

# Section 11: Cultural representations (2): Undoing stigma

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# Section 11: Undoing stigma

Previous section: Role of cultural representations in the oppression of disabled people... and in the transformation of their social status

- Stigmatizing representations (previous section)
- Vs reappropriation of cultural representations by DP themselves as a leverage for social change (collective mobilization, disability arts and culture...)
- Importance of alternative « identity narratives » (Scully, 2008)
  - For disabled people themselves
  - To change common (nondisabled) representations of disability

# Section 11: Undoing stigma

How? Disabled people producing their own narratives

- Autobiographical memoirs (Scully, 2008)
- Collective mobilization
- Role of information and communication technologies: online communities via social networks, blogs, self-produced podcasts...
- Disability studies
- Disability arts and culture

# Collective mobilization: disability prides



Above and left: Images from the 2015 NYC disability pride. Source: New York Times, July, 12th, 2015

<http://www.timesfreepress.com/news/breakingnews/story/2015/jul/12/new-york-disability-pride-parade-draws-thousands-marking-milestone/314272/>



# Collective mobilization: disability prides



[www.disabilitypride.ca](http://www.disabilitypride.ca)



<https://www.brighton-pride.org>



[disability-pride.ch](http://disability-pride.ch)



[disabilityprideitalia.org](http://disabilityprideitalia.org)

# Taking alternative narratives to the public: the example of disability podcasts



**Ability Stories: Discussing th**  
<http://abilitystories.podbean.com/feed/>

**6,017** Downloads | **23** Episodes

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**Education**  
 The stories of people with disabilities—in their own words. Emphasis on the social model of disability and employment.



## Disability.TV

A podcast about depictions of disability on television.



**THE ACCESSIBLE STALL PODCAST**  
 WITH KYLE AND EMILY

▶ 15,8



## The Disability Reason's Podcast

★★★★★

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### About This Show:

The Disability Reason is a podcast that focuses on the lives of people with disabilities today, post Americans with Disabilities Act. We all have a story to tell. The Disability Reason is our voice.

## Ouch: Disability Talk



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### Podcast

Interviews and discussion with a personal and often humorous touch. With guest presenters plus Kate Monaghan and the Ouch blog team. Ouch is available exclusively online and goes out every week.

## The Accessible Stall

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### About This Show:

A disability podcast with Kyle and Emily.

# Disability arts

- DP's « access to the mainstream artistic consumption and production »
- Art « exploring the experience of living with impairment »
- « a critical response to the experience of social exclusion and marginalization »
- Development of « shared cultural meanings »
- Opposition to traditional, therapeutic uses of arts (arts as a means of therapy)

(Barnes & Mercer, 2001, p.529)

# Disability arts

→« Since its emergence, disability arts has made a distinctive contribution to the growing politicization of disabled people.[...] Far from being a sideshow to the « real » political action, disability arts and culture have an important role to play in advancing the interests of disabled people »

(Barnes & Mercer, 2001, p.529)



# Disability arts

- The example of disability dance

Video n°1: « Dance for people with disability »  
<https://youtu.be/b-YMklnX0mg>

How does Kitty Lunn (artistic director) conceive disability dance?

How does Jessica de la Rosa (the dancer being interviewed) comments on her dance practice?

To learn more about the Infinity dance theater:  
<https://www.arts.gov/NEARTS/2014v3-healing-properties-art-health/dancing-disability>

# Disability arts

- The example of disability dance

Video n°2: « Disabled leaders in dance” :

<https://youtu.be/2A7AjmfpNY4>

→ Input of disability dance for contemporary dance

# Disability arts: Presentation 11.1

- Hodges, Caroline E.M., Lee-Ann Fenge, and Wendy Cutts. 2014. "Challenging Perceptions of Disability through Performance Poetry Methods: The 'Seen but Seldom Heard' Project." *Disability & Society* 29(7): 1090–1103.
- Ineland, Jens. 2005. "Logics and Discourses in Disability Arts in Sweden: A Neo-institutional Perspective." *Disability & Society* 20(7): 749–62.

# Changing nondisabled representations of disability: how efficient are disability simulations? Presentation 11.2

Silverman, Arielle Michal. 2015. "[The Perils of Playing Blind: Problems with Blindness Simulation and a Better Way to Teach about Blindness.](#)" *Journal of Blindness Innovation and Research* 5(2)

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