

From normalization to inclusion: Approaches towards people with disabilities

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Abstract

People are different from each other. Some people are different from others because they have disabilities. How does society refer to people with disabilities? In the past, a person with an abnormal behavior was expelled from society. The principle of normalization has introduced the policy of integrating. Although the normalization principle has led to extensive legislation aimed at obtaining equal rights for people with disabilities, contrary to its initiators' aspirations, no social change has followed the legislation. People with disabilities are still not accepted by others, nor do they have equal opportunities like everyone else. The inclusion principle has grown following the adoption of the social model of explaining disability in the 1990s. The social model refers to society's role in creating the individual's disability. In other words, the way society responds to individuals with disabilities will allow them to be either included or discriminated against. The goal of including these people should be to consider them as part of the society texture, recognizing that they have unique needs, as do all the others.

In the current talk, I will review the various approaches over the years till the contemporary approach. We will talk about the desired reality for people with disabilities and we'll name the difficulties in implementing it. We will address the factors that hinder social changes regarding inclusion and the factors that enable these changes.