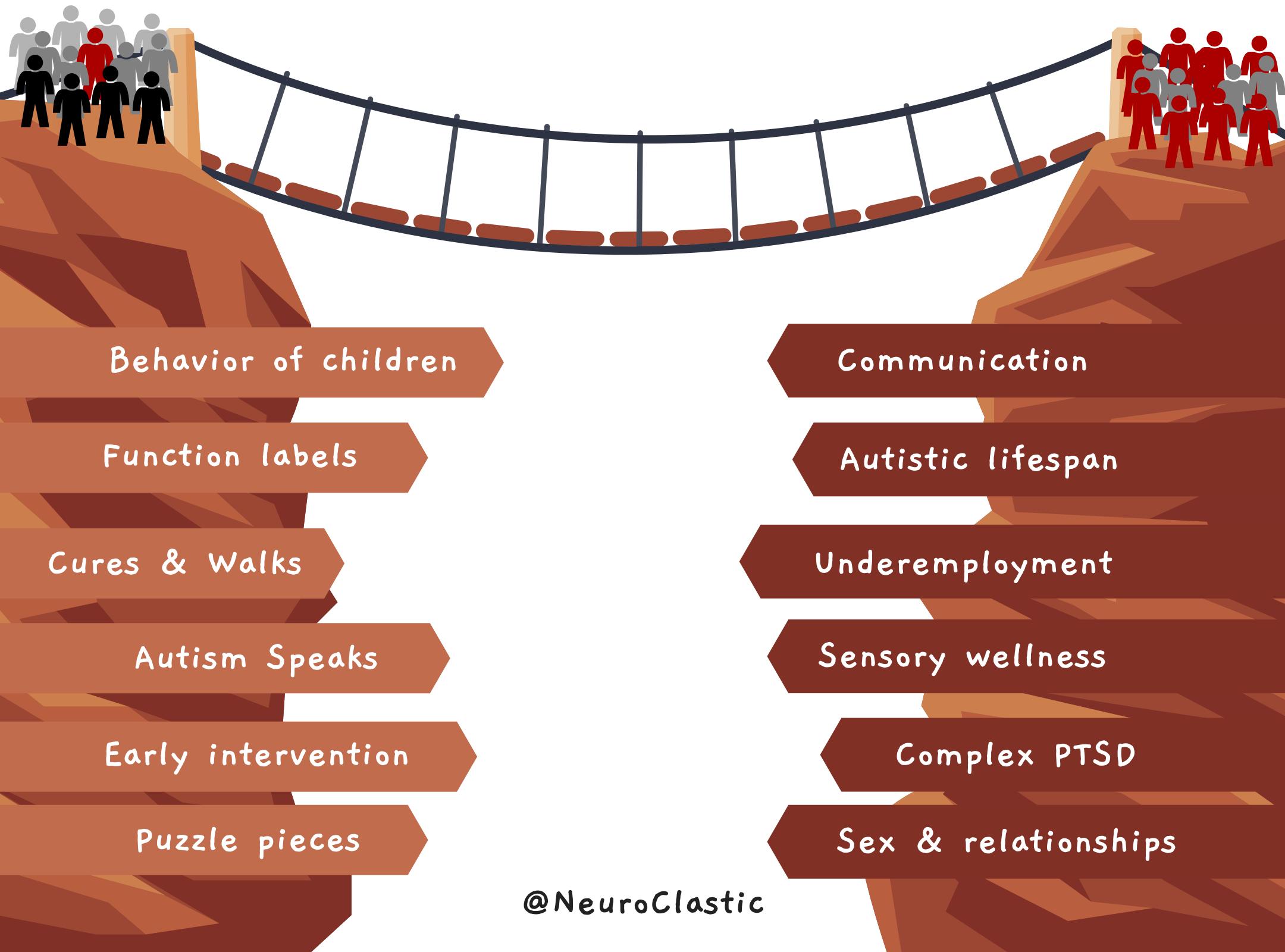
The mainstream continues to have no idea an Autistic community exists. Well-intentioned people cause harm by knowing very little about us, but thinking we need a champion in April. They use offensive language, donate to harmful orgs, and promote non-autistic "experts." People who mostly ignore us give a once-a-year boost to everything we struggle against year-round.



We are tired of starting at puzzle pieces and identity-first language. Let's move forward as a community.

