

19. The affects of anti-psychotic drugs is incredible. It has changed the way people with schizophrenia can establish themselves in their community. Someone like Augustine who was hard to connect with in the beginning of the video, because he could not even fully answer questions with cohesion, becomes an individual who not only makes perfect sense in his responses to conversation, but believes in his own capabilities to function in society. In the beginning of the video it did not appear that Augustine had the motivation to take care of his appearance. He was not able to maintain eye contact, and was constantly touching his face or playing with his facial hair. In the brief segment, post medication, Augustine has shaven his face and cut his hair. He looks very well kept and is keeping eye contact throughout the interview. He answers each question logically, and is able to recognize his own growth. He mentions his delusions and how even when he was having them, he did not view them as obtainable goals he had for himself. The simple idea of working lights up his face with a bit of hope. I do think that drugs can start to have negative side-effect, and that Augustine's transformation is not always the outcome for people who get on anti-psychotic medications. First generation neuroleptic drugs in particular can have more intense side affects of undesired ticks and movements. Even though medication is not 100% successful that rate is still estimated to be 70% successful and is almost always a preferred method of treatment for those experiencing symptoms of schizophrenia. If patients stop taking the medication too soon symptoms often return more quickly.