

Public Hearing



MISSISSIPPI
DEPARTMENT OF
EDUCATION

PUBLIC HEARING

November 18, 2022 | 9:00 am

Proposed changes to the
2022 Mississippi College- and Career-Readiness Standards for Social Studies

SIGN-IN SHEET

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UM - School of Education
MS coalition for citizens with disabilities
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Parents for Public Schools, Inc. (national org)

Comments for MDE Social Studies Public Hearing 11/18/2022

Florance Bass <florance-1@hotmail.com>

Fri 11/18/2022 6:41 AM

To: florance-1@hotmail.com <florance-1@hotmail.com>

Ms. Crosetti,

Please see a copy of the comments as provided during the hearing.

Good morning. My name is Florance Bass. I am the mom of children currently enrolled in the Rankin County School District. My youngest child, Nicholas Bass, has Down syndrome with multiple disabilities identified as part of his IEP. Today, my comments relate to how the proposed social studies standards fail to make any mention of the struggles individuals with disabilities have faced and does not highlight the Disability Rights movement. Until 1975, these individuals were not guaranteed the right to free and appropriate public school education. In 1990, the passage of the Americans with Disabilities Act prohibited discrimination against individuals with disabilities and guaranteed these individuals the same opportunities for employment, purchasing of goods and services, and participation in state and local government programs.

The following standards identified are potential areas where Disability Rights can be incorporated into the social studies standards and in our public school classrooms. For the sake of time, I will provide you a list and a copy of my comments.

K.CR.1 Explore the similarities and differences of individuals and families. Page 18

K.CR.2 Examine diversity in the classroom. Page 18

1.CI.1 Differentiate the rights and responsibilities citizens have in varying roles. Page 22

1.E.1 Justify why people work to earn money. Page 23

1.H.2 Analyze various aspects of historic and modern life in the United States. Page 25

2.CI.2 Assess how rules and laws are created to provide equal and fair service and protection to all citizens. Page 27

2.CR.1 Determine how traditions and customs create unity and celebrate diversity within and across various groups. Page 28

2.H.1 Evaluate how people and events have shaped the local community, state, and nation through primary sources. Page 30

3.CI.1 Examine the influence of democratic values on the lives of citizens. Page 32

3.CR.2 Assess the reliance of democracy on citizen participation. Page 34

4.MS.8 Analyze the Civil Rights Movement to determine the social, political, and economic impact on Mississippi. Page 40

6.12 Analyze the rights and responsibilities of American citizenship. Page 51

There are opportunities to discuss Disability Rights within Mississippi Studies. There is not a standard to reference because none of the standards even start to recognize individuals with disabilities. Pages 77-81

WH11 | Contemporary World Debate the changing role of globalization in the contemporary world. Page 89

USH 9 | President Kennedy, President Johnson, and President Nixon Demonstrate an understanding of domestic and international issues from each administration. Page 99

USH 10 | President Ford, President Carter, President Reagan, and President H.W. Bush Explain the reaction to Carter's Administration and the emergence of the Conservative movement and its impact on domestic and international issues from 1974-1992. Page 100

USH 11 | Civil Rights Movement Evaluate the impact of the Civil Rights Movement on social and political change in the United States. Page 101

USG.1 Examine the basic concepts of democracy. Page 104

USG.6 Differentiate civil rights from civil liberties and describe how each have been interpreted and amended throughout United States' history. Page 108

Problems of American Democracy (pages 141-146). There are opportunities to discuss disability rights. There is not a standard to reference because none recognize disabled individuals.

The Mississippi Social Studies Standards includes the following sentences as part of the introduction: "This education should lead learners to understand and appreciate issues such as social justice, power relations, diversity, mutual respect, and civic engagement. Students should acquire a working knowledge of tactics engaged by civil rights activists to achieve social change." All the previously mentioned standards do not mention individuals with disabilities. These individuals are part of all our public schools.

