Building Disability into the Curriculum

Richard Rieser Disability Equality

www.worldofinclusion.com
UN Convention on the Rights of People with Disabilities

- Ratified by UK Government from 8th July 2009
- Based on a paradigm shift to social model thinking
- Equality 2025 also based on this view
- The problem is not the disabled persons impairment but interaction with attitudinal, social, environmental barriers.
Duty to Promote Disability Equality

When carrying out their functions public authorities must have **due regard** to the need to:

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<th>Promote positive attitudes towards disabled persons</th>
<th>Encourage participation by disabled persons in public life</th>
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<td>Promote equality of opportunity</td>
<td>Eliminate disability related harassment</td>
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<td>Eliminate unlawful discrimination</td>
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**The use of positive discrimination if necessary**
Traditional Model of Disability

- For thousands of years peoples lives were ruled by superstition and interpretations of the nature which depended on all powerful deities or Gods. Disabled people were penitent sinners, were figures of fun or freaks. We were often seen as evil or seeking to get our revenge.
- These stereotypes persist in literature and the media today.
- We were the useless eaters of the Third Reich or a ‘race danger’ in the UK.
The dominant view is the Medical Model.

DISABLED PEOPLE AS PASSIVE RECEIVERS OF SERVICES AIMED AT CURE OR MANAGEMENT
The **Social Model** of disablement focuses on the barriers

- Lack of useful education
- Discrimination in employment
- Inaccessible environment
- Segregated services
- De-valuing prejudice
- Inaccessible transport
- Inaccessible information
- Poverty
- ‘Belief’ in the medical model

The structures within society are the problem.

Disabled people as active fighters for equality working in partnership with allies.
In the Social Model it's the barriers that disable!

Negative Attitudes
Inaccessible Environments
Bullying
Use of Resources
Poor Peer Support
Inflexible Curriculum
Lack of Communication
Lack of Role Models
Ignorance
Poor Teaching
Fear
Low Expectations
Activity Medical and Social Model Thinking about Disabled People

Social Model

a) Michael can’t do PE as he has chronic asthma
b) Musa has Learning difficulties and so cannot access French
c) Samson accesses citizenship through social stories
d) Mohammed has diabetes and monitors his condition himself
e) Sadi has un-controlled epilepsy and has several fits a day as a result he is confined to the resource base
f) Robin has ME and only does some lessons and stays in touch by laptop and web so he does not fall behind.

Medical Model

i) Iqbal is dyslexic and writes with a spell checker
ii) Jasmin is not going on the outdoor pursuits weekend because she is a wheelchair user
iii) Dave has ADHD but he is learning anger management and has a time out card
iv) Dudita has bulimia and gets bullied by the other girls
v) John has CP and dribbles and has slurred speech. His class have decided to challenge anyone who makes fun of him.
Since 1990 DAA have recorded 680 disabled people have lost their lives because of disabilism in the UK.
Discrimination against disabled people

• For every 100 disabled adults 50 are not working

• For every 100 non-disabled adults 13 are not working
Maths and the Braille System

Get pupils to work out how many different permutations you can get on the six pattern of a dice?
Gradients—What is the right angle for a wheelchair?

Answer - Between 1 in 20 and 1 in 12
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Whilst 908,371 British Empire combatants were killed during First World War (1914-1918), a vast army of 2,090,212 men experienced disabling injuries. Anyone with over 20% injuries received a pension after assessment by the Medical Board.
“The unnatural and increasingly rapid growth of the feebleminded classes, coupled with a steady restriction among all the thrifty, energetic and superior stocks constitutes a race danger. I feel that the source from which the stream of madness is fed should be cut off and sealed up before another year has passed.”

Winston Churchill MP, Home Secretary at the time the Mental Deficiency Act of 1913 became law.
“If I had my way, I would build a lethal chamber as big as the Crystal Palace, with a military band playing softly, and a cinematograph working brightly; then I’d go out in the black streets and the main streets and bring them all in, the sick, the halt and the maimed; I would lead them gently, and they would smile me a weary thanks; and the band would softly bubble out the ‘Hallelujah Chorus’.”

