

Lived Experience Leadership Programme Pilot – Session 7

April 2024

LLOYDS BANK
FOUNDATION
Channel Islands



Lived Experience – My Story



Theo Blackmore PhD

Disability Cornwall & the Isles of Scilly

While we're waiting to start, here's a Quick Quiz



While we're waiting for people to join, here are some questions for you to think about and answer please –

1. Disabled people form the largest minority group in the UK T/F
2. The numbers of disabled people are increasing T/F
3. Wheelchair users form the largest group of disabled people T/F
4. It is illegal to discriminate against disabled people T/F
5. Equal numbers of disabled and non-disabled people are in paid employment T/F
6. Most disabled people receive disability welfare benefits T/F

Understanding Disability

'Disability' changes according to where we live

Different cultures and countries have different understanding of disability –



‘Disability’ changes according to when we live

In 1804 the prison reformer James Neild visited the Bodmin workhouse in Cornwall. He later recorded:

“On visiting the workhouse at Bodmin, in Cornwall, which I found in a very dirty state, I was shown down stairs into a room where a poor lunatic was confined. He lay stretched on a little short and dirty straw, with a few rags on him.... He took no notice, either on opening the door, or during the time I was in his room, till I came close up to him; he then took his eyes off his book, and looked at me with a more forcible appeal to humanity than I had ever felt. The floor of this room was earth, and literally a puddle of water and dirt more than one inch deep. It was with difficulty I could step into it without treading in his excrement, which laid every where about on the floor; and, from the appearance of what was in the fire-place, must have been there a fortnight or more. The keeper had most unmercifully beat the poor fellow, and given him two black eyes. I endeavoured to investigate the matter, but the mistress kept such an incessant clack that I could not put in a word edgewise.”

- <http://www.workhouses.org.uk/Bodmin/>

'Disability' changes according to what we believe

Glen Hoddle was sacked as the England football coach in 1999 after saying disabled people were paying for their sins from a previous life

<https://www.theguardian.com/football/1999/jan/30/newsstory.sport7>

The Medical Model of Disability

The dominant understanding of Disability, as seen on TV, the radio, Internet and throughout mainstream media

First named by Mike Oliver in 1986 as the Individual Model of Disability, but later as the Medical Model

Entirely based around the individual body

In order to remove or reduce disability we must fix what is 'wrong' with the body

If we were able to do this then disability would disappear

Oliver, M, (1986) *Social policy and disability: some theoretical issues in Disability Handicap & Society* Vol. 1 No. 1 , Carfax Publishing;

Medical Model Examples

THE STORY BEHIND THAT 'FIT FOR WORK' AWARD

In the Year of the Disabled — a factory where all believe the handicapped pull their weight



By MARY COLSON

THE fit for Work award presented to Three Six Appliances Newford Castle last month is recognition of more than 20 years of integration between the disabled and the able-bodied in the Stralaghan factory.



The award is presented to the only factory of its kind in the world where all believe the handicapped pull their weight.

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Successful cleaning company works to model of social firms, employing people with a disability

Giving the disabled a chance



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The Union of the Physically Impaired Against Segregation - UPIAS



The Fundamental Principles of Disability (1976) -

In our view, it is society which disables physically impaired people. Disability is something imposed on top of our impairments, by the way we are unnecessarily isolated and excluded from full participation in society.

The Social Model of Disability

Created by Disabled People

Separates 'Disability' from 'Impairment'

Is very liberating – we can reduce, or even remove entirely, Disability and disabling barriers

It is an inclusive understanding, bringing disabled people into the community

The Legal Definition of Disability

Under the Equality Act 2010 you are disabled if you have a physical or mental impairment that has a 'substantial' and 'long-term' negative effect on your ability to do normal daily activities.

Avoid	Use
the handicapped, the disabled	Disabled people
Afflicted by, suffers from, victim of	Has (whatever the condition or impairment may be)
Confined to a wheelchair, wheelchair bound	Wheelchair user
Mentally handicapped, mentally defective, retarded	Person with a learning difficulty
Cripple, invalid	Disabled person
Spastic	Person with Cerebral Palsy
Able bodied	Non-disabled
Mental patient, insane, mad	Person with a mental health condition
Deaf and dumb, deaf mute	A Deaf person, a user of British Sign Language (BSL), person with a hearing impairment
The blind	Blind people, people with visual impairments, blind and partially sighted people
An Epileptic, a depressive, a diabetic, etc.	A person with.... A person who has.....
Dwarf, midget	A person with restricted growth, or of short stature
Fits, spells, attacks	seizures

So what?!?

We can all make changes to make the world as accessible as possible for all of us. For example –

- My X-Ray hospital visit – doors, bins, etc.
- Anti bacterial gel dispensers at the correct height
- Online meetings with BSL and/or subtitles
- Speech to text software
- Don't park on pavements – wheelchair access, people with visual impairments, people with prams/buggies

If in doubt?

ASK!!!

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