REFRAMING DISABILITY
CHALLENGING WHAT WE THINK WE KNOW

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for Rotary District 5500 Conference of Clubs

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AGENDA

- Reflect on how we have been socialized to understand disability
- Review prevalent models/framing
- Consider how to reframe disability and why that's important

DISABLED PEOPLE SHARE A HISTORY OF OPPRESSION

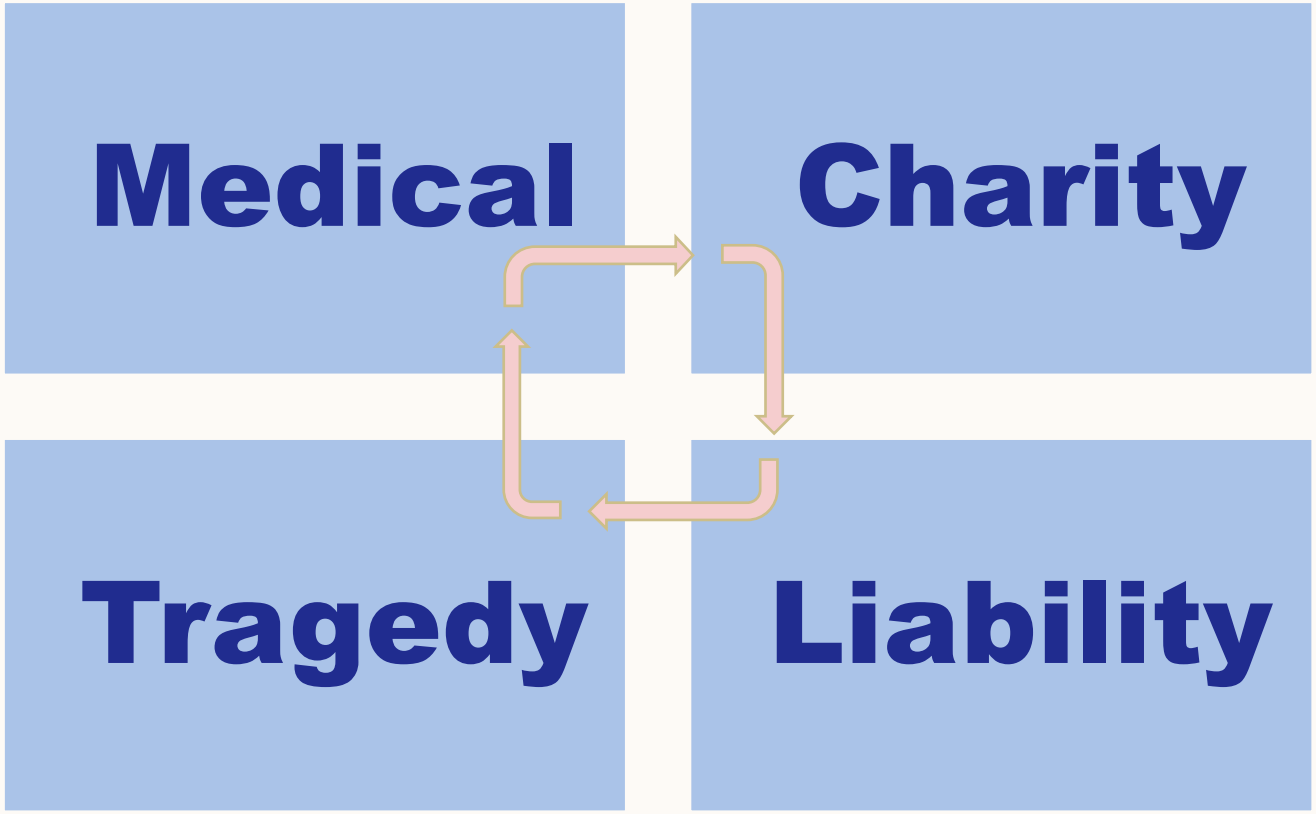
FRAMING DISABILITY

Individual
Due to a physiological difference individual is disabled.
The individual is the problem.
Disabled by impairment.
Disability = medical, tragedy, liability.
Access = cure, charity, accommodation.

FRAMING DISABILITY

Systemic
The environment disables people with impairments by design.
The environment is the problem.
Disabled by design.
Disability = sociopolitical
Access = systemic.