Eugenicist Thinking 3-Sidney and Beatrice Webb

Attitude of Sidney and Beatrice Webb, founders of UK Labour Party and London School of Economics to eugenics:

"What we as eugenicists have got to do is to 'scrap' the Old Poor Law with its indiscriminate relief of the destitute as such and replace it by an intelligent policy of so altering the social environment as to discourage or prevent the multiplication of those irrevocably below the National Minimum of Fitness"

Under 1913 Mental Deficiency Act
150,000 Idiots, Imbeciles, Feeble Minded and Moral Defectives incarcerated for whole of their lives in long stay hospitals.

A Textbook of Mental Deficiency, who wrote in his eighth edition of his textbook, "on the Euthanasia of the 80,000 or so imbeciles in the country utterly helpless, repulsive in appearance and revolting in manners. Their existence is a perpetual source of sorrow and unhappiness to their parents, and those who live at home have a most disturbing influence upon other children and family life. In my opinion it would be an economical and humane procedure were their existence to be painlessly terminated" (quoted in Joanne Ryan, politics of mental handicap 1991, 106)

Out of Sight: The Experience of Disability, 1900-1950. Stephen Humphries and Ch 4 films.

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pl2UNbd7lxY
Getting Rid of the ‘Useless Eaters’ in Nazi Germany 1933-1945

This led to 1 million disabled people being killed in Greater Germany by 1946 as a BURDEN.

Figure 36. “The Prussian Government Provides Annually the Following Funds for: a Normal Schoolchild (125 RM); a Slow Learner (573 RM); the Educable Mentally Ill (950 RM); and Blind or Deaf-Born Schoolchildren (1,500 RM).” This illustration depicts the burden of maintaining the socially unfit. From Volk und Rasse, 8(1933): 156.
Nazi Propaganda

Sequence illustrating lighting techniques used in Nazi propaganda film Erbank III. 1936
Between January 1940 and August 1941, the Nazis turned six hospitals - in Brandenburg, Grafeneck, Hartheim, Sonnenstein, Bernburg and Hadamar - into the main killing grounds for what they referred to as "euthanasia." Other clinics and hospitals were added as the program expanded.
Ellis Island- United Stated Immigration
Filtering out those with an Impairment

12 million immigrants passed through from 1890 to 1930’s
100,000 were turned back.

Examine Neo-Malthussian arguments on population
Mapping Local Area for Good and Bad Access
M-P045. Percent of Persons 5 to 20 Years With a Disability: 2000
Universe: Civilian non-institutionalized population 5 to 20 years
Data Set: Census 2000 Summary File 3 (SF 3) - Sample Data
When studying growth or the human body show the diversity of human forms.
When part of the body does not work we call it an impairment. Draw an arrow to the right part of the body for the area affected by each impairment.

1. Brain Injury
2. Blind
3. Stomach cancer
4. Heart condition
5. Deaf
6. Speech Difficulty
7. Hip replacement
8. Lung Cancer
9. Learning Difficulty
10. Lower back broken spine
11. White finger
12. Water on Knee
The Royal Impairment – Haemophilia
Science and History

Queen Victoria carried the gene for Haemophilia on her X Chromosome. Her Eighth Child Leopold was Haemophiliac and two of her daughters carriers of the condition into the Russian, German and Spanish Royal Families.
Ashley X – were her parents right to sterilise her so she would never mature or have children?

Ashley received extensive medical treatment from the age of six, including hormone treatment, the removal of her breast buds and uterus. Her American parents argued that preventing her from growing meant that she would enjoy a better quality of life. Feminist and disability groups argued that the decision was made purely to convenience the parents and that it infringed her basic human rights.

Disability Rights Washington (DRW), a private group with federal authority, has now ruled that doctors at Seattle Children’s Hospital violated Ashley’s rights by performing the hysterectomy without first obtaining a court order. DRW also found that no independent advocate was provided to Ashley to protect her rights.

