




inclusion
multiculturalism diversity
acceptance
love

**YOUTH WORK FOR
INCLUSION OF YOUNG
PEOPLE WITH
DISABILITIES**



EMPOWERING FOR INCLUSION

- Our role as youth workers is to mainstream mixed youth work.
- Youth work with young people with disabilities seeks to empower them and include them so they can fully participate in social, economic life and decision-making.

Don't worry.
My disability
isn't contagious...



But my smile is!!

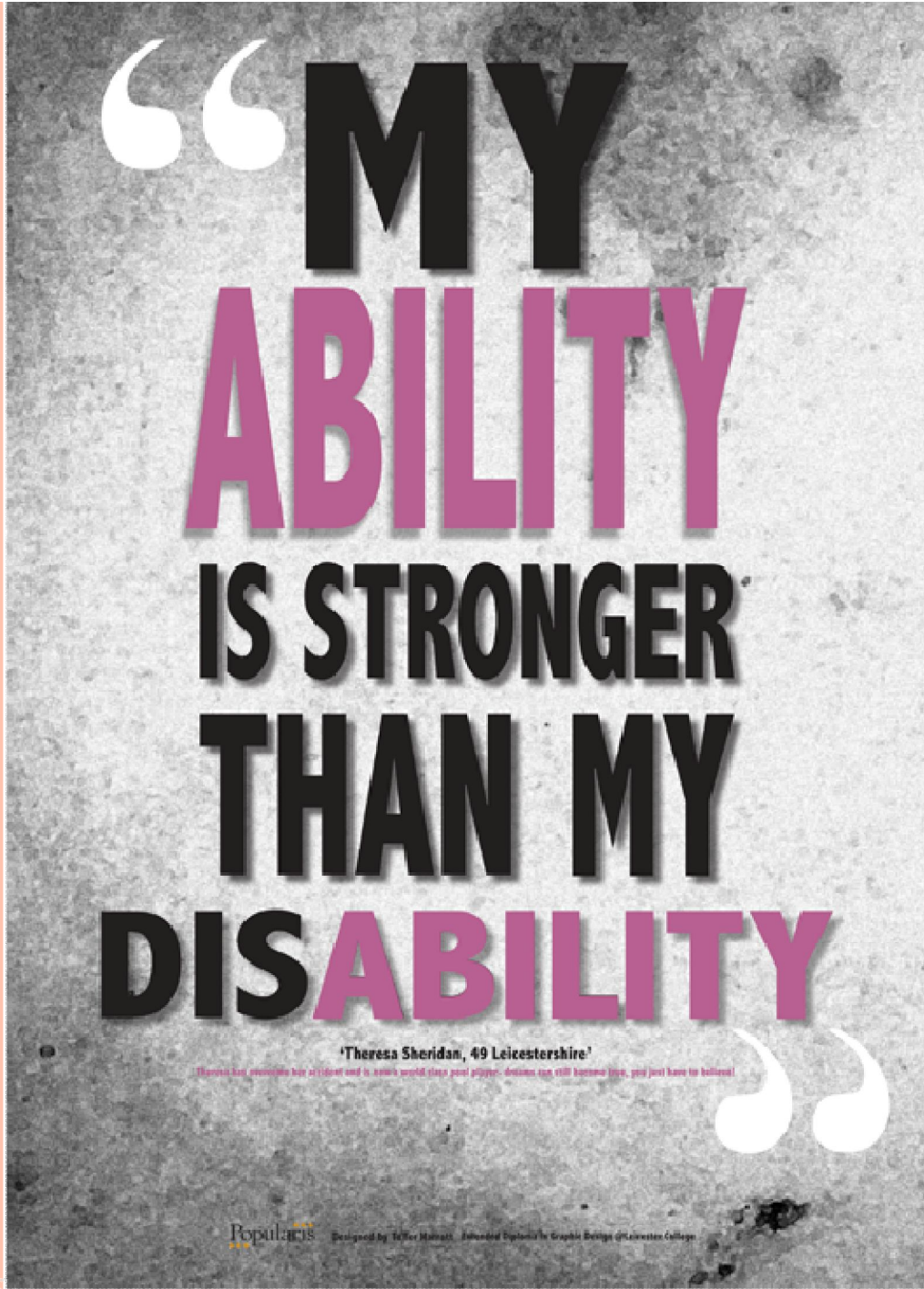
YOUTH WORK FOR INCLUSION OF YPD SEEKS TO DEVELOP:

