Introduction to adaptive physical exercise and sport

Chapter two

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Psychosocial Aspects of Disability

simply means that everyone concerned about the human rights of persons with disabilities must continue to demand equal rights for persons with all types of disabilities.

some of the beliefs about persons who have disabilities and their perceived worth to society. These beliefs, attitudes, and perceptions have an impact on how persons with disabilities are treated within a society.

In this sub topic present several models that have influenced perceptions of persons with disabilities and have influenced our reactions to them for generations. The aggregate of these perceptions and treatments has, to a large degree, defined the ways persons who have disabilities are incorporated in our society. Attitudes, perceptions, and beliefs play major roles *in defining the status* and *positions persons* who have disabilities occupy in our nation.

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For example, beliefs determine

(1)how persons with disabilities are educated,

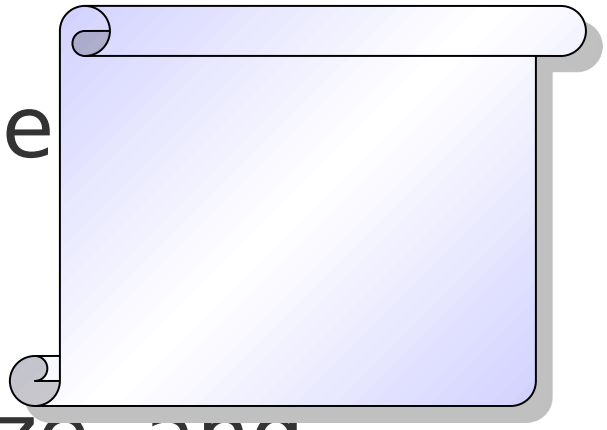
(2) where they are employe

(3) where they live,

(4) how they live,

(5) with whom they socialize, and

(6) types of leisure and recreational activities in which they participate.



Disability Models

- Moral/Religion Model
- Charity Model
- Social Paternalistic Model
- Medical/Functional Limitation/ Rehabilitation Model
- Minority/Cultural Group Model
- Empowerment Model
- Sociopolitical Model
- Summary
- Points for Discussion and Suggested Activities

The purpose, the advantages and disadvantages of the models.

- ✓ How to treat and react to persons with disabilities as well as
- ✓ how persons with disabilities fit within a given society have been issues that have never been completely or accurately answered. Throughout human history we have struggled with these issues; consequently, a variety of methods of dealing with persons with disabilities with regard to some of the issues they face have been tried.

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1. MORAL/RELIGION MODEL

Moral and religious beliefs are the *bedrock* foundation of this model. To be more specific, some people, if not many, believe that some disabilities are the result of lack of adherence to social morality and religious proclamations that warn against engaging in certain behavior. To further explain this model, some beliefs are based upon the assumption that some disabilities are the result of punishment from an all-powerful entity. Furthermore, the belief is that the punishment

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The moral/religion model was a much more common belief in less-enlightened times; however, the philosophy behind this belief rests just below the surface of human emotional reactions and, depending on the circumstances, the belief is subject to reappearance and to the surprise of some becomes a powerful and influential belief for a period of time

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2. CHARITY MODEL

The charity disability model is based upon persons providing what they consider benevolent help to persons with disabilities. The charity model appears to be on the opposite end of the helping spectrum in comparison to the moral/religion model. Whereas the moral/religion model has a decisive negative view of some disabilities, the charity model takes an approach that is intended to benefit persons with disabilities. The charity model in further comparison with the moral/religion model is a good reflection of society as we discuss the reaction to disabilities and those who have a disability.

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3. SOCIAL PATERNALISTIC MODEL

The social model is based primarily on a paternalistic approach to dealing with persons with disabilities. Similar to the charity model, persons with disabilities are viewed as persons who are in need of protecting. The underpinning of the concept is that persons with disabilities are weak, unable to withstand the various challenges with which they will be confronted on a daily basis. Because of this perceived weakness, persons with disabilities must be protected by the stronger member of society: nondisabled persons.

4. MEDICAL/FUNCTIONAL LIMITATION/ REHABILITATION MODEL

The medical/rehabilitation model is one of the older models, and it is based on the basic foundation of rehabilitation. The foundational concept of this model is that persons with disabilities are broken persons and in need of being fixed. The standard by which most persons with disabilities are compared is the so-called nondisabled person. Stated in other terms, persons with out disabilities are viewed as normal persons and are the yardstick by which the less-than normal person with a disability is to be judged. The obvious problem

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Therefore, it is reasonable to assess the limitation(s) and devise rehabilitation plans that include, if not center around,

(1) restoring the person to as much of that person's previous functioning level as possible and

(2) assisting the person to adapt to his or her environment. The proponents of this concept can continue their defense by pointing out that, to a large degree, the extent to which the person becomes rehabilitated is predicated on how well these two points are completed.

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5. MINORITY/CULTURAL GROUP MODEL

The minority/cultural group model is a relative new emerging concept that promotes the idea of recognizing persons with disabilities as a minority group with unique cultural issues. The Americans With Disabilities Act (ADA) recognizes persons with disabilities as a minority group, and with the population estimated at one fifth of the U. S. population,

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6. EMPOWERMENT MODEL

The empowerment model emphasizes the importance of persons with disabilities taking charge of their lives rather than having or allowing nondisabled persons advocate for them. This model points out that one of the major problems persons with disabilities face is not their disability but the attitudes of the nondisabled with regard to what they as

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This model further emphasizes that it is the responsibility of persons with disabilities to correct the misperceptions that nondisabled persons have concerning the worth of persons with disabilities to society. It is not enough for persons with disabilities to say that society must change and recognize their potential. Persons with disabilities must aggressively advocate for themselves. Persons with disabilities cannot expect society to change its paternalistic approach to dealing with them until they prove that they are not helpless people..

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7. SOCIOPOLITICAL CONCEPT MODEL

The sociopolitical concept views interaction between a person with a disability and the environment, whereas previous approaches have expected the person with a disability to adapt or be adapted to the environment. Until the 1970s, the primary goal of most rehabilitation programs was to prepare the person with a disability for a job. Most

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2.1. Self-image and people with learning disabilities.

Self-image arises from a complex interaction of intrinsic and extrinsic factors. This article explores the importance of people with a learning disability attaining a positive self-image. It discusses the effect of society's perception of people with learning disabilities, and questions the willingness of the community to accept such people in a non-

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group have a vital role to play in how people with learning disabilities are perceived by others and discusses the effects that a market philosophy (Fromm, 1978) and the popular media have on society regarding people with learning disabilities. Self-worth is important to everyone; however, the article concludes that a person with a learning disability is seriously disadvantaged in this respect. This aspect of care therefore requires insight, support and skills on the

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Thanks for your participation!

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