“Persons with Disabilities: Cure or Accommodate?”
Join as we highlight the 'social' and 'medical' models of disability and stimulate discussion about rights and research

From a medical perspective, disability may be viewed as the result of a physical condition intrinsic to the individual which may reduce that person’s quality of life and cause disadvantages. A major purpose of medical research can thus be viewed as aiming to discover ways of limiting and, if possible, ‘curing’ disabilities to alleviate disadvantage.

On the other hand, the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities includes within its definition of persons with disabilities those with impairments ‘which in interaction with various barriers may hinder their full and effective participation in society on an equal basis with others’.

The Convention requires governments to make ‘reasonable accommodation’ for persons with disabilities. This means making ‘necessary and appropriate modification and adjustments’ to ensure those with disabilities can enjoy their rights on an equal basis with others.

Where should scarce governmental resources be channelled: to improving function and finding cures or making reasonable accommodations to ensure persons with disabilities can effectively and fully participate in society?

It is the voices of people with disabilities themselves that must guide this debate.

SPEAKERS
Dr Dianne Ashworth - First recipient of bionic eye transplant and Lecturer In Social Work, Deakin University
Professor Richard Dowell - Graeme Clark Chair in Audiology and Speech Science at The University of Melbourne
Professor Helen Herrman - Director at Orygen, The National Centre of Excellence in Youth Mental Health
Mr Graeme Innes AM - Previous Disability Discrimination Commissioner
Ms Rosemary Kayess - Human Rights Lawyer and Director, Human Rights and Disability Project, of the Australian Human Rights Centre at the Faculty of Law, University of New South Wales
Ms Jody Saxton-Barney – Deaf Indigenous Community Consultant and Advocate

Moderated by Jon Faine, host of the morning show on 774 ABC Melbourne.

Please use the hashtag #disabilitytalks

EVENT CONTACT DETAILS
Date: Tuesday 8 November 2016
Time: 6:00pm - 7:30pm
Venue: The Courtyard, State Library of Victoria
Bookings are essential for this free public lecture.
Enquiries: info-mni@unimelb.edu.au
Register online at: https://disabilitytalks.eventbrite.com.au

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