Ninety-five percent of school-age students served under IDEA in fall 2020 were enrolled in regular schools. Less than one-third of students with deaf-blindness (28 percent), intellectual disabilities (19 percent), and multiple disabilities (15 percent) spent 80 percent or more of the school day in general classes. In 2020–21, the number of students ages 3–21 who received special education services under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) was 7.2 million, or 15 percent of all public school students.

([National Center for Educational Statistics - Students With Disabilities \(ed.gov\)](#))

Far too often in Mississippi, students like my son are placed in a self-contained classroom. Inclusion is not the norm. Too many of their typically developing peers do not even know these students are even in their schools. General education students often lack the ability to interact with students with disabilities because of the over-reliance of self-contained classrooms. They do not learn how to show compassion and kindness to individuals that may have social differences because of disabilities.

Our students with disabilities in education are an afterthought to far too many people. Based on what I have seen in these proposed standards, it seems far too many educators as well as the Mississippi State Board of Education see these students as an afterthought as well. They are individuals who have the

right to an education. They are individuals that have a right to access the communities in which they live. They are individuals that have a right to seek employment and fair wages.

I want a more accepting community for my child. That starts early. That starts with letting all students meet and interact with each other. All our students need to learn how individuals with disabilities have had to fight to secure their rightful place in our society. Our world needs more compassion and understanding for our fellow neighbors. We have the opportunity to do that here.

For those of us that do not currently have a disability diagnosis, we are all one accident or healthcare incident away from being part of those that are an afterthought. We have over 19 prime opportunities to introduce and discuss the importance of Disability Rights to all of our students in public schools. What will the Mississippi State Board of Education choose?

Sincerely,

Florance Bass
769-218-6221

mandy Rogers

The proposed Mississippi College – and Career – Readiness Standards for Social Studies include several minority groups and we are hopeful that after today, the Minority standards will be amended to include information regarding the Disability Rights Movement.

People with disabilities make up the nation's largest minority group. This is a group that anyone can become a member of at any time.

Minority Studies Standard 1 and objectives, on page 166, must include individuals with disabilities when examining which aspects define minority groups.

Objective 2 under Standard 1 should be changed to include individuals with disabilities.

In Objective 3, prominent disability groups should be included in the examples such as: The American Association of People with Disabilities (AAPD), The ARC, and The National Council on Disability

Minority Studies Standard 2, page 166 must include individuals with disabilities when tracing the group dynamics that play a role in the marginalization of minority groups.

On page 169, add a Minority Studies Standard 10 with 4 objectives:

Objective 1: Examine the Disability Rights Movement.

Objective 2: Identify and describe the origins and early leaders of the Disability Rights Movement.

Objective 3: Trace the major events, achievements, and leaders of the Disability Rights movement up to the early years of the twenty-first century.

Objective 4: Analyze the current status of individuals with disabilities in the United States with respect to political representation, economic opportunities, healthcare, and shifting social norms.

Remarks to Department of Education - November 2022

Mississippi College-and-Career-Readiness for Social Studies 2022

Good morning, like my colleagues, I'm commenting on the Minority Studies standards outlined on pages 165 to 169, asking that the Disability Rights Movement be included in our academic standards. The latest data from Mississippi indicates that fully 1 in 3 of us have some form of disability. One in three. Yet, most of us know little to nothing about the struggle for inclusion, because we don't teach it in our schools.

I wonder how many of our students know of Ed Roberts, Fred Fay, Judy Heumann, Wade Blank, or Justin Dart? They aren't household names, and never will be unless and until we include people with disabilities among our minority studies standards. The disability rights movement accelerated after World War II, when our wounded veterans demanded access to rehabilitation and reintegration into society. During the 1960's and 70's society was beginning to pay attention to the rights of the differently abled. However, enforcement of existing laws was almost non-existent. It took direct action (in the form of sit ins at federal buildings) on the part of Judy Heumann and many others to force section 504 regulations to be enacted in 1977, which finally gave the non-discrimination provisions of the Rehab Act the force of law.