- Self-determination
- Independence
- Strengths
- Competencies
- Feelings of being valued
- Knowledge
- Networking



ADDRESSING THE ISSUES OF SELF DETERMINATION IN YOUTH WORK

- Viewing the person with a disability as a person.
- Raising awareness among young people that the disability is one component of the life of YPD, not the only component.
- Addressing discrimination and stereotypes from society, which places emphasis on looks, speed, and being the same as everyone else.
- Addressing the self-esteem problems that YPD face: often placing additional pressure on themselves to try to meet society's impossible standards: either to look/ behave as non-disabled or to be “super-cripples”.
- Empowering YPD to see themselves as capable to make decisions and lead independent lives.



“**MY**
ABILITY
IS STRONGER
THAN MY
DISABILITY”

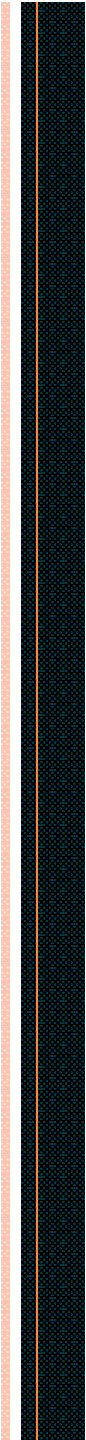
‘Theresa Sheridan, 49 Leicestershire’

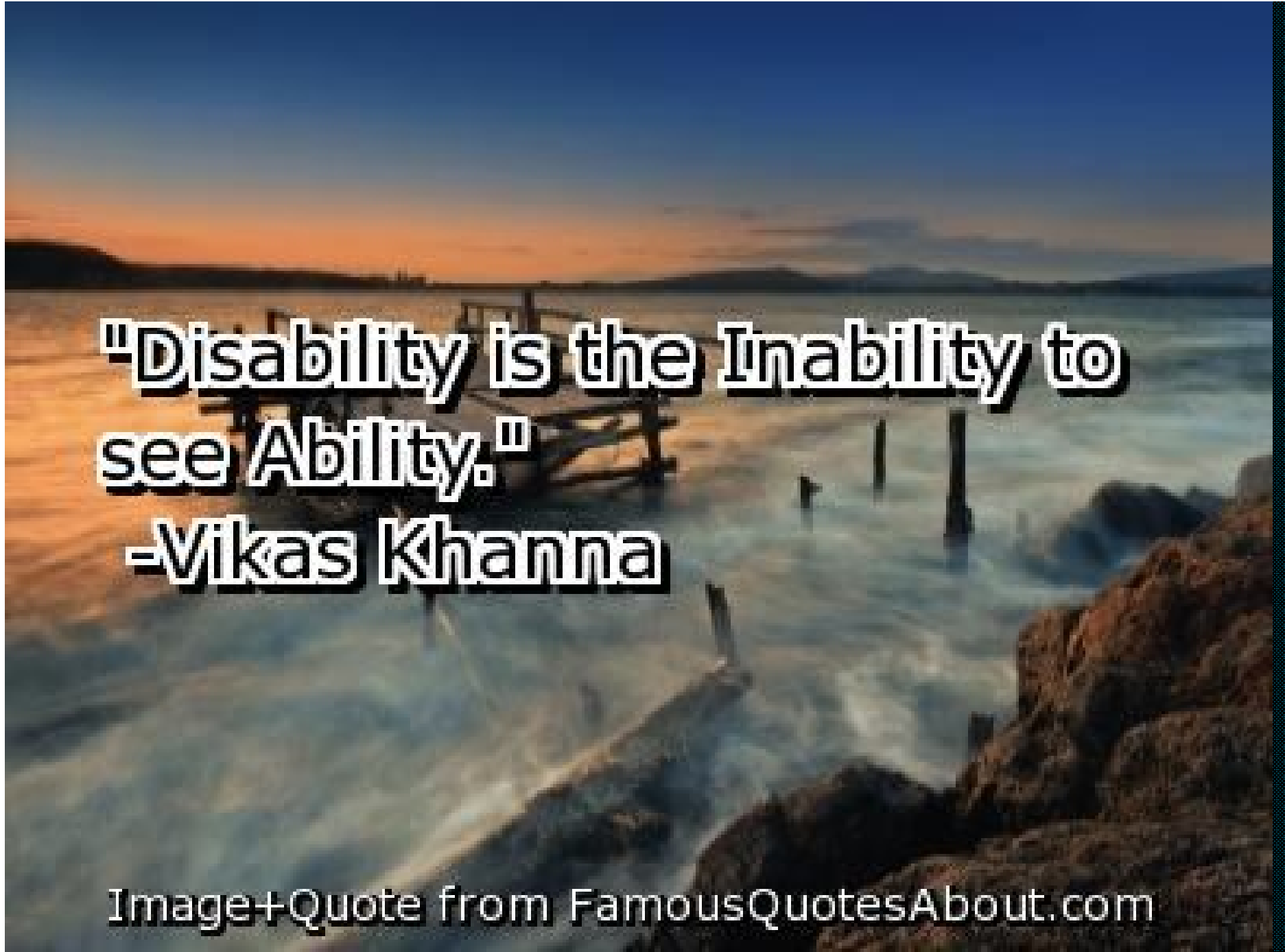
Theresa has prosthetic legs at 16 and is now a world class para player - doctors say still better than you just have to believe!

