Gazing Forward: Envisioning Inclusive Education through Eye-Tracking AAC in Rett Syndrome

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Abstract

This talk interrogates prevailing ideologies of inclusion in educational settings, focusing on the intersections between disability, assistive technology, and educational justice. Through a case study of Rett syndrome, the presentation explores issues of educational access in light of the use of eye-tracking Alternative and Augmentative Communication (AAC), a method of communication facilitated through gaze control. The talk challenges the ableism often implicit in educational contexts, particularly those serving individuals with significant disabilities. Although rooted in the U.S. educational landscape, the inquiry raises questions and challenges that have broader applicability. The larger aim is to help foster an international dialogue on institutional ableism and to refine our collective understanding of how educational justice is contoured across diverse socio-cultural settings in relation to disability.