However, public transportation was still inaccessible to wheelchair users and others with mobility disabilities. In 1978, Wade Blank and the "Gang of 19" started ADAPT (American Disabled for Accessible Public Transit), blocked buses and shut-down a busy intersection in downtown Denver Colorado, demanding to, of all things, ride the bus.

The efforts continued into the 1980's, culminating with the passage of the Americans with Disabilities Act. But even that wasn't easy. It took dramatic action on the part of ADAPT in what is now famously called the "Capitol Crawl" (people literally dragging themselves up the steps of the Capitol Building) and protestors chaining themselves together in the Capitol Rotunda before Congress would pass the law. This was no accident. It didn't just "happen". It took people putting their bodies on the line, getting arrested, confronting the powers of their day, to get the basic rights everyone else takes for granted.

I was one of those people (the temporarily able-bodied, who took access for granted). Until I developed an aggressive form of multiple sclerosis when I was 33. Now, I see barriers everywhere that few others notice. Just getting into this building means a trip much farther than that of my able-bodied peers. We act like "separate but equal" is still a thing, even in 2022!

The barriers to full-inclusion in our schools, buildings, streets, sidewalks, and transportation systems are everywhere here in Mississippi. I'm here to argue that it is in part due to our lack of education regarding the disability rights movement. We are still "out of sight, out of mind" - people presume because we don't show up, or are deliberately segregated, that we don't exist at all.

Failure to include the disability rights movement in our social studies standards only perpetuates societal ignorance. There is WISDOM to be gleaned by true inclusion, contact with people who are different, and the knowledge that rights are never, ever, "granted". They have to be TAKEN. Moreover, they must be exercised. Complacency is our real enemy. We need to teach our children that democracy means getting involved and making a stand for what's right, even at personal risk. We cannot do that without studying the history of how people with disabilities earned their rights and still continue to fight for them.

I'll end by paraphrasing (Robert) Kennedy: "Some [people] see things as they are, and say why. I dream of things that never were, and say why not?"

Scott M. Crawford, Ph.D.
crawford-scott@att.net

**Devonda L Ferrell
238 Lighthouse Ln
Brandon Ms. 39047**

November 18, 2022

Tammy Crosetti, Bureau Director, Division of Secondary Education
Mississippi Department of Education
Post Office Box 771
Jackson, MS 39205-0771

**Re: Public Comments on the proposed Mississippi College-and-Career-Readiness
for Social Studies 2022**

I have reviewed the proposed revisions to the state's educational academic standards for social studies (Mississippi College-and-Career-Readiness for Social Studies 2022). I am alarmed that the current academic standards do not include any information regarding the history and the importance of the Disability Rights Movement.

Millions of Americans with disabilities have benefited from the and the tireless efforts of the men and women who started the Disability Rights Movement by advocating for change for people with disabilities. The Disability Rights Movement is vitality important to the people that directly benefit from these laws which offer participation and inclusion of people with disabilities within education, the community and the workforce.

Thank you for your consideration of my request.

Devonda L Ferrell

Standard K.CR.2 Examine diversity in the classroom. Pg. 18

Objective:

1. Define unity and diversity.
2. Identify types of diversity in a classroom.
3. Propose different ways to encourage unity and appreciate diversity.

The definition of diversity should also include students that receive special education services. Students with disabilities should be a part of that conversation as early as possible to foster and develop empathy toward all types of diversity. Students should be encouraged to embrace the concept of inclusion early and often so that it will be mutually beneficial for all students.

Standard Min. 1, Examine which aspects define a minority group. Pg. 166

Objective:

1. Investigate minority groups and determine the underlying factors that result in their marginalization.
2. Compare and contrast the plight of women and the plight of ethnic minorities at various points in history.
3. Identify and describe prominent groups associated with protecting and broadening protections for minority groups. (e.g., the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, Southern Poverty Law Center, the American Civil Liberties Union, etc.)

The standards should be taught to include individuals with disabilities when discussing minority groups. The Disability Rights movement was an important part of this country's history. It's a minority group that has paved the way to changing laws on a Federal level. The Disability Rights Movement was the driving force behind the development of the Individual with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), American with Disability Act (ADA), and The American Association of People with Disabilities(AAPD).