What do you think?

Ashley was born with a rare condition that means she is non-verbal, may have severe learning difficulties and needs full support with personal care.
The story of the real ‘7 Dwarves’ or little people

The Ovitz family were a family of Romanian-born Jewish circus actors/travelling musicians who survived imprisonment at the Auschwitz concentration camp and experiments on them by Josef Mengele. They went to live in Israel and carried on with their performances. However their health was badly effected by the treatment they received.

Throughout their lives they stuck together with their non-disabled siblings and refused to take part in freak shows considering themselves professional actors, musicians and singers.

See Yehuda Koren, Eilat Negev, *In Our Hearts We Were Giants - the Remarkable story of the Lilliput Troupe*, 2004
Sir Jeffrey Hudson
Will Somner jester to Henry VIII

Jesters are found in rulers courts the world over. Many are ‘naturals’ meaning they have learning difficulties. Many others are short statured or ‘humped backed’

Valasquez's Las Meninas
Disability and the Art of Frida Kahlo

Broken Column 1944
Frida had polio as a child and was in a crash when she was 18 that left her with spinal and pelvic impairments

Tree of Hope Keep Firm 1946

Marxism will heal the sick 1954
Like Kahlo, Hannah has felt isolated by the restrictions on her life that her condition causes – she becomes exhausted easily and is in constant pain - but she has used her art to tell her story.

The greatest core of our being is our creativity. To be able to look at everything that life throws at us by expressing this part of ourselves to tell our stories has enabled people in many situations to make sense of their lives.
Masaccio St Peter Curing the Infirmed 1420

Tintorreto St Augustine Healing the Lame 1550
Hideous, deformed, Gargoyles on the outside of the church keeping evil at bay.
Inside the church and around the alter idealised pictures, without Blemish.

Duke Frederico Urbino was always painted in profile. Why? Because he had a facial disfigurement on the other side of his face.
Peter Breughel painted what he saw no idealisation. 1525-1569

1. Fox tails pinned to the back of ‘cripples’ to keep evil away. 2 Giving of Alms to disabled people

Detail, Breughel Battle of Carnival 1559, Oil
Vienna Kunsthistorische Museum
118 x 164.5 cm

3. Cripples 1569, Naples
The Dutch State in 1600, pauperised disabled people and their families as penitent sinners punished by God. As Rembrandts sketches show they had to wear a white head band to signify their status. The good Burgers gave alms and got their reward in heaven.
Max Ernst - Young Chimera 1920 -

Chimera Wild unrealistic dream or monster head of a lion, body of a goat and tail of a serpent.

Toulouse Lautrec with cane 1892 Several genetic condition weakened & shortened his legs.

Marie Blanchard 1881-1932 Impaired from pre birth legs, back, hips short stature Spanish Artist - Cubist and realist.

Max Ernst - Young Chimera 1920 - Chimera Wild unrealistic dream or monster head of a lion, body of a goat and tail of a serpent.
Challenging Physical Perfection or Political correctness?

Alison Lapper Statue in Trafalgar Square

Venus de Milo

See Marc Quinn Fourth Plinth (ISBN 3-86521-240-9) for range of Press Comments.
Plato laid down the foundations of natural philosophy, science and western philosophy but was also the founder of Eugenics

Plato’s Republic: Creation of ideal state
Prescription of following course of action to regulate sick in body or soul:
“This then is the kind of medical and juridical provision for which you will legislate in your state. It will provide treatment for those of your citizens whose physical and psychological constitution is good as for the others, it will leave the unhealthy to die, and those whose psychological constitution is incurably corrupt it will put to death that seems to be the best thing both for the individual sufferer and for society”

Huxley In Brave New World-creates a similarly Eugenics inspired future read and criticise

Examine the ethics of the Genome Project and its potential for eradicating inherited impairments
Porgy and Bess was the first modern musical/ opera to feature an entire black cast. Written by George Gershwin [1898-1937] it is set in South Carolina, the deep south of America just after the American civil war. It is the story of life for the poor black communities who often lived in shanty like towns well away from the white population.

