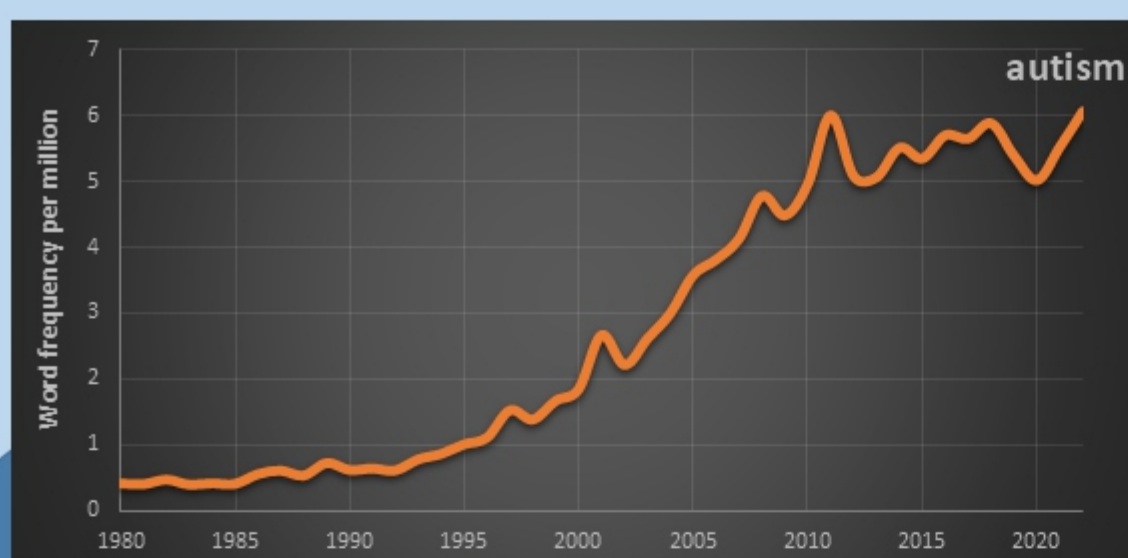


The Autism Epidemic

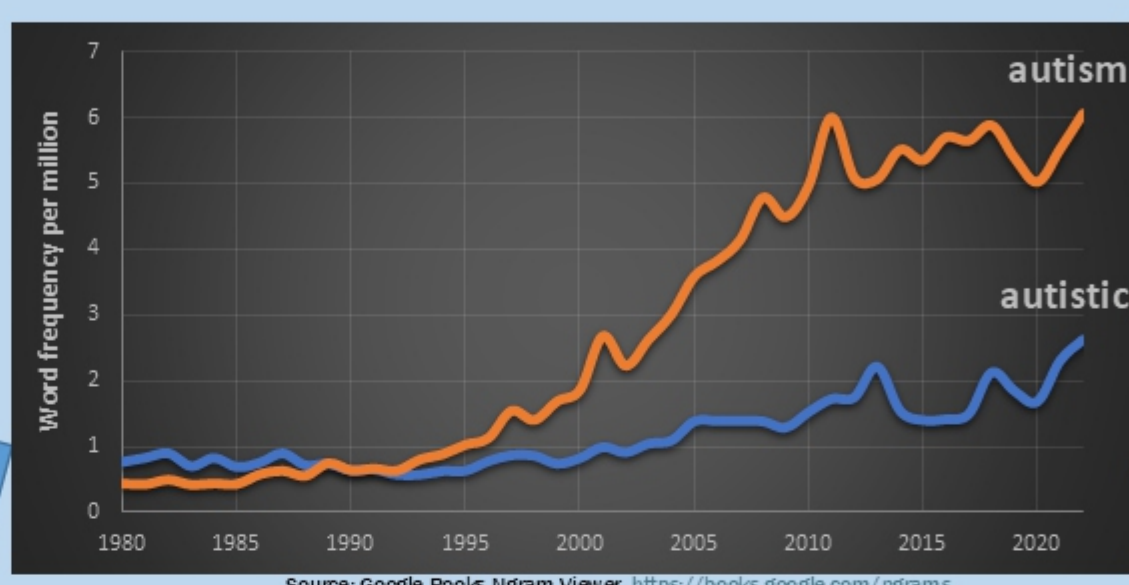
an epidemic of words

- 1 People believe autism is growing wildly because they read about it more.



