



For more information about the social model and ensuring accessibility for disabled people please see the *Rights Not Charity* manual on the KNPD website: www.knpd.org

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The Social Model of Disability

The social model of disability makes a clear distinction between impairment and disability.

What is the difference between impairment and disability?

Impairment is the medical condition or functional limitation that people are born with or acquire through accident or illness.

Disability is caused by the various barriers that are found in society because it gives little or no account of people's impairment-related needs.

Why is it important to make this distinction?

This distinction was first made by disabled people, particularly those involved in the **disability rights movement** in the UK in the 1970s and 1980s. The social model of disability was developed as a reaction against the individual model of disability which considers the impairment only. **The social model is today accepted internationally.**

What are the different types of impairment?

There are **different types of impairment**. These can be physical, sensory, psychological, intellectual or another type. Some people have more than one type of impairment. Impairments can be mild, moderate or severe.

What are the different types of disabling barriers?

There are **different types of disabling barriers**. These include:

- negative attitudes, prejudice and misconceptions;
- lack of physical accessibility;

- lack of access to printed and visual information;
- lack of access to spoken and audio information;
- lack of access to assistive technology.

What are the consequences of these disabling barriers?

As a consequence of these barriers, disabled people can experience **exclusion in all aspects of life**.

These include:

- exclusion from employment;
- exclusion from education and training;
- exclusion from entertainment and leisure activities;
- exclusion from community-based facilities;
- exclusion from shops and other amenities.

They also experience **lack of equal opportunities** in their lives, including:

- lack of choice and control in their lives;
- lack of acceptance as equal citizens to others;
- lack of opportunity to participate fully in their community;
- lack of opportunity to form friendships and long-term relationships.

What can be done to remove these disabling barriers?

The following actions can be taken to remove disabling barriers:

- becoming aware of disability issues;

- treating disabled people as equal citizens;
- getting to know disabled people as they really are;
- seeing the person and not the impairment;
- promoting choice, control and empowerment for disabled people.
- ensuring that information is accessible;
- ensuring that communication is accessible;
- creating equal opportunities in education and training;
- creating equal opportunities in employment;
- ensuring that buildings and facilities are accessible;
- ensuring that gardens, pavements and other open-air areas are accessible;
- ensuring that transport is accessible;
- adopting positive attitudes.

Therefore, the **solution to remove disabling barriers** is within society. Society, and each and every one of us, may be part of the problem. We are certainly all part of the solution.



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Il-Mudell Soċjali tad-Dizabilità

Il-mudell soċjali tad-dizabilità jiddistingwi bl-aktar mod ċar nuqqas minn dizabilità.

X'inhi d-differenza bejn nuqqas u dizabilità?

Nuqqas hija l-kundizzjoni medika jew il-limitazzjoni funzjonali li persuna titwieled biha jew tikseb minhabba mard jew aċċident.

Dizabilità hija x-xkiel li toħloq soċjetà meta tinjora l-bżonnijiet ta' nies li għandhom xi nuqqas.

Għaliex hu importanti li nagħmlu din id-differenza?

Kienu l-persuni b'dizabilità stess li għamlu din id-differenza, l-aktar dawk li kienu involuti fil-moviment tad-drittijiet tal-persuni b'dizabilità fis-snin sebgħin u tmenin fir-Renju Unit. Il-mudell soċjali tad-dizabilità żviluppa bħala reazzjoni għall-mudell individwali tad-dizabilità li jikkunsidra n-nuqqas biss. **Il-mudell soċjali llum huwa aċċettat madwar id-dinja kollha.**

X'tip ta' nuqqasijiet jeżistu?

Hemm **tipi differenti ta' nuqqasijiet**. Dawn jistgħu jkunu ta' natura fiżika, sensorjali, psikoloġika, intellettuali jew ta' tip ieħor. Hemm nies li għandhom aktar minn nuqqas wieħed u nuqqas jista' jkun ħafif, moderat jew qawwi.

X'inhuma l-ostakli differenti ta' dizabilità?

Hemm **tipi differenti ta' dizabilità**.

Dawn jinkludu:

- attitudni negattiva, preġudizzju u ideat żbaljati;
- nuqqas ta' aċċessibilità fiżika;

- nuqqas ta' aċċess għal informazzjoni stampata jew vizwali;
- nuqqas għal informazzjoni awdjo;
- nuqqas ta' teknoloġija assistiva.

X'inhuma l-konsegwenzi ta' dawn l-ostakli?

Bħala konsegwenza ta' dawn, persuni b'dizabilità jistgħu jisfaw **eskluzi minn kull qasam tal-ħajja**. Dawn jinkludu:

- esklużjoni mid-dinja tax-xogħol;
- esklużjoni mill-edukazzjoni u t-taħriġ;
- esklużjoni mid-divertiment u l-mistrieħ;
- esklużjoni mill-ħajja fil-komunità;
- esklużjoni minn ħwienet u postijiet oħra.

Huma jesperjenzaw ukoll **nuqqas ta' opportunitajiet** f'ħajjithom. Fosthom:

- ma jistgħux jieħdu deċiżjonijiet u jikkontrollaw ħajjithom stess;
- persuni oħra ma jaċċettawhomx bħala ċittadini ndaqs fis-soċjetà;
- esklużjoni mill-ħajja fil-komunità;
- nuqqas ta' opportunità li jiffurmaw ħbiberiji u relazzjonijiet dewwiema.

X'jista' jsir biex jitneħhew l-ostakli?

Biex inneħħu l-ostakli mis-soċjetà nistgħu:

- insiru aktar konxji tal-oqsma tad-dizabilità;
- inqisu persuni b'dizabilità bħala ċittadini daqsna;
- insiru nafu persuni b'dizabilità bħala l-persuni li huma tassew;

Għal aktar tgħarif dwar il-mudell soċjali tad-dizabilità u dwar kif tiżgura l-aċċessibilità għal persuni b'dizabilità, jekk jogħġbok ara l-manwal **Drittijiet Mhux Karità** minn fuq il-website tal-KNPD: www.knpd.org

Kummissjoni Nazzjonali Persuni b'Dizabilità

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- naraw il-persuna u mhux in-nuqqas;
- nagħtu aktar setgħa, għażla u kontroll lill-persuni b'dizabilità biex jiddeċiedu fuq ħajjithom;
- inkunu żguri li l-informazzjoni hija aċċessibbli;
- noħolqu opportunitajiet indaqs kemm fl-edukazzjoni kif ukoll fit-taħriġ;
- noħolqu opportunitajiet indaqs meta nimpjegaw;
- naraw li l-bini u l-facilitajiet ikunu aċċessibbli;
- naraw li għonna, bankini u spazji oħra miftuħa jkunu aċċessibbli;
- naraw li t-trasport ikun aċċessibbli;
- nieħdu attitudni pożittiva.

Għalhekk, **is-soluzzjoni li nneħħu kull xkiel li toħloq dizabilità** tinstab fis-soċjetà stess. Is-soċjetà, u kull wieħed u waħda minnha, aħna parti mill-problema. Izda lkoll kemm aħna żgur li aħna parti mis-soluzzjoni.



NGHOŻŻU D-DIVERSITÀ
DISKRIMINAZZJONI QATT



Din l-attività hi ffinanzjata parzjalment mill-Fondi tal-Programm Progress tal-Unjoni Ewropea. L-informazzjoni f'din il-pubblikazzjoni mhux neċessarjament tirrifletti l-opinjoni u l-pożizzjoni tal-Kummissjoni Ewropea.