The Porgy of the title is a disabled man who lives in a shack and who uses a cart on wheels to get around. Bess is a fallen angel, beleaguered and oppressed by a violent low life of a man called Crown. When she tries to get away from him she seeks the protection of Porgy who is respected in the community. He already loves her and as their friendship develops she comes to love him. Porgy treats her with respect which she is unused to. The community accept her but things start to go wrong when Crown seeks revenge. He cannot accept that Bess would leave him for someone that he considers a useless ‘cripple’. A violent fight takes place but Porgy manages to overcome Crown. In his fall Crown strikes his head and dies.

The community form a wall of protective silence around Porgy and the police release him. But poor Bess feels that it is all her fault and that she will only cause him more trouble. She leaves with another man. The opera ends with Porgy setting off on his cart to find her. It ends optimistically with a great ensemble number and you believe that he will find his beloved.

Music: Porgy and Bess gives musical expression to black people, women and disabled people in their struggle for dignity.
Hephaestus or Vulcan was a Greek god who lived on Mount Olympus. Son of Zeus and Hara. He was disabled with a club foot. His parents tried to drown him following the thinking of Aristotle and Plato, but he was immortal. So they made him the lowly blacksmith. He married Aphrodite, goddess of love and was happy but the other Gods made him the butt of jokes.
Where did these stereotypes come from?
The Great Witch hunts of Europe
1480-1680
Between 8-21 million killed
Disability or birth of a disabled child was proof positive of witchcraft

Examine traditional tales for treatment of disabled people. If negative re-write
Were Pirates Always Disabled?

Long John Silver

My Pirates Party

Imagine Me A Pirate!
Pirates elected to pay each other compensation for injury from the Common Chest

1 Piece of Eight = £15

- Loss of right arm: 600
- Loss of left arm: 500
- Loss of right leg: 500
- Loss of left leg: 400
- Loss of an eye: 100
- Loss of a finger: 100
levels of plan, and about the future.

art from right pairme
also de...........
tless oppression

involved in the school challenge name-calling, 'hers'

who am I??

maimed deformed
knock knees
scabby spazzie
P.L.D.
clothes
fatso helpless
deviant

vegetable
crummy
cripple dummy dull

stupid looney lame E.S.N.
hop-a-long half-wit peg-leg

invalid cretin mutant grasshopper

idiot moron slow

handicap

moron mongol fitter mental

dopey
Susan is just like any other 10 year old...

but she lives under the shadow of diabetes.

I am blind
I am crippled
I am helpless

A mental handicap is there for life.
So is Mencap.

If Multiple Sclerosis struck you at 21, you'd need a friend for life.

IAN WASN'T KILLED IN A BUILDING SITE ACCIDENT. HE JUST LOST HIS LIFE.

THE WILBERFORCE HOME FOR MULTIPLE HANDICAPPED BLIND care for the BLIND CRIPPLED & HELPLESS

in a purpose built building set in lovely grounds and specially designed for people in wheelchairs who are blind.

These people are mercifully few in number - but their plight is tragic.

If you would like to know more about this worthwhile service - write to

The Superintendent,
The Wilberforce Home for Multiple Handicapped Blind,

377 Taunton Road, York YO2 3QL
Advertising
Putting Disabled People in The Picture
Dear Producer of Eastenders,
I like your programme but I don’t see disabled people in it. Why don’t you have them in your programmes?
I like to see disabled people on television because it helps me to understand how they feel. I think your programmes are very boring without disabled people. So please, please think about putting them on your show.
Your sincerely
Leanne A........ 2L

Dear Producer of Home and Away,
I like your programme very much because it is very nice, but really tell me why you don’t have disabled people in your show? I would be happy if disabled people was in your show because it would not make it a freak show.