- 2 You find the word “autism” 14 times more frequently in publications in 2022 (the last year data is available) than in 1980.

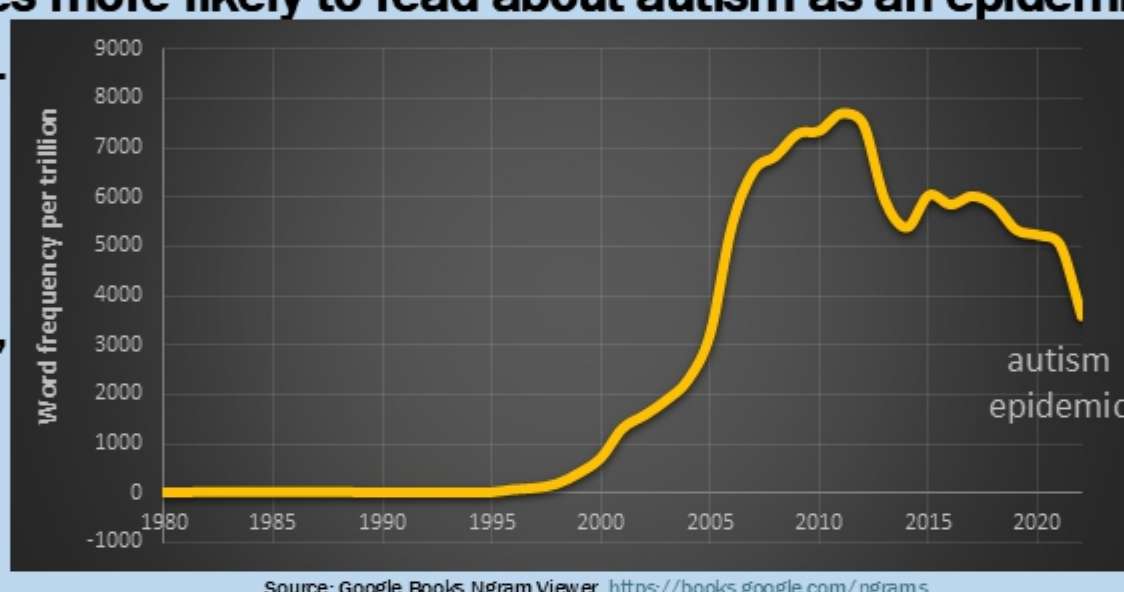
- 3 Person-first language has helped change the words we use. In 1980, the word “autistic” was nearly twice as common as “autism.”



- 4 While “autism” has skyrocketed, the use of “autistic” has grown more slowly.

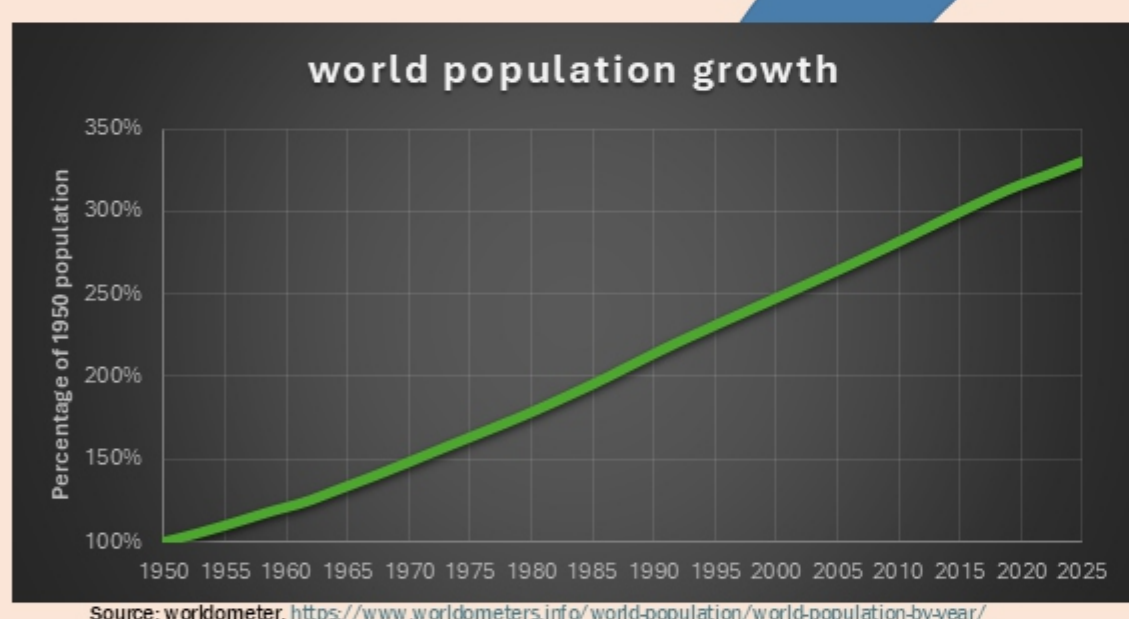
- 5 But this is nothing compared to the explosion of language referring to autism as an epidemic. You were **135** times more likely to read about autism as an epidemic in 2011 compared to just 15 years earlier.

