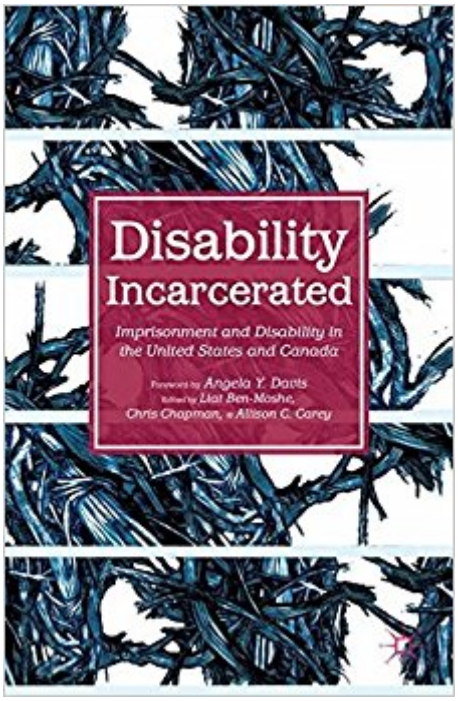
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Disability Incarcerated: Imprisonment And Disability In The United States And Canada



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Synopsis

Disability Incarcerated gathers thirteen contributions from an impressive array of fields. Taken together, these essays assert that a complex understanding of disability is crucial to an understanding of incarceration, and that we must expand what has come to be called 'incarceration.' The chapters in this book examine a host of sites, such as prisons, institutions for people with developmental disabilities, psychiatric hospitals, treatment centers, special education, detention centers, and group homes; explore why various sites should be understood as incarceration; and discuss the causes and effects of these sites historically and currently. This volume includes a preface by Professor Angela Y. Davis and an afterword by Professor Robert McRuer.

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Customer Reviews

"The essays in Disability Incarcerated demonstrate that racialized and disabled bodies are now, and historically have been, policed in various and complex ways, causing a disproportionate number of people with disabilities to be confined in carceral spaces, whether in institutions or in prisons. The collection compellingly argues for a deeper examination of the interlocking oppressions that have caused othered bodies specifically, disabled, working-class, minority, immigrant, terrorist, and displaced bodies to be watched, controlled, and contained by the prison-industrial complex. . . Disability Incarcerated offers readers a powerful critique of neoliberalism and its exploitation of non-normative bodies, and it certainly has primed the path for future work that bridges critical prison studies and critical disability studies." - Disability Studies Quarterly "Disability Incarcerated

constitutes a major contribution to critical disability and penal studies, joining the two as no other book does . . . Only now and then does a work of scholarship so ground-breaking, so well theorized, and so daring appear on the scene. And seldom do we come across an anthology destined to become a classic." - Canadian Journal of Disability Studies "Provocative, original, and timely, this collection reveals inextricable links between disability and incarceration. Each study of confinement places disability in sustained dialogue with broader forces and identities, including race, gender, sexuality and class. Accessible prose and collaborative projects attest to the transformative power of activist scholarship." - Susan Burch, Associate Professor of American Studies and former director of the Center for the Comparative Study of Race and Ethnicity, Middlebury College, USA "Disability Incarcerated challenges both scholarship and activism around the prison industrial complex by demonstrating how disability is central to systems of incarceration. It further shows how the build-up of the prison nation is not just around policing race and gender, but simultaneously policing disability. This book thus highlights how race, colonialism, and gender operate through disability. An amazing collection.' - Andrea Smith, Associate Professor of Media and Cultural Studies, University of California, Riverside, USA "There is admirable depth to each chapter While the interconnection between incarceration and disability overall is called into question, readers are forced to pause for thought and reconsider their understanding of how social constructs and perceptions can influence persons in prison and persons with disability" Rose Ricciardelli, British Journal of Criminology 55(3)

Jihan Abbas, Carleton University, USA Katie Aubrecht, Saint Mary's University and St. Francis Xavier University, Canada Ruthie-Marie Beckwith, USA Angela Y. Davis, USA Giselle Dias, Canada Nirmala Erevelles, University of Alabama, USA Erick Fabris, Ryerson University, Canada Philip M. Ferguson, Chapman University, USA Mark Friedman, USA Lucy Ling Gu, Shippensburg University, USA Robert McRuer, George Washington University, USA Mansha Mirza, University of Illinois at Chicago, USA Shaista Patel, University of Toronto, Canada Geoffrey Reaume, York University, Canada Michael Rembis, University at Buffalo, USA Joan Ruzsa, Canada Jijian Voronka, University of Toronto, Canada Syrus Marcus Ware, University of Toronto, Canada

I sometimes teach or lecture on Disability Studies. If I mention some of the history of incarceration, institutionalization, forced special education placement below potential (teaching on how to qualify for Disability Benefits), there's a bit of "oh that happened so long ago" Books like Disability Incarcerated Imprisonment and Disability in the United States may expand the readers focus.

