

INSTITUTIONAL ABLEISM EXAMPLES FROM TDSJ2E

Institutional Ableism Examples

Institution	Intentional	Unintentional
Education	<p>Children with disabilities segregated from students in other classes</p> <p>Classrooms do not have assistive technology for learning</p> <p>A town votes down a proposal to fund additional classroom aides or tutors for students with disabilities</p>	<p>Class trips are planned without checking to see if places to visit are accessible for students with disabilities</p> <p>Staff development programs do not include information about universal instructional design</p> <p>Students with disabilities are not part of curriculum materials – books, videos</p>
Health Care	<p>Funding for Medicare resources for people with disabilities is cut</p> <p>Managed care decisions made by insurance companies limit resources for people with disabilities to cut costs</p> <p>Decisions about right to die based on belief that living with a disability is “fate worse than death.”</p> <p>A medicalized view of people with disabilities invalidates their ability to control their lives</p>	<p>Opposition to universal health care places people with disabilities at risk of losing health care benefits</p> <p>Lack of health care insurance places people with disabilities at increased risk of death and poor health</p>

Institution	Intentional	Unintentional
Government	<p>Lack of accessibility or assistive technology enabling people with disabilities to participate in local government meetings, committees</p> <p>Cutting funds for programs that benefit people with disabilities</p> <p>Sponsoring charity events, but not supporting independent living programs</p>	<p>Focus on privatizing services based on for-profit jeopardizes support for programs for people with disabilities</p>
Media	<p>Use of “normal,” “beautiful” people in advertising</p> <p>Lack of books on tape or in Braille, use of subtitles on videos</p>	<p>Focus on disability as tragedy to be overcome</p> <p>Focus on people with psychiatric disabilities as killers, murderers</p>
Sports	<p>Assumption that person with a physical disability should not compete with “normal” athletes—unfair competition (PGA disallowing golfer who needs to use a golf cart)</p> <p>Sport drug rules that exclude people with disabilities (asthma medication)</p>	<p>Assumptions that able-bodied athletes are superior to disabled athletes (Olympics and Paralympics)</p>