

# Connecticut Parents With Cognitive Limitations Workgroup

## Relationship of Cognitive Dysfunction to Social Skills

<b>Cognitive Function</b>	<b>Dysfunction's Impact on Social Skills</b>
Insight	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Poor judgment in social situations</li><li>• Development of unrealistic goals</li><li>• Decreased ability to predict consequences of actions</li></ul>
Attention	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Tendency to drift off topic</li><li>• Decreased awareness of other people's nonverbal and verbal reactions</li><li>• Decreased listening ability</li><li>• Externally distracted; poor eye contact</li><li>• Internally distracted; makes statements inappropriate to the situation</li><li>• Decreased ability to shift attention from one topic to the next</li><li>• Attention to only parts of the social situation</li></ul>
Memory	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Inability to accurately recall previous interactions with others, resulting in discontinuity of social relationships</li><li>• Decreased recall of names, faces, conversations</li></ul>
Self-monitoring	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Difficulty monitoring speed of reactions, tone of voice, emotions</li></ul>
Rigidity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Inability to see another point of view</li><li>• Inability to think an alternative to a social problem</li><li>• Appears self-centered</li></ul>
Concreteness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Decreased empathy</li><li>• Decreased self-reflection</li><li>• Decreased ability to generalize experiences</li><li>• Decreased ability to consider the consequences of actions</li><li>• Appears insensitive and egocentric</li></ul>
Organization	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Decreased ability to maintain proper perspective on events</li><li>• Decreased ability to express thoughts, feelings and ideas in an organized way</li><li>• Decreased ability to generalize experiences</li><li>• Decreased ability to differentiate what is significant in social situations</li></ul>