

# Disabled Peoples Equality

Some history & Politics

Our history is characterised by discrimination

Prehistoric evidence shows that Disabled Primates survived and thrived in prehistoric times.

action on disability

Life beyond barriers

1489 During the witch-craze of the Middle Ages, the witchfinder's manual, the "Malleus Maleficarum", ascribes various symptoms of mental illness to witchcraft.

1388 The Poor Law distinguishes between the 'deserving' and 'undeserving' poor claiming alms. Disabled people are considered to the 'deserving' for charity.

1375 The religious priory of St Mary of Bethlehem in London, was confiscated by King Edward 3rd and used for 'lunatics'.

865 Legend says that the Disabled Viking prince, Ivarr the Boneless, led the invasion of England and was carried into battle on a shield.

1742 Bath opens General Infirmary giving 'cripples' access to spa waters.

1764 Thomas Braidwood opens first 'special school' for deaf children in Edinburgh.

but we have developed a unique culture of pride

1845 The Lunacy Act distinguishes between 'idiots' and 'lunatics'.

1774 The Madhouse Act set up to allow licensing and inspections of private asylums.

with a diverse Voice we speak out

1849 National League of the Blind formed as a trade union.

1890 The British Deaf Association is founded, first ever Disabled Peoples Organisation (DPO) in UK.

1919 The Central Council for the 'Care of Cripples' is established, later becoming RADAR.

1940 The extermination of disabled children and adults in Nazi Germany became known as the T4 project.

1944 The Disabled Persons (Employment) Act was introduced largely in response to the return of increasing numbers of war veterans.

1965 The Disablement Income Group, run by disabled people lobbies for changes in disability policy.

1966 Paul Hunt's book 'Stigma; The Experience of Disability' is published.

1948 The National Health Service Act is passed, and the first national Stoke Mandeville Games is held, later becoming the Paralympic games.

1976 The Social Model of Disability is developed by the Union of Physically Impaired Against Segregation (UPIAS) AND Sisters Against Disablement is founded by disabled feminists.

1970 The Chronically Sick and Disabled Person's Act provides support to disabled people living independently.

1980s The first UK Centres for Independent Living (CILs) are established in Hampshire, Derbyshire and Greenwich.

1983 HAFAD employs Disablement Resettlement Officer.

1988 'Rights Not Charity' march in London.

1991 Regard is founded to challenge homophobia in the disabled people's movement and the exclusion of disabled people from the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender (LGBT) community.

1986 HAFAD employs first Disabled Person as Chair of Trustees and gets involved in lobbying and campaigning for disability rights.

1990 The first Black Disabled People's Network and several black mental health user groups are founded.

1984 Winvisible is formed and brings together asylum-seeking, refugee and UK-born women, with visible as well as invisible disabilities.

1990 Alliance for Inclusive Education is formed. HAFAD's Youth Service is set up.

1981 International Year of Disabled People.

1982 The Commission on Restrictions Against Disabled People (CORAD) report advised that there should be legislation to implement it AND the British Council of Organisations of Disabled People (BCODP) formed.

1991 BODP publishes the case for fully comprehensive Anti Discrimination Legislation. Colin Barnes publishes 'Disabled People in Britain and Discrimination'.

1992 The welfare benefit 'Disability Living Allowance' introduced.

1993 Disabled Persons Direct Action Network (DAN) forms following their first action in Christchurch, Dorset.

1995 The Disability Discrimination Act AND HAFAD's job club starts.

2009 The UK government ratified the UN Convention.

2010 The Equality Act is passed, and Austerity hits and Disabled People Against Cuts are formed.

2012 Welfare Reform Act AND HAFAD sets up supported internship partnership with GlaxoSmithKline.

2013 Jake gets a job at Homebase, HAFAD renamed Action on Disability (AoD).

2015 AoD supports internships with L'Oreal, Hammersmith & Fulham Council and Charing Cross Hospital.

2000 Disability Rights Commission (DRC) established. HAFAD produces disability guidelines for social landlords as a legacy of the Housing Advice Project.

2017 UN Disability Committee find UK Government to have carried out grave and systematic violations of Disabled Peoples Rights.

2019 AoD Employment Service achieved an average 75% job outcomes across 7 supported employment sites.

2020 Black Disabled Lives Matter Network set up in response to the murder of George Floyd.

2022 The British Sign Language Act is passed, and recognises BSL as a language of England, Wales and Scotland in its own right. First Deaf BSL users serve as jurors, following two decades of campaigning.

2023 New Action on Disability (AoD) Centre for Independent Living opens.

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Our goal is to achieve Independent living

Access together we Protest

yet we don't enjoy full human Rights

Inclusion benefits everyone

because