MIN.2 Trace the group dynamics that play a role in the marginalization of minority groups. Pg.167

Objective:

1. 1. Analyze the various causes of prejudice. (e.g., social distance, economic competition, scapegoating, conflicting social and religious norms, stereotypes, etc.)
2. 2. Analyze political and cultural factors that may serve to maintain inequalities experienced by minority groups.

The standards being taught must include individuals with disabilities.

This section should include:

A. Identify the origins and early leaders of the Disability Rights Movement.

B. Identify the major events and achievements.

C. Trace the accomplishments of individuals with disabilities in the United States up to the early years of the twenty-first century.

D. Analyze the current status of individuals with disabilities in the United States with respect to political representation, economic opportunities, and education.

Tammy Crosetti

From: Florance Bass <florance-1@hotmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 18, 2022 9:16 PM
To: Social Studies
Subject: Social Studies Standards Public Hearing

Categories: Green Category

External Email

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the MDE organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Ms. Crosetti,

Please accept this correspondence as a request for a public hearing on the social studies standards. Having a child with disabilities, it is important to teach students how those individuals had to work to have rights recognized. Thank you in advance for this opportunity.

Sincerely,

Florance Bass

244 Penny Lane
Brandon, MS 39042
Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

Tammy Crosetti

From: Becky Glover <bglover@parents4publicschools.org>
Sent: Wednesday, October 19, 2022 4:38 PM
To: Social Studies
Cc: Joann Mickens; Pam Dollar
Subject: oral proceeding request RE: MS Social Studies standards
Attachments: Disability_Rights_10_22.pdf

Categories: Green Category

External Email

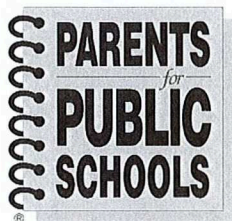
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Ms. Crosetti,






Attached, please find our letter requesting that an oral proceeding be scheduled regarding the proposed rule/amendment/repeal filed on September 29, 2022, with the Mississippi Secretary of State's office to amend Title 7, Education K-12, Part 193, Mississippi College- and Career-Readiness Standards for Social Studies.

The letter is signed by our national executive director, Joann Mickens, who is copied on this email. I've also copied Pam Dollar, executive director for the Mississippi Coalition for Citizens with Disabilities.

Thank you for your time, consideration, and assistance in addressing this important matter,
- Becky



Becky Glover
Policy Analyst
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October 19, 2022

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*Distinguished Trustee

Re: Request for Oral Proceeding

Dear Ms. Crosetti:

Parents for Public Schools, Inc. advocates for equitable, diverse, and inclusive policies and practices in all communities so our children, parents, families, and communities can thrive in today's world and tomorrow's future. For this reason, we are requesting that an oral proceeding be scheduled regarding the proposed rule/amendment/repeal filed on September 29, 2022, with the Mississippi Secretary of State's office to amend Title 7, Education K-12, Part 193, Mississippi College- and Career- Readiness Standards for Social Studies.

We support adding the teaching of information about and the history of the Disability Rights Movement, including the leaders of this movement and the resulting laws, to the new proposed Social Studies standards.

If you need further information concerning this request, please let us know. We would appreciate notification regarding the date, time, and location related to the scheduling of this requested oral proceeding as soon as is practical.

Thank you for your consideration and assistance,

Sincerely,

Joann Mickens
Executive Director

**Mandy Rogers
P.O. Box 2405
Madison, MS 39130**

October 20, 2022

USPS and E-mail

Tammy Crosetti, Bureau Director, Division of Secondary Education
Mississippi Department of Education
Post Office Box 771
Jackson, MS 39205-0771

RE: Public Comments on the proposed Mississippi College-and-Career-Readiness for Social Studies 2022

I have reviewed the proposed revisions to the state's academic standards for social studies (Mississippi College-and-Career-Readiness for Social Studies 2022). I note the academic standards do not include any information regarding history of the Disability Rights Movement.