Populacis

Designed by Tyler Minniti. Awarded Diploma in Graphic Design at Leicester College.

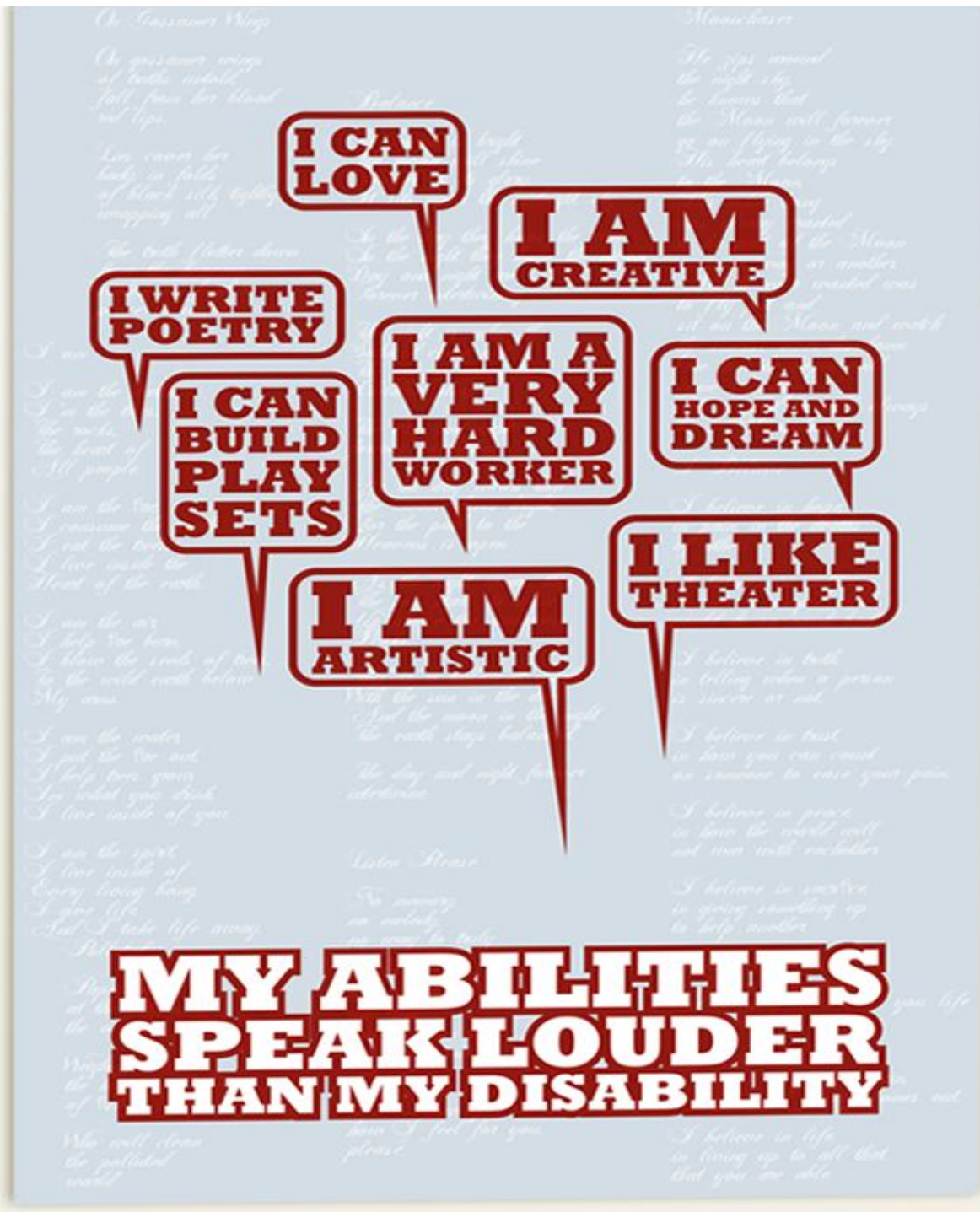
**MAIN-
STREAMING
A
PRO-ABILITY
APPROACH
IN
YOUTH
WORK**