Disabled people will be nice in it. They also act nicely and it would make other disabled people feel nice about themselves.
Yours sincerely
Khaema L....... Class 2L

Get the class to do a TV watch and keep a record of how many disabled saw/included.

Then get them to write to the producer
On his way to school Pinocchio, the wooden boy, is led astray to go and play. The cat is pretending to be blind and the fox pretending to use a crutch. In the end after many adventures Pinocchio returns to his maker Geppetto, a wiser more moral boy and changes to a real boy.

The fox and the cat are now really disabled as a punishment for their deceit.
Snow White gets up. She sees the seven dwarfs. Please help me, she says. The queen wants to kill me.

You can live here with us, say the dwarfs. Snow White thanks the dwarfs.
Re-writing Traditional Tales

The Kind Seven ‘Dwarfs’
One-day seven ‘dwarfs’ were big and the Queen was bad to Snow White.
The Queen saw Snow White and said, “Snow White, you can come and live with me, in the palace. But the seven ‘dwarfs’ helped Snow White and they made a restaurant and they made good food together. The end.

Rapunzel
A lady wanted a child. She got the baby. And when she didn’t have any baby food for the baby a Good Witch came and asked her if she could feed the baby. The Mother said “Yes”. So the Good Witch took the baby to her house, to give her some food.
When she did, the baby grew and grew and grew. When she was 16 years she went to college and when she was 29 years married a prince. When they got married they had a baby and lived happily ever after.

Rumpelstiltskin
Once upon a time, there was a little man called Rumpelstiltskin who never grew like everyone else. So he was different. He was a good man and he was a good person. Rumpelstiltskin helped the people and gave the people some money. They liked him because he was kind to them. They gave the little man some good food. Rumpelstiltskin spun straw into gold and did not want to take the maid’s first baby. So they lived happily ever after.
Positive 8-13
Blabbermouth and Sticky Beak  
Maurice Gleitzman
Rent a Friend  F.Hughes
Buster and the Amazing Daisy  
N. Ogaz
13+
Waterbound  Jane Stemp
A Different Life  Lois Keith
Out of Place  Lois Keith
Down All The Days & My Left Foot  
Christy Brown
The Eye of the Clock  Christy Nolan
Born on 4th July  Ron Kovic

• Negative
Many titles use negative stereotypes in junior fiction. 
When reading analyse stereotypes
13+
To Kill a Mockingbird  Harper Lee
Of Mice and Men  Steinbeck
A Christmas Carol  Dickens
The Old Curiosity Shop  Dickens
Secret Garden  Francis Hodgson Burnett
Brave New World  Aldous Huxley
Heidi  Johanna Spyri
What Katy Did  Susan Coolidge
Richard III & The Tempest  
Shakespeare
I am glad to be able to report
To Messrs Darwin, Galton, Churchill and Down
Hitler and the Third Reich
That your mission was a failure.
Though you tried so hard to persuade us
With your learned accomplices
To believe in your nightmare
Requiring the extermination of the Flawed,
The Flawed have nonetheless flowered.
Protected from your twisted plan
By unstoppable love,
Now released from the ghettos
People with Down's Syndrome
And other endangered treasures
Are rising up all over the world
Getting uppity and visible
Artists and poets,
Actors and dancers,
Some quiet and thoughtful,
Some noisy and fun,
A teacher, every one
You could say in fact
That your horrible experiment
Has not simply failed
But gloriously backfired!

Parents all fired up
With fierce and defensive love
For their targeted children
Have joined arms with the Flawed
And other progressive forces
To insist on inclusion for all
Replacing your elitist ideals
Of Empire and Might - Britain forever Ruling the Waves –
With a different dream
Taking hold in many places
Of a slower, more gentle world
In which being born human is enough
To evoke awe, wonder and respect
From each to all
The end of competition,
The start of collaboration
A bottom-up revolution
Heralding a new world
In which it is safe for all of us
To be our selves.