Millions of Americans with disabilities have and will be affected by the persistent efforts of the men and women who started the Disability Rights Movement by advocating for changes for people with disabilities. These men and women advocated for laws which offer participation and inclusion of people with disabilities in all areas of life.

My comments regarding the inclusion of Disability Rights Movement into the Mississippi College-and-Career-Readiness for Social Studies 2022 are included.

Thank you for your consideration of my request.

Mandy Rogers

Enclosed: Background information

Public comments regarding the Mississippi College – and Career – Readiness Standards for Social Studies

Standard Min. 1, Examine which aspects define a minority group.

1. Investigate minority groups and determine the underlying factors that result in their marginalization.

Comment: The standards being taught must include individuals with disabilities when discussing minority groups.

2. Compare and contrast the plight of women and the plight of ethnic minorities at various points in history.

Comment: Compare and contrast the plight of women, individuals with disabilities and the plight of ethnic minorities at various points in history.

3. Identify and describe prominent groups associated with protecting and broadening protections for minority groups. (e.g., the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, Southern Poverty Law Center, the American Civil Liberties Union, etc.)

Comment: Identify and describe prominent groups associated with protecting and broadening protections for minority groups. (e.g., the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, Southern Poverty Law Center, the American Civil Liberties Union, The American Association of People with Disabilities (AAPD), The ARC, The National Council on Disability, The National Alliance for the Mentally Ill (NAMI), National Organization on Disability, etc.)

Comment: Add 5. Examine social and political factors and events that have impacted attitudes and discrimination towards individuals with disabilities up to the early years of the twenty-first century.

MIN.2 Trace the group dynamics that play a role in the marginalization of minority groups.

Comment: The standards being taught must include individuals with disabilities when tracing the group dynamics that play a role in the marginalization of minority groups.

1. Analyze the various causes of prejudice. (e.g., social distance, economic competition, scapegoating, conflicting social and religious norms, stereotypes, etc.)
2. Analyze political and cultural factors that may serve to maintain inequalities experienced by minority groups

Comment: Add Examine the Disability Rights Movement.

1. Identify and describe the origins and early leaders of the Disability Rights Movement.

2. Trace the major events, achievements, and leaders of the Disability Rights movement up to the early years of the twenty-first century.

3. Survey the accomplishments of individuals with disabilities in the United States up to the early years of the twenty-first century.

4. Analyze the current status of individuals with disabilities in the United States with respect to political representation, economic opportunities, healthcare, and shifting social norms.

DISABILITY RIGHTS HISTORY TIMELINE

This timeline uses language that is historically correct, but no longer considered acceptable.

1817 - The American School for the Deaf is founded in Hartford, Connecticut. This is the first school for disabled children in the Western Hemisphere. (Thomas H. Gallaudet, founder)

1829- Louis Braille invents the raised point alphabet that makes him a household name today. His method doesn't become well-known in the United States until more than 30 years after it is first taught at the St. Louis School for the Blind in 1860.

1832 - The Perkins School for the Blind in Boston admits its first two students, the sisters Sophia and Abbey Carter.

1841 - Dorothea Dix begins her work on behalf of people with disabilities incarcerated in jails and poorhouses.

1848 - The Perkins Institution in Boston was founded by Samuel Gridley Howe. It was the first residential institution for people with mental retardation. Over the next century, hundreds of thousands of developmentally disabled children and adults were be institutionalized, many for their entire lives.

1854 - The New England Gallaudet Association of the Deaf is founded in Montpelier, Vermont.

1864 - The Columbia Institution for the Deaf and Dumb and Blind became the first college in the world established for people with disabilities. The institution would eventually be renamed Gallaudet College, and then Gallaudet University.

1869 - The first wheelchair patent is registered with the U.S. Patent Office.

1878 - Joel W. Smith presented Modified Braille to the American Association of Instructors of the Blind. The association rejected his system, continuing to endorse instead New York Point, which blind readers complain is more difficult to read and write. What follows was a "War of the Dots" in which blind advocates for the most part prefer Modified Braille, while sighted teachers and administrators, who control funds for transcribing, prefer New York Point.