Every April, Autistic people get reminded that most people are unaware that they exist (as teens and adults), have opinions and deep knowledge, and have a community. Then we experience what any marginalized community does—the gap between where we are and where the world is. We seem radical to the mainstream who cannot imagine us outside of being wretched children needing compassion and saviors to rescue them.

We want to focus on topics that are important to us, but we have to keep re-starting with the most basic principles of disability rights and respectful language for even discussing autism.

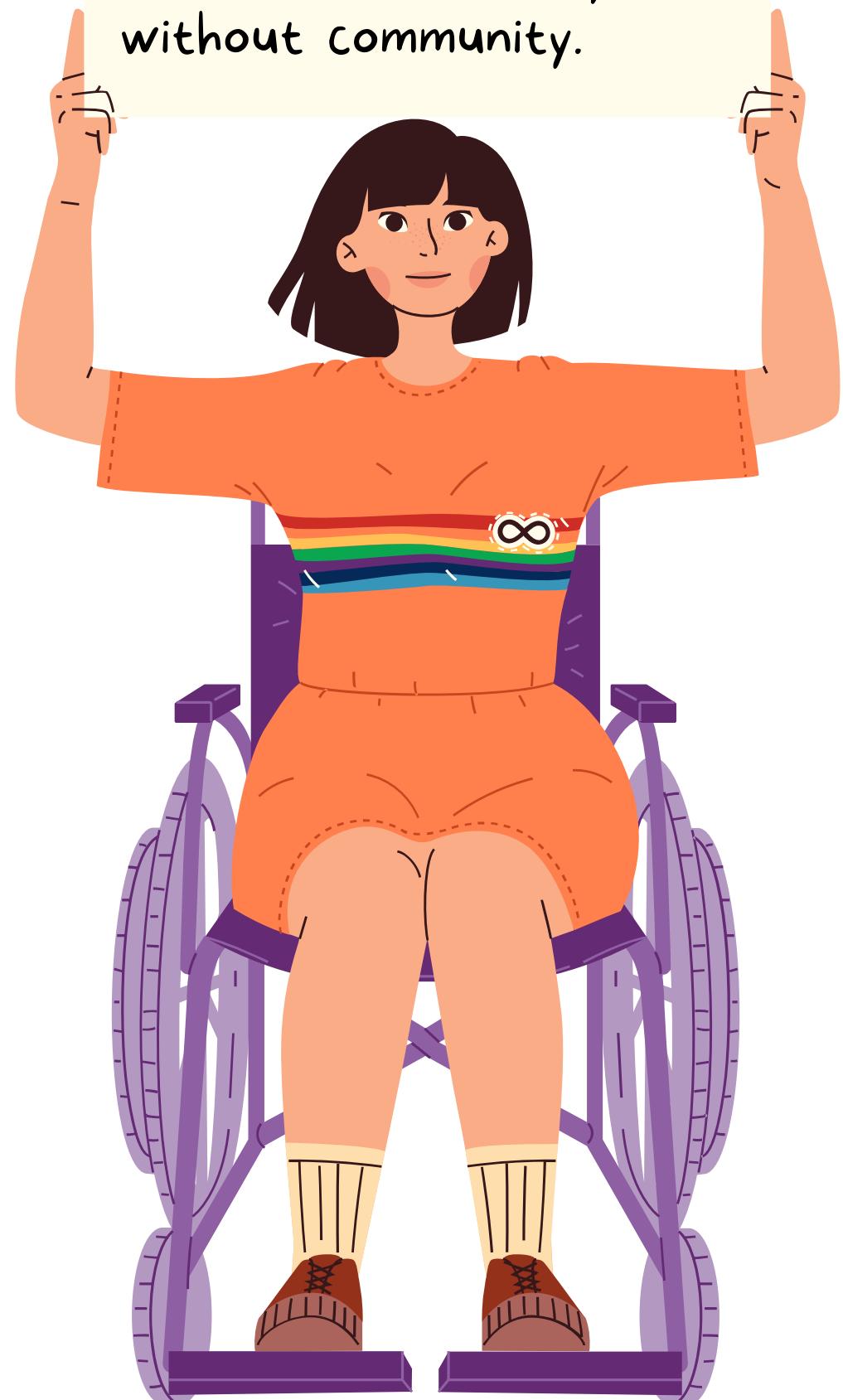




Autistic people can dive into the Autistic community and learn that there are others out there who “get it” and have created amazing resources. Autistics think that having access to this knowledge base will make all the difference for them. They feel this new sense of hope for a more equitable and accommodating future. Then the world ignores that we exist and that hope is crushed.