**"Disability is the Inability to
see Ability."
-Vikas Khanna**

Image+Quote from FamousQuotesAbout.com



I CAN LOVE

I AM CREATIVE

I WRITE POETRY

I AM A VERY HARD WORKER

I CAN HOPE AND DREAM

I CAN BUILD PLAY SETS

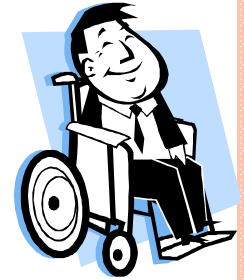
I AM ARTISTIC

I LIKE THEATER

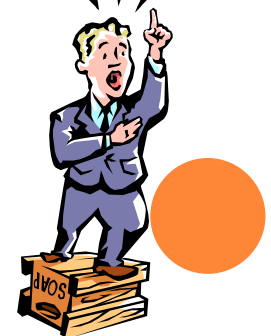
MY ABILITIES SPEAK LOUDER THAN MY DISABILITY



ENCOURAGING YOUNG PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES TO EXPRESS THEIR VIEWS



- The social model of disability supports action, and for people with a disability to express their views in order to overcome barriers to their involvement in society
- Recalling the principles of the Social Model of Disability...



SOCIAL MODEL 1980s



Those with impairments disabled by society's attitudes and barriers

Roots: disabled activists and academics

Problem: social and attitudinal barriers, capitalism/corporatism

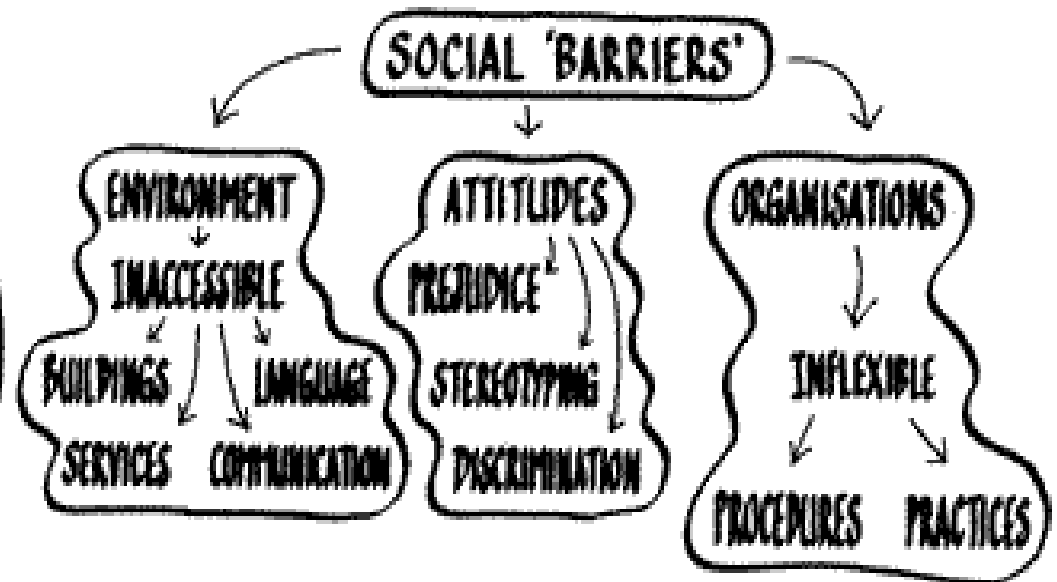
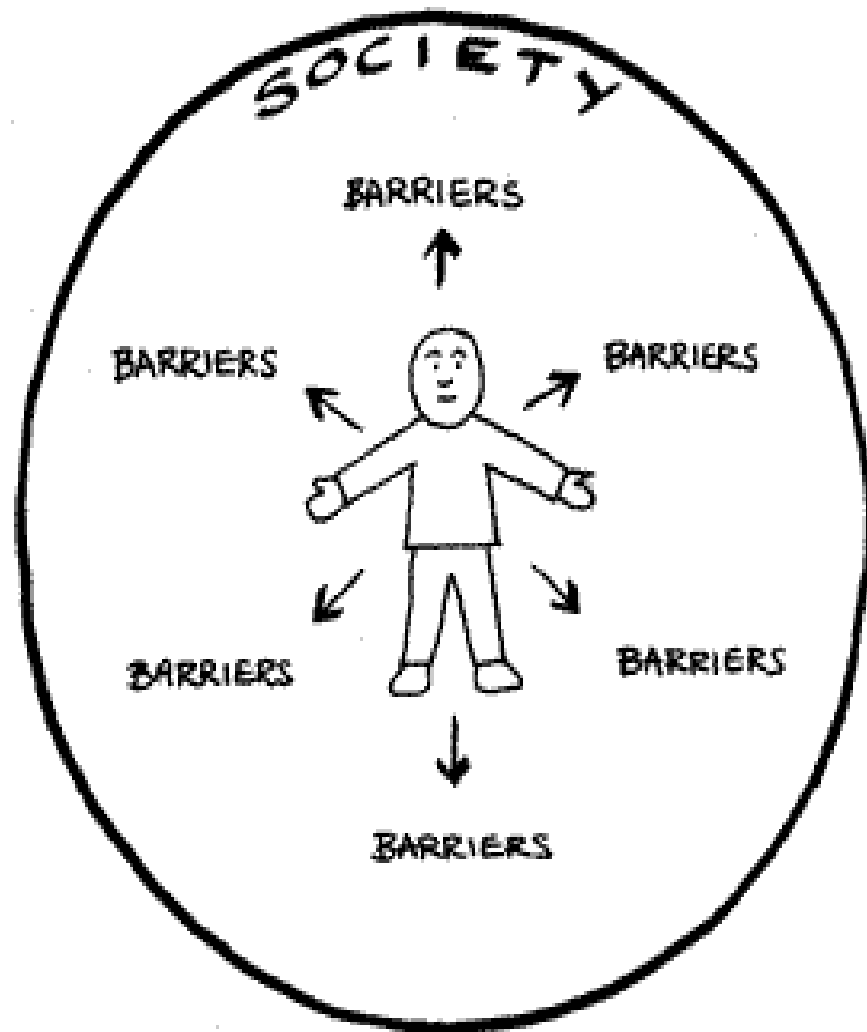
Solution: activism, policy change, independent user-led organisations active in leading challenges