1880 - The International Congress of Educators of the Deaf, at a conference in Milan, Italy, calls for the suppression of sign languages and the firing of all deaf teachers at schools for the deaf. Deaf advocates viewed this as an attack on deaf culture. The National Convention of Deaf Mutes meets in Cincinnati, Ohio, the nucleus of what will become the National Association of the Deaf (NAD). The first major issue taken on by the NAD is oralism and the suppression of American Sign Language. PRIDE: A Curriculum / High School Unit 3 – Student Handout 72

1883 - Eugenics is a term that was coined by Sir Francis Galton in his book "Essays in Eugenics." The eugenics movement in the United States resulted in the passage of laws that prevented people with disabilities from moving to this country, marrying, or having children. Laws in many states resulted in the institutionalization and forced sterilization of disabled people, including children.

1909 - "A Mind that Found Itself" by Clifford Beers exposed conditions inside state and private mental institutions. The New York Public School System adopts American Braille for use in its classes for blind children, after public hearings where blind advocates called for abandoning New York Point. The first folding wheelchairs are introduced for people with mobility disabilities.

1912 - "The Kadikak Family" by Henry H. Goddard was a best selling book that suggested a link between disability and immorality and alleged that both were tied to genetics. "The Threat of the Feeble Minded" was a popular pamphlet. Both documents advanced the agenda of the eugenics movement and increased the climate of hysteria that led to massive human rights abuses of people with disabilities.

1918 - The Smith-Sear Veterans Vocational Rehabilitation Act establishes a federal vocational rehabilitation for disabled soldiers. 1920 - The Fess-Smith Civilian Vocational Rehabilitation Act is passed, creating a vocational rehabilitation program for disabled civilians.

1927 - The U.S. Supreme Court, in Buck v. Bell, ruled that the forced sterilization of people with disabilities was not a violation of their constitutional rights. Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes compared sterilization to vaccination. The decision removed the last restraints for eugenicists. By the 1970s, over 60,000 people with disabilities were sterilized in the U.S.

1929 - Seeing Eye establishes the first dog guide school for blind people in the United States.

1933 - Franklin Delano Roosevelt, the first person with a significant disability becomes the 32nd president of the United States and is re-elected for an unprecedented four terms. In August 1921, while vacationing at Campobello Island, New Brunswick, Roosevelt contracted an illness, believed to be polio, which resulted in total and permanent paralysis from the waist down. After becoming President, he supports the founding of the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis (now known as the March of Dimes). In recognition of his support of this organization, FDR is commemorated on the dime.

1935 - The League of the Physically Handicapped was formed in New York City. The group organized sit-ins, picket lines, and demonstrations to protest employment discrimination against people with disabilities by the Works PRIDE: A Curriculum / High School Unit 3 – Student Handout 73 Progress Administration (WPA). This advocacy eventually led to the creation of 1500 jobs for people with disabilities in New York City. "The Man Unknown" by Nobel Prize winning Dr. Alexis Carrel suggested the euthanasia (killing) of criminals and the mentally ill by using institutions equipped with suitable gasses.

1935 - President Franklin Delano Roosevelt signs the Social Security Act, establishing a program of permanent assistance for adults with disabilities.

1937 - Herbert A. Everest and Harry C. Jennings patented a design for a folding wheelchair with an X-frame that could be packed into a car trunk. They found Everest & Jennings (E & J), which eventually became the largest manufacturer of wheelchair in the United States.

1938 - Passage of the Fair Labor Standards Act led to an enormous increase in the number of sheltered workshop program for blind workers. Meant to provide training and job opportunities for blind and visually disabled workers, employment practices at workshops often led to exploitation of workers at sub-minimum wages in poor conditions.

1939 - World War II began. Hitler ordered widespread "mercy killing" of the sick and disabled. The Nazi euthanasia program (code name Aktion T4) was implemented to eliminate "life unworthy of life."