Thankfully, such characterizations have declined lately, reflecting better education on the topic.

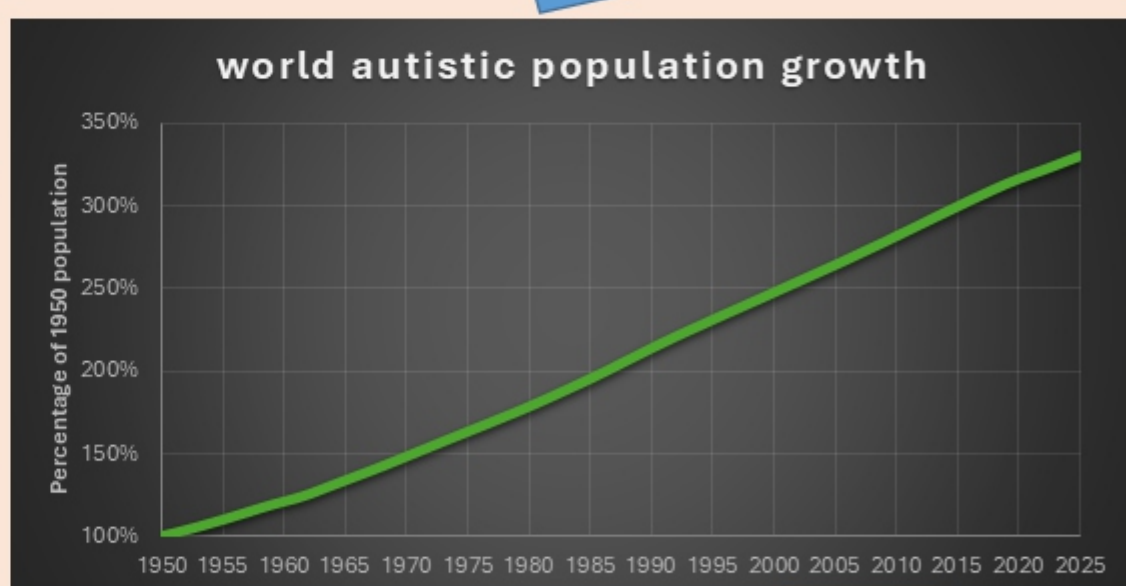


Where are all the extra autistic people?

- 1 The overall increase in world population in the last 75 years...



- 2 ...is matched by the overall increase in the autistic population.



- 3 The only reason there are more autistic people in the world today is because there are more people in the world today.

- 4 Autism doesn't come from an epidemic. Autism doesn't come from pills or toxins or vaccines or a spreading disease.

- 5 Autistic people come from where they have always come from: the wombs of women. This has been true for thousands of years. This will be true for as long as humans don't have a way to prevent these births from happening, also known as eugenics.

- 6 Let's ease the lives of these people, as we should for all people. Let's welcome these people. Let's cherish these people. Let's stop making up stories and start focusing on what really matters.