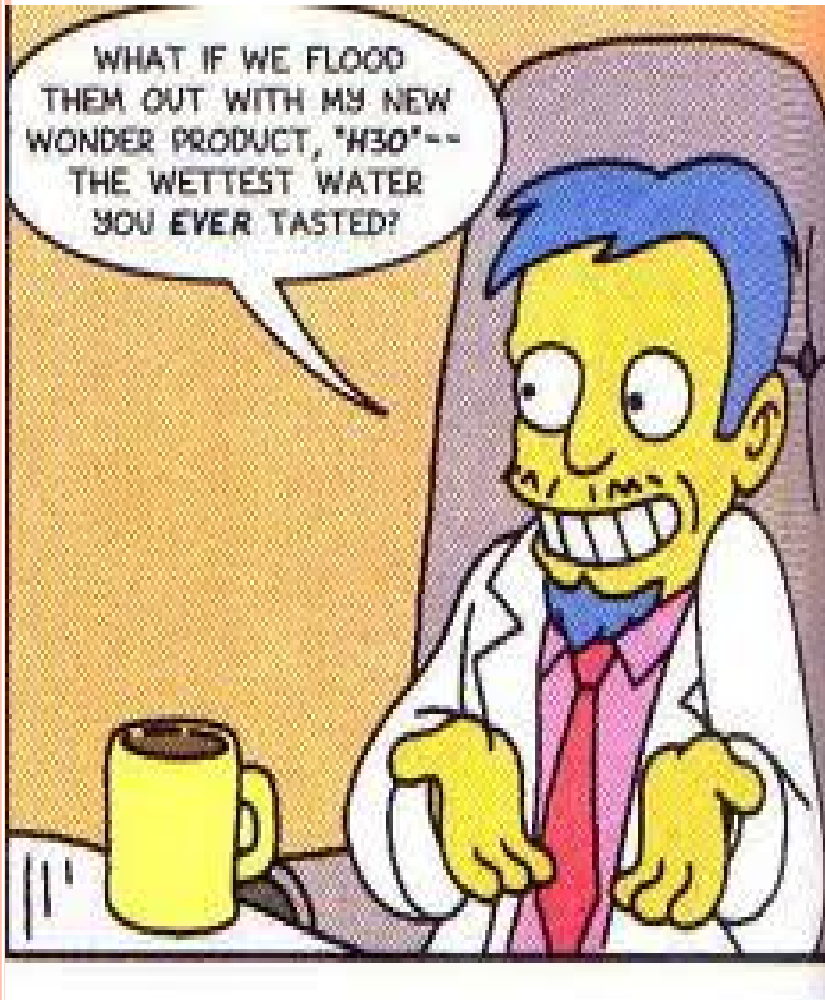
**Attitudes
are the Real
Disability**



THE SOCIAL MODEL OF DISABILITY



MEDICAL MODEL 1900s



Bodies and minds to be fixed/cured

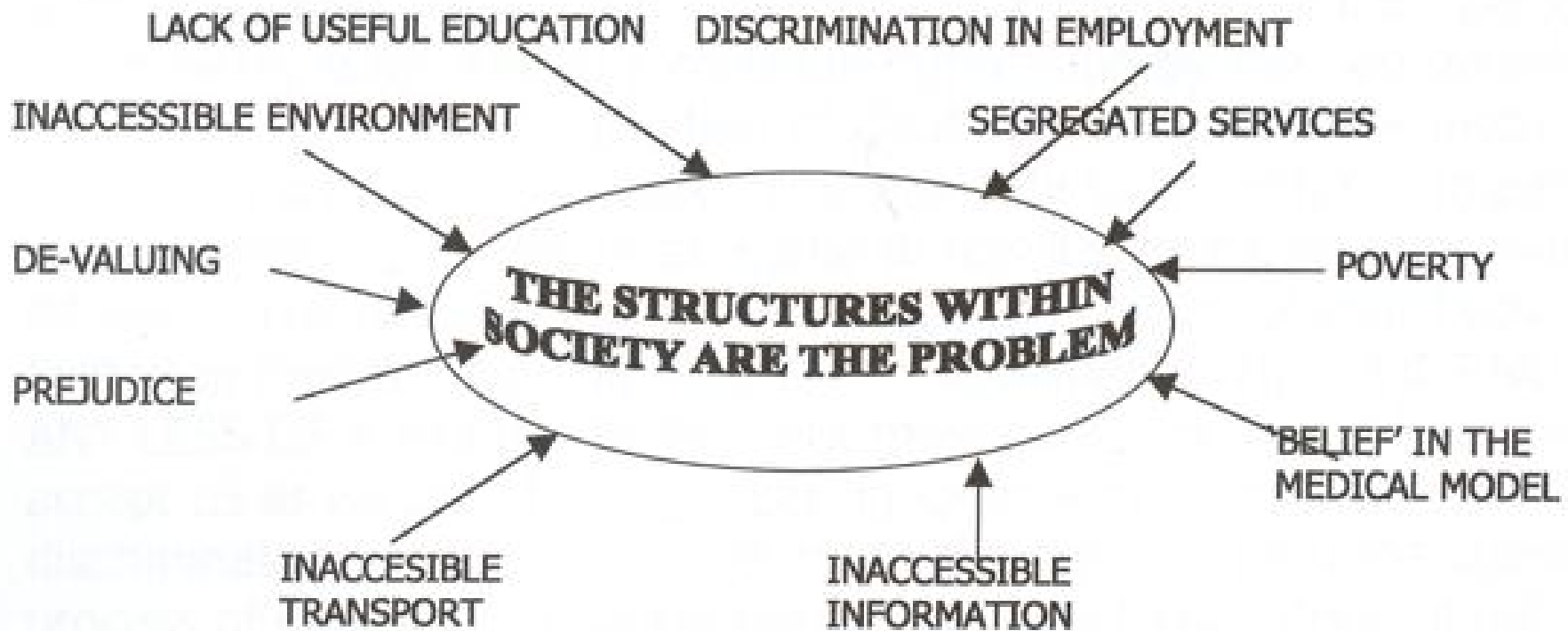
Roots: professionalism

Problem: individual and lack of function/ways we are not viewed as 'normal'

Solution: rehabilitation, drugs, therapy by professionals who 'know what's best'