1940 - The American Federation of the Physically Handicapped was the first cross-disability national political organization to urge an end to job discrimination, call for a National Employ the Physically Handicapped Week, and propose other legislative initiatives.

1940 - Dr. Jacobus tenBroek founded the National Federation of the Blind.

1940 – 1944 908 patients were transferred from an institution for retarded and chronically ill patients in Schoenbrunn, Germany to the euthanasia center at Eglfing-Haar to be gassed. A monument to the victims stands in the courtyard at Schoenbrunn.

1941 - Hitler suspended the Aktion T4 program that killed nearly 100,000 people. Euthanasia continued through the use of drugs and starvation instead of gassing.

1945 - President Harry Truman signed PL-176 creating an annual National Employ the Handicapped Week.

1946 - The National Mental Health Foundation was founded by World War II conscientious objectors who served as attendants at state mental institutions rather than serve in the war. It worked to expose the abusive conditions at these facilities and became an early impetus for advocating for people with disabilities to live in community settings instead of institutions (deinstitutionalization). PRIDE: A Curriculum / High School Unit 3 – Student Handout 74

1947 -The first meeting of the President's Committee on National Employ the Physically Handicapped Week was held in Washington, D.C. Its publicity campaigns, coordinated by state and local committees, emphasized the competence of people with disabilities. Movie trailers, billboards, and radio and television ads were used to convince the public that "its good business to hire the handicapped."

1948 - The disabled students' program at the University of Illinois at Galesburg was officially established. The program moved to the campus at Urbana Champaign where it became a prototype for disabled student programs and independent living centers across the country. We Are Not Alone (WANA), a mental patients' self-help group, was organized at the Rockland State Hospital in New York City.

1949 - The first Annual Wheelchair Basketball Tournament was held in Galesburg, Illinois. Wheelchair basketball, and other sports, became an important part of disability lifestyle and culture over the next several decades.

1950 - **The ARC Champions Abilities of People with Intellectual Disabilities**

Parents of children with intellectual disabilities found the Association for Retarded Citizens (ARC).* The association works to change public perception of intellectual disability. The organization, now renamed The Arc, continues to ensure that the estimated 7.2 million Americans with intellectual and developmental disabilities have the services and supports they need to grow, develop, and live in communities across the nation.

1951 - Howard Rusk opened the Institute of Rehabilitation Medicine at New York University Medical Center. Staff at the Institute, including people with disabilities, began work on such innovations as electric typewriters, mouth sticks, and improved prosthetics for use by people with disabilities.

1953 - Los Angeles County provided in-home attendant care for adults with polio as a cost-saving alternative to hospitalization.

1954 - The U.S. Supreme Court in *Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka* ruled that separate schools for black and white children were unequal and unconstitutional. This pivotal decision became a catalyst for the civil rights movement, which eventually became a major inspiration to the disability rights movement. Mary Switzer, Director of the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation, authorized federal funds for more than 100 university-based rehabilitation related programs.

1957 - The first National Wheelchair Games in the United States were held at Adelphi College in Garden City, New York. Little People of America was founded in Reno, Nevada, to advocate on behalf of dwarfs or little people. PRIDE: A Curriculum / High School Unit 3 – Student Handout 75

1958 - "Rehabilitation Gazette" (originally the "Toomeyville Gazette") began as a grassroots publication. It was a voice for disability rights, independent living and cross-disability organizing, and it featured articles by disabled writers on all aspects of the disability experience.

1960 - The first Paralympic Games, under the auspices of the International Paralympic Committee (IPC) was held in Rome, Italy.

1961 - The American National Standard Institute, Inc. (ANSI) published "American Standard Specifications for Making Buildings Accessible to, and Usable by, the Physically Handicapped." This landmark document became the basis for subsequent architectural access codes.

1962 - The President's Committee on Employment of the Physically Handicapped was renamed the President's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped, reflecting increased interest in employment issues affecting people with cognitive disabilities and mental illness.