In the post-911 era, this new "criminal justice" book (our two authors from the special education field), marks the new Zero Tolerance period in the US resulting in the highest incarceration rates in the world. The exposes of 2015 criminal justice systems can begin to rival those of the Burton Blatt and Kaplan Christmas in Purgatory.US Incarceration of Women Reported in Disability FieldsExceptionally written and researched, the authors share new startling incarceration figures including a 800% incarceration rate of black women and 400% of white women in the US. By 1999, 72% of the women imprisoned were for drug offenses, and the US women prison population reportedly grew from 12,300 in 1980 to 182,271 in 2002 (Ware, Ruzza, & Dias, 2014). Syrus Ware leads the "attack" ("It can't be fixed because it is not broken"), on the Prison, Industrial Complex (already the PIC) which benefits, among others, the "nonprofit industrial complex".Intellectual and Developmental Disability: Deinstitutionalization and History of Custodial CareDr. Phil Ferguson (now from the state of Oregon), who has been tracing the history of New York Asylums or Institutions, begins with the Central and Northern New York institutions established in the late1800s (e.g., with an important "class insight" on the separation or "comingling" of the "curable and the "incurable". The institutions involved are: Syracuse State School for Feeble-Minded Children (1852; not reported in chapter as planned closure to community); State Custodial Asylum for Feeble-Minded Women (est., Newark, 1878); Rome State Custodial Asylum (est. 1894, closed, and 2 prisons opened on site); Letchworth Village (1911); Willard Asylum (1865); and Craig Colony for Epileptics (est. Sonyea, 1896, status of reported closure available in Braddock, et al, 2015). Dr. Ferguson extensive research intends to illuminate the historic practices of institutions to the well known "history repeats itself" (e.g., Walter Fernald of Massachusetts in 1891 on the use of "higher functioning female inmates" to care for the "lowest grade idiots, paralyptics [and] the helpless".)At the Institutional to Community Care BorderI thank Chris Chapman, Allison Carey and Liat Ben-Moshe, for the first phrase that I believe applies to institutions: the people must "accept institutional conditions that no one would choose to inhabit" - "my feeling" from large scale nursing homes to intellectual disabilities and psychiatric institutions (those three health care facilities or hospitals these days, 2015) to large campuses (now growing and expanding with assisted living and other funds in US) and another set of penal institutions most know not of, prisons and jails. Their chapter reports that in 2005, "more than half of all prison and jail inmates were reported to have a mental health problem". In Chapter 2, Chris Chapman will become historian and begins, "in medicine, contemporary to the great confinement".School to Prison: The New Jim Crow and DisabilityDr. Nirmala Erevelles, a doctoral student from Syracue University back in 1991 or so, aligns with the significant book by Michelle Andersen "The New Jim Crow" in her examination and critique of the "school to prison pipeline" (Aul

IV, 2012). In the political science context, she describes the "complex network of laws, rules and policies and policies supported by the exploitative political economy" (p.82) and what is now termed the "mass incarceration" with due process and sentencing. She traces the Zero-Tolerance policies of schools to the Gun-Free Schools Act of 1994 (Winn & Belizadel, 2011) and cites literature on the "cradle to grave prison track" (Heitzeg, 2009) and "medical necessity" of institutionlization.Self Advocacy and the Revisitation to PennhurstMark Friedman and Ruthie-Marie Beckwith primarily discuss Speaking for Ourselves with Roland Johnson and People First of Tennessee. with Tia Nelis of Illinois and Nancy Ward of Nebraska writing for the national Self Advocates Becoming Empowered. Roland Johnson, whom I met in a Sheraton Hotel discussing the need for jobs (introduced by Bonnie Shoultz), former resident of the historic Pennhurst case, visited a 100-bed Annex to Pennhurst (Pinehill) indicating that "It smelled like Pennhurst. It was just an awful sight to see...I had tears when I came out of there." (1999). The chapter reveals that Roland was part of a Pennsylvania effort to respond to a state legislative proposal to restrict the ability of the Governor to close institutions with their approval.Alternative to IncarcerationLiat Ben-Moshe (2014) "makes an effort" to intertwine what she believes are the "confluence" of the prison abolitionists, anti-psychiatry and deinstitutionalization activists to seek alternative responses "to harm and ways of dealing with pain and altered states of mind". Her list of resistance includes "strange bedfellows" from the American Friends Service Committee (religious, Quakers who are non-violent activists) to prison projects (e.g., the Prison Moratorium, Prison Activist Resource Center) to the range of "residential" and "health care activists" (e.g., psychiatric survivors, intellectual disabilities, such as L'Arche). She decribes Morriss' effort to distinguish between "true community alternatives" and prisons in the community, describing the co-optation by states and criminal justice for its own use "in almost everything she worked in".The alternatives to incarceration chapter reminds me of the context of "who is on voluntary or involuntary community status", significant federal-state education projects with universities in the US, the community and activist efforts to "retrieve the brethren" from the government's hold, and the need to move to transformative versus restorative justice. In the difficult environment of the current "criminal justice status quo" (e.g., see, Alzheimer's surveillaince, amber alerts, police surveillaince cameras, GPS monitoring), she adds that "prison abolition activists do not view....electronic monitoring bracelets as adding to the freedom of those who have been criminalized" but increasing the "net incarceration and punitiveness-at-large". Agreed! And the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (2006) and the expect debates at the World Health Organization (WHO, 2014) in the mental health field are critical avenues to pursue in addition to addressing the "parent role of university education" to its "criminal justice and substance abuse"

programs in community colleges.Final CommentaryCritically necessary, but insufficient to address the context of how to address the size and shape of the current situation in the US and in Canada, the book will be a successful addition to textbooks for graduate students in the college and university sectors. We welcome participation in developing the US Direct Professional Support Workforce (Larson et al, 2014 in Racino, 2014) at http://www.crcpress.com/9781466579811 which includes "addiction aides" and an expected multicultural workforce through 2020.New findings in community integration (2014) are that the actual "municipal police" with "federal justice" claimed to be the community integration (See, wikipedia, community integration) leads for jobs and housing, and I would assume "took the community funds" in that manner (e.g., creation of unemployment of other professionals). The criminal justice groups have also coalesced around "money for return from prison", health care in prisons, stricter enforcement and expanded nets and controls at traditional "moral vices", expansion of the old campus facilities, expansion of community treatment orders, and still practically no information on "who dun it" to us ("an elite class") or the public-at-large.by Julie Ann Racino, Courtesy, October 2015

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