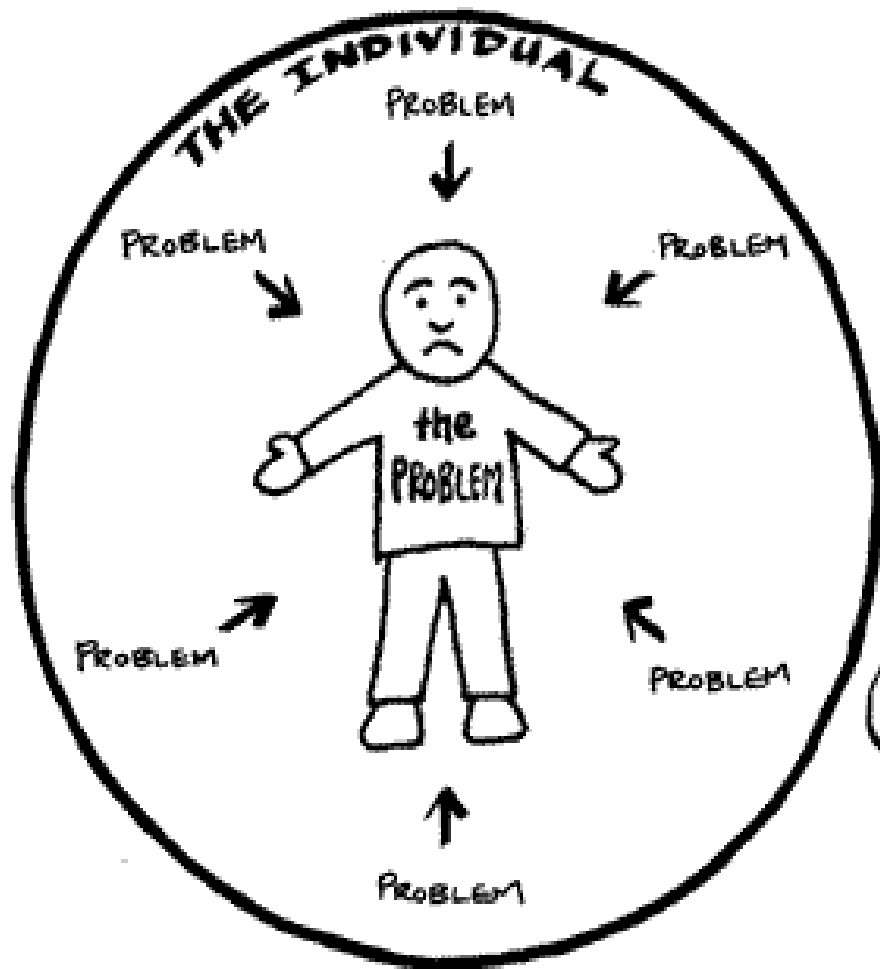
The Social Model



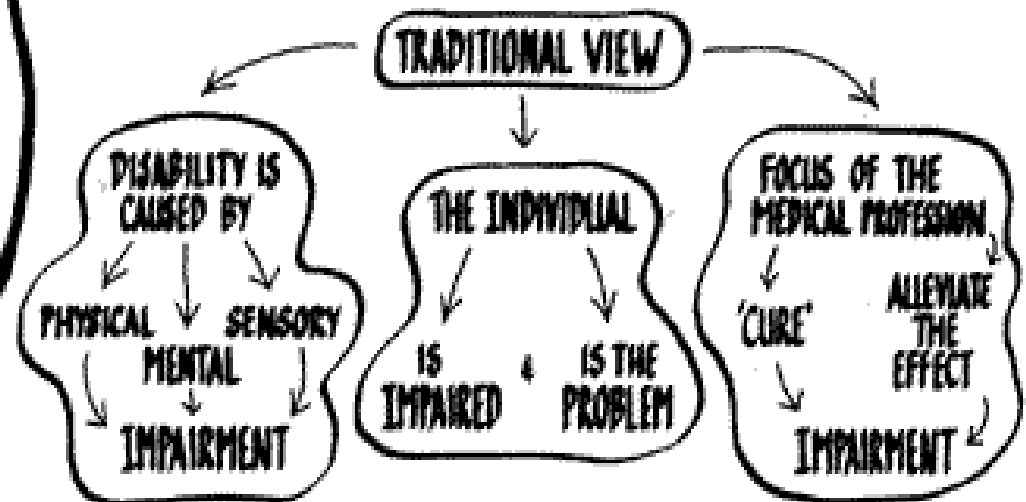
**DISABLED PEOPLE AS ACTIVE FIGHTERS FOR EQUALITY
WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP WITH ALLIES.**



THE MEDICAL MODEL OF DISABILITY

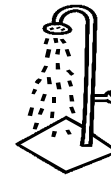


IMPAIRMENTS AND CHRONIC ILLNESS
OFTEN POSE REAL DIFFICULTIES BUT
- THEY ARE NOT THE MAIN PROBLEMS



Youth work for inclusion of YPD addressing skills development

- Life skills and social skills of YPD



- Communication skills of both YPD and their peers without disabilities: tips on mixing up and living together



- Vocational skills and professional training for better inclusion in the labour market

- Personal support skills



EMPOWERING YOUNG PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES...

- Using **person-centred** need assessment and planning
- Using a **strengths-based** approach
- Responding to the young people's lifestyle **choices, aspirations and goals**
- Understanding the young people's **skills and capabilities**
- Providing **choice, independence and inclusion**



EMPOWERMENT AND ADVOCACY

- Universal access to public places and buildings
- Maximum mobility
- Options
- Self reliance
- Inclusivity
- Opportunities
- Being valued




STRATEGIES TO SUPPORT AND FOSTER YPD`S INDEPENDENCE

- Variety of approaches that take individual differences into account.
- Find indicators of success, based on strategies that enable YPD to lead better and more inclusive and valued lives
- Build on existing capacities and those of family, friends and networks in the community

YOUTH WORK STRATEGIES

COULD INCLUDE:

- Role modelling
 - Education and training
 - Development of self advocacy skills
 - Provision of information to support views
 - Linking with lobbyists
 - Encouraging other youth workers and social support staff to promote independence of YPD
 - Participating in youth events
 - Identifying and utilising compensatory aids
- 

POINTS FOR DISCUSSION AND FURTHER REFLECTION

- Identify examples of empowerment
- Describe strategies that can be used to promote a client's independence.
- Identify appropriate forums/groups that represent the interests of people with a disability
- Can you identify examples of people with a disability contributing to disability based legislation and policy
- Does your organisation have mechanisms in place for YPD to feedback to you their thoughts, concerns as consumers of disability services

