

Disabling Dis-ability: Re-Building Inclusive Into Social Justice

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Disability too often has been defined as a problem, abnormality, slow, not functioning properly, and broken. This article critiques common misconceptions and social constructions of the framing and defining of disability. The author introduces in the article field disability studies and his concept of disability pedagogy, while stressing that social justice educators need to re-evaluate their concepts of intersectionality and begin to include it in their discourse and awareness disability. *[Article copies available for a fee from The Transformative Studies Institute. E-mail address: journal@transformativestudies.org Website: <http://www.transformativestudies.org> ©2009 by The Transformative Studies Institute. All rights reserved.]*

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MARGINALIZATION OF DISABILITY

What is “disability” and why does it have a negative connotation? Disability is a negative term because of the notion of being broken, not working properly, something wrong. Disabled like crippled, lame, and retarded all mean similar things and are all used commonly in U.S. society to conjure up negative images, most commonly used to insult

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