

Viewing Disability Through a New Lens

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Housekeeping

- Captioning
- Questions
- Handouts
- Recording
- Evaluation and Certificates of Attendance



What was your first introduction to disability?





An object of pity and charity



WHAT DO YOU SAY TO A KID WHO CAN'T WALK?

For her, learning to walk is hard, hard work. Sometimes she cries.

Usually you can josh her along. But words don't always help. So you love her—until she gets her fight back. Then she's ready to try again.

Love is one of three things that help a crippled child walk. The other two are skill and money.

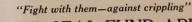
We've found people with love and skill to give, like the Easter Seal therapist in the picture.

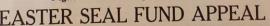
We're looking to you for the money. Not a lot—just enough to put one kid one day closer to walking.

That's about \$5.

The Easter Seals you use enable the Easter Seal Society, through its many clinics and centers, to help people fight against these crippling disorders—crippling accidents, poliomyetitis, cerebra palay, multiple selerosis, muscular dystrophy, arthritis, birth deformities, speech defects and many others.







COURSE COURSE ED CHILDREN, C/O YOUR LOCAL POSTMASTER

is adversionable to demand by the public

Disability: A fate to be feared



A fate worse than death



Something scary



Inspirational



So much language!

- Retarded
- Deaf and dumb
- Deaf mute
- Invalid
- Limited
- Defects

- Wheelchair bound
- Confined to a wheelchair
- Victim of
- Suffering from
- Deformed



eu-phe-mism: a mild or indirect word or expression substituted for one considered to be too harsh or blunt when referring to something unpleasant or embarrassing.



Euphemisms

- disABILITY
- Handicapable
- Differently abled
- Physically challenged
- Special needs



Why does this matter?

Disability: Excluded from the conversation

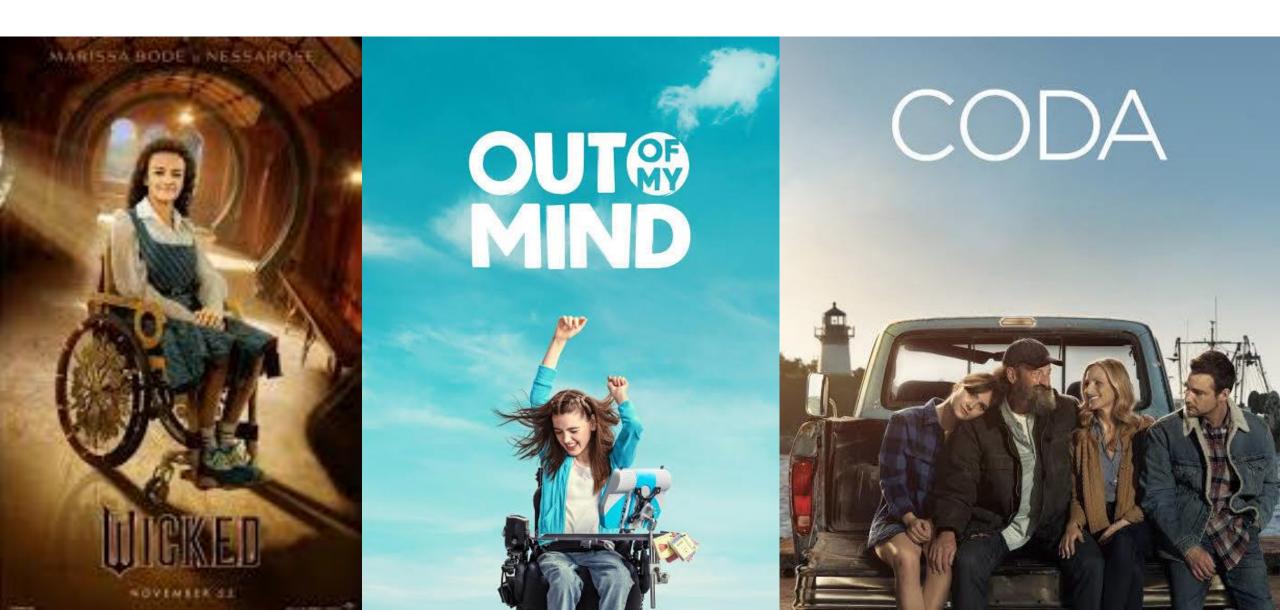




Nondisabled people in roles playing people with disabilities



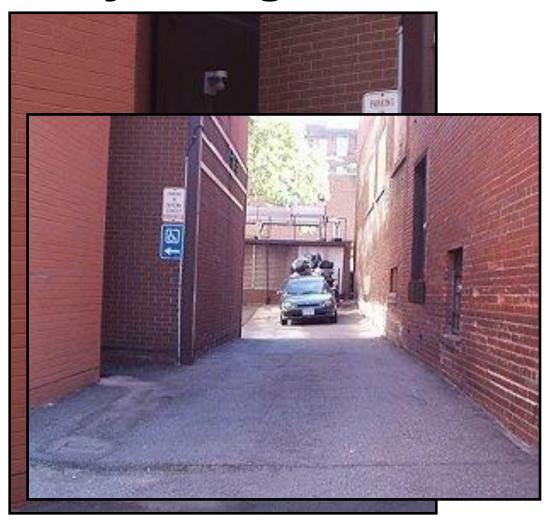
The tide is turning...



Disability: Excluded by design



Inaccessible entrance



"Accessible" entrance

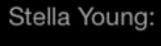
Seen as the problem and discriminated against



Changing the Way We Think about Disability

- From MEDICAL MODEL
- Disability is a deficiency or abnormality
- Having a disability is negative
- Disability resides in the individual

- To SOCIAL MODEL
- Disability is a difference
- Having a disability, in itself, is neutral
- Disability derives from interaction between individual and society



I'm not your inspiration, thank you very much

TEDxSydney · 9:16 · Filmed Apr 2014 Subtitles available in 32 languages

View interactive transcript





Disability doesn't make you exceptional, but questioning what you think you know about it does.

Stella Young



"Disability isn't the problem. What's the problem is convincing others that it's *not* a problem."

Lais Kari



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