All of us are different, but we also have a lot in common. We get the same benefits from engaging in community as anyone would, but only other autistic people really can “get it” and relate from a place of shared experiences. We usually know very little about ourselves until we are immersed in Autistic culture. The way the world understands autism is not very relatable to us.

You can't know me as an individual until I know me. I can't know myself without community.

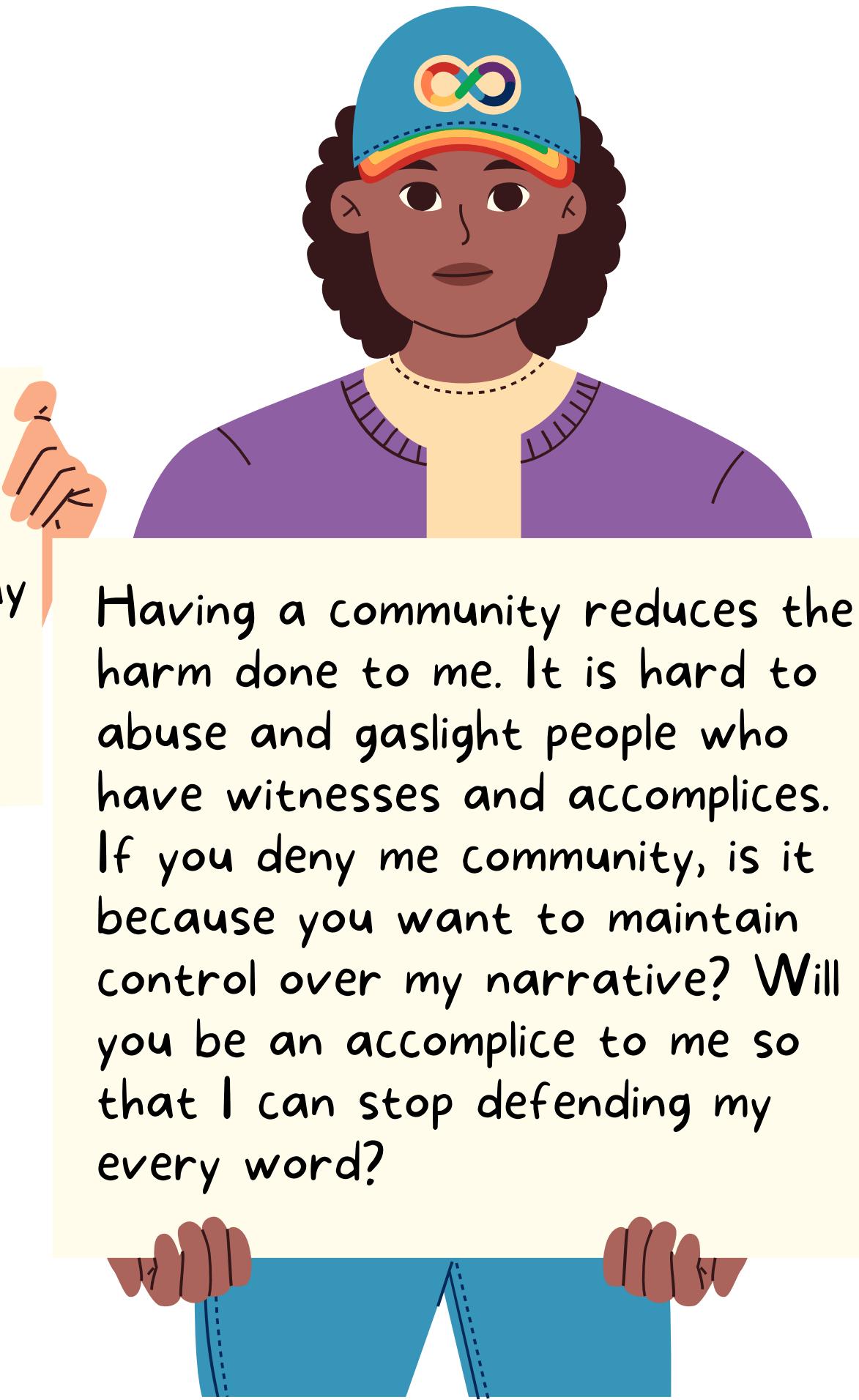
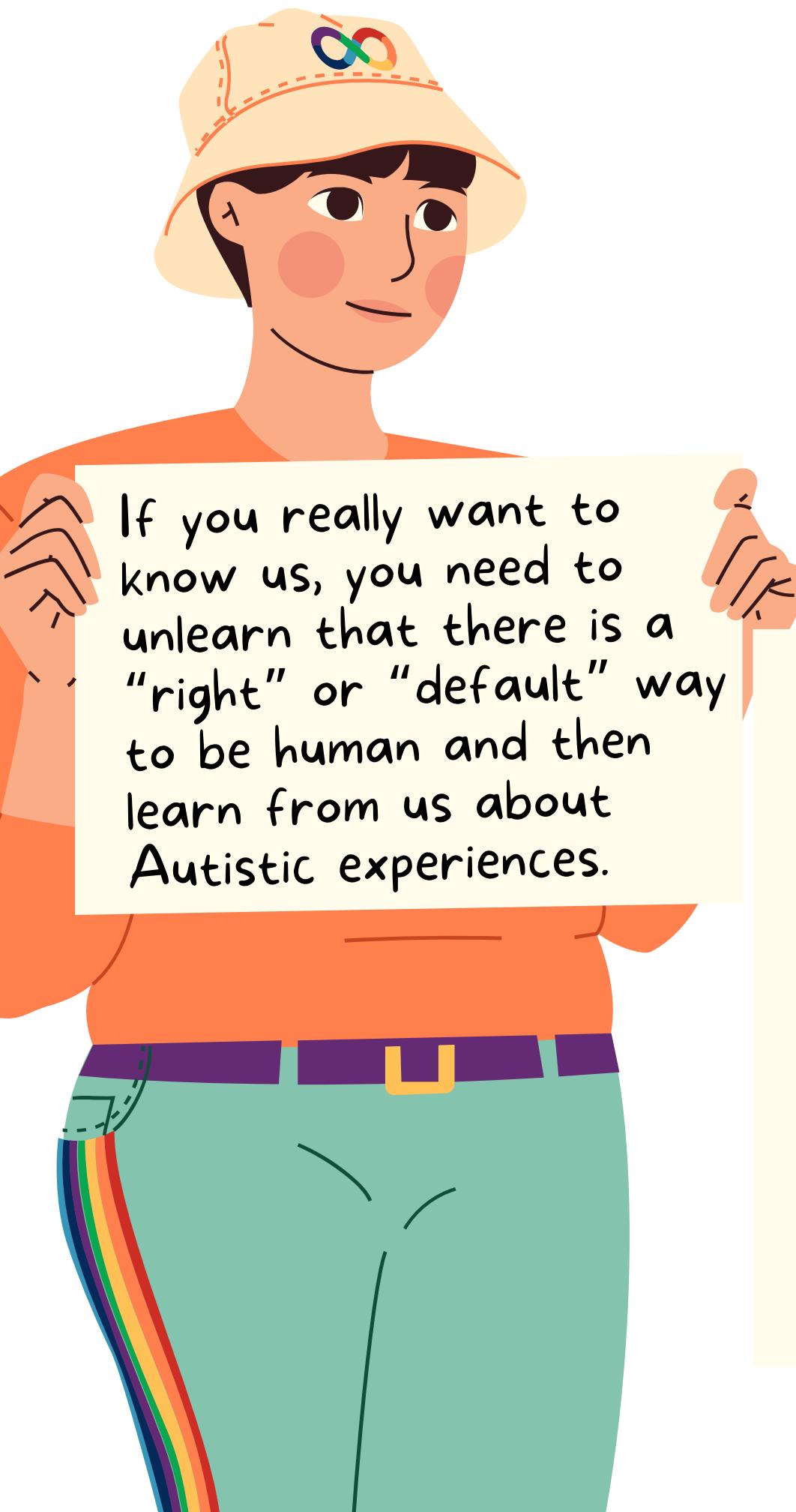




Everything in the world that describes the human experience and perception is written according to the non-autistic experience.

As long as our divergent minds are discussed and measured by typical standards, we are not seen or represented.

Having community is critical for our health and future. We need to create a common language others can learn to be able to understand, accept, and even appreciate us. If you struggle to bring yourself to respect our community, you cannot respect us as individuals.





As an accomplice,  
you can learn  
about our  
individual  
experiences...

Support Autistic-led  
orgs and buy from  
Autistic-owned  
businesses. Invest in  
our community.

And our  
intersectional  
experiences as  
members of other  
communities

Help make it the  
norm to hear  
from Autistic  
people & meet us  
in our community  
spaces.