Micheline Mason   April 2007
Jonny Crescendo: Music of Protest
Choices and Rights
rough sound with great images from 1992 live at the Lincoln memorial dc
Pride  http://www.myspace.com/johnnycrescendo- videos-pride

Growing up in Salford working class family he caught polio in hospital. But the attitude of his family toward his disability, he says, was "pretty good considering the time. I went to a mainstream school throughout. When I was about 11, I went to senior school and I was bullied and started truanting. I left school at 16. I was bright but hardly a good student. Not being at school meant I began to self teach at an early age to play the guitar and write songs. Eventually a youth worker and performer Johnny founded the Direct Action Network-DAN campaigned and won using direct action for disability rights laws.

DAN 1 http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ngkx8ASyWaY
DAN 2  
http://blogs.myspace.com/index.cfm?fuseaction=blog.view&friendId=1  
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ngkx8ASyWaY
DAN3  
http://blogs.myspace.com/index.cfm?fuseaction=blog.view&friendId= 
DAN 4 
http://blogs.myspace.com/index.cfm?fuseaction=blog.view&friendId=
Andrew Wragg, 37, told police he killed his son, Jacob, on July 24 of last year. He called it a "mercy killing" in order to keep the boy from suffering from Hunter syndrome. Children that have Hunter syndrome usually experience mental and physical disabilities and often die before age 20. His Mum says:-
"On the day of his death, he was active and strong," she explained. "He was happy. He was just Jacob."
Two-Face
Batman Forever

THE COIN HAS DECIDED! THE EVIL PART OF MY NATURE WINS... AND SO TWO-FACE MUST STRIKE!
IMAGES: The Way Forward for Disabled People

1. Avoid depicting disabled people as always receiving. Show us as equals giving as well as receiving.

2. Avoid presenting physical and mental characteristics as determining personality
1. Refrain from depicting disabled people as objects of curiosity. Make us ordinary.

5. Impairments should not be ridiculed or made the butt of jokes.

6. Avoid sensationalising disabled people especially as victims or perpetrators of violence.
7. Refrain from endowing disabled people with super-human attributes.

1. Avoid Pollyanna-type plots that make disabled people’s attitude the problem.

Show the social barriers disabled people face that keep us from living full lives.
9. Avoid showing disabled people as non-sexual.

Show us in loving relationships and expressing the same range of sexual needs and desires as non-disabled people.
10. Most importantly, train and employ disabled people, include us in scripts, novels, programmes, images, lectures publications and curriculum. 
Show us as a part of ordinary life.
Hate Crimes against disabled people are more common than you think! 20 disabled people murdered in UK in last 2 years 47% don’t feel safe on streets

Kevin Davies who had epilepsy was kept in a shed for four months until he died/ Wigan

Craig Robbins had learning difficulty and was viciously attacked leading to brain damage by three people- Wales

Raymond Atherton a man with learning difficulties repeatedly attacked and eventually killed by 2 teenagers after months of torture. Warrington

Rikki Judkins with Learning Difficulties beated to death by two teenagers when visiting Lancaster
Stop Bullying Us

“ I can’t make friends, they know I go to a special school and they tease me.”

“ The kids that bullied me found out how to put my chair onto manual and wheeled me into a bush. The teachers knew and none of them did anything about it. They didn’t believe me and said it must have been an accident.” Evie

“ Ever since I was a child I always got bullied at school, and now we need to do something about it.” Michael

70% of disabled children say they were bullied everyday. 19% every day.

Mother killed herself and daughter in car fire over gang's abuse

A mother who killed herself and her disabled daughter had been terrorised by a gang of youths and had her repeated pleas for help ignored by police, an inquest was told yesterday. Fiona Pilkington, 38, burnt to death with her daughter, Francecca Hardwick, 18, after dousing the parked car that they were in with petrol and setting it alight.
The single mother, her daughter and teenage son, Anthony, had endured ten years of being virtual prisoners in their own home as a gang of up to 16 “street kids” tormented them for simply “existing”.

What should be done to stop bullying disabled people?