PREVALENT MODELS



DISABLEISM

- Set of assumptions (conscious or unconscious) and practice that promote differential or unequal treatment of people because of actual or presumed disabilities.
- Negatively constructs disability

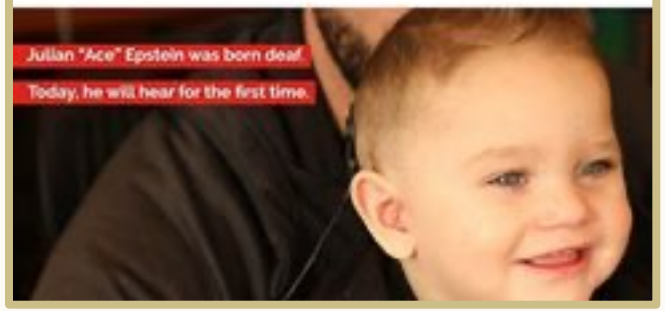
ABLEISM

- Values able-bodiedness
- Able-bodiedness/mindedness compulsory
- System, belief-structure that advantages non-disabled people.

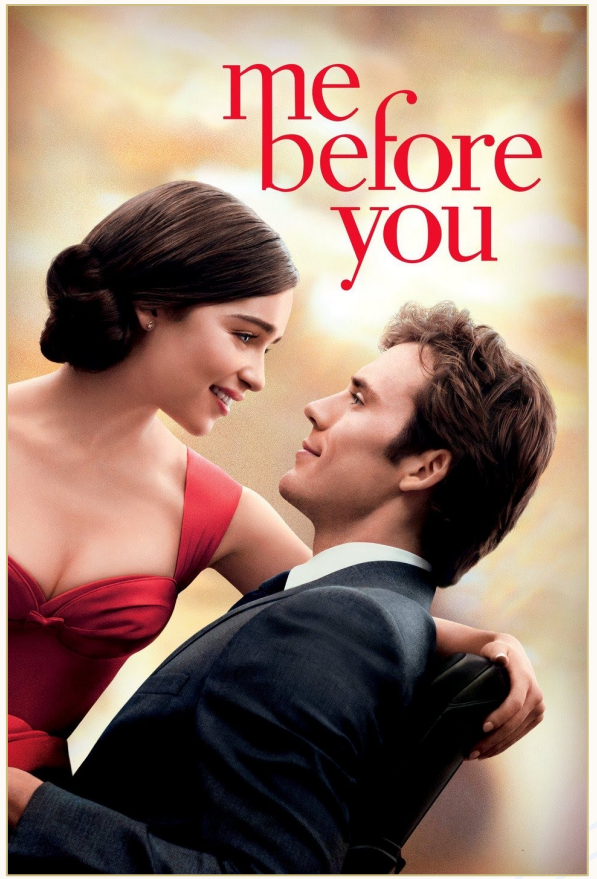
Stories of Science, Care & Wellness

A Baby Hears His Parents' Voices for the First Time

Eleven-month-old Julian Epstein experiences the gift of sound.



EVERY 48 SECONDS,
A DRUNK DRIVER
MAKES ANOTHER PERSON
ELIGIBLE TO PARK HERE.


me before you

Disability

disability

Student
disAbility
Services

DISABILITY

DiSABiLiTY

DIS ABILITY

REFRAMING IN ACTION

Person-first

- I am a person with a disability.
- Distances person from disability.
- I am separate from what you think disability is.

Identity-first

- I am a disabled person.
- Reflects social model – disabled by environments, attitudes, barriers…
- Consistent with disability studies and many disabled leaders, including AHEAD

UNIVERSAL DESIGN

Design of products and environments to be usable by all people, to the greatest extent possible, without the need for adaptation or specialized design. Ron Mace, Center for UD

REFRAMING IN ACTION

- Respect disabled people's choices in language, helping, etc.
- Consider disability on par with other identities/experiences (if you would/would not for other groups).
- Consume media critically.
- Design with flexibility and inclusion in mind,(deadlines, captions, options, digital content), anticipate difference

RESOURCES

Planning accessible events

IT Accessibility

drc.arizona.edu

THANK YOU

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