1962 - Ed Roberts Fights for Admission to University, starting the Independent Living Movement
Ed Roberts, a young man with polio, enrolls at the University of California, Berkeley. After his admission is rejected, he fights to get the decision overturned. Edward Roberts sued to gain admission to the University of California at Berkeley and became the university's first student with a significant disability. As a polio survivor, he used a wheelchair and iron lung. His advocacy, along with that of Judy Heumann, inspires the Independent Living Movement and helps establish the first Center for Independent Living (CIL). [The same year, James Meredith sued to become the first African American to attend the University of Mississippi.]

1963 - On October 31, 1963, President John F. Kennedy signs into law...
the Community Mental Health Act (also known as the Mental Retardation and Community Mental Health Centers Construction Act of 1963*). The Act drastically altered the delivery of mental health services and inspired a new era of optimism in mental healthcare.

1964 - The Civil Rights Act is passed, outlawing discrimination on the basis of race, religion, ethnicity, national origin, and creed (gender and disability were added later). The Act covered public accommodations and employment, as well as in federally assisted programs. It became a model for future disability rights legislation. Robert H. Weitbrecht invented the "acoustic coupler," forerunner of the telephone modem, enabling teletypewriter messages to be sent via standard telephone lines. This invention made possible the widespread use of teletypewriters for the deaf (TDD's now called TTY's), offering deaf and hard-of-hearing people access to the telephone system.

1965 - Congress established the National Technical Institute for the Deaf at the Rochester Institute of Technology in Rochester, New York.

1966 - "Christmas in Purgatory" by Burton Blatt and Fred Kaplan documented the appalling conditions at state institutions for people with developmental disabilities.

1967 - The National Theatre of the Deaf was founded. PRIDE: A Curriculum / High School Unit 3 – Student Handout 76

1968 - The Architectural Barriers Act required that all federally owned or leased buildings be accessible to people with physical disabilities.

1970 - The Urban Mass Transit Act required all new mass transit vehicles be equipped with wheelchair lifts. Implementation was delayed for twenty years. Developmental Disabilities Services and Facilities Construction Amendments were passed containing the first legal definition of developmental disabilities. They authorized grants for services and facilities for the rehabilitation of people with developmental disabilities and state DD Councils.

1970 - Educator and Disability Activist Judy Heumann denied teaching license, sues the New York City Board of Education
Educator and activist Judy Heumann sues the New York City Board of Education when her application for a teaching license is denied. The stated reason is the same originally used to deny her admission to kindergarten—that her wheelchair is a fire hazard. The suit, settled out of court, launches Heumann's activism. Her advocacy, and that of Ed Roberts, inspires the Independent Living Movement. Heumann

later serves in the Clinton Administration as Assistant Secretary of the Office of Special Education and Rehabilitation Services at the US Department of Education from 1993 to 2001.

Disabled in Action was founded in New York City by Judith Heumann after her successful employment discrimination suit against the city's public school system. With chapters in several other cities, it organized demonstrations and files litigation on behalf of disability rights. The Physically Disabled Students Program (PDSP) was founded by Ed Roberts, John Hessler, Hale Zukas, and others at the University of California at Berkeley. With its provisions for community living, political advocacy, and personal assistance services, it became the nucleus for the first Center for Independent Living, founded two years later.

1971 - The U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Alabama decided in *Wyatt v. Stickney* that people in residential state schools and institutions have a constitutional right "to receive such individual treatment as (would) give them a realistic opportunity to be cured or to improve his or her mental condition." Disabled people were longer to be locked away in institutions without treatment or education. The Caption Center was founded at WGBH Public Television in Boston, and it began providing captioned programming for deaf viewers.

1972 - The U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia, in *Mills v. Board of Education*, ruled that the District of Columbia could not exclude disabled children from the public schools. Similarly, the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, in *PARC v. Pennsylvania*, struck down various state laws used to exclude disabled children from the public schools. These decisions inspired advocates to work towards the passage of the Education for All Handicapped Children Act of 1975. The Center for Independent Living (CIL) was founded in Berkeley, California. It is recognized as the first center for independent living. PRIDE: A Curriculum / High School Unit 3 – Student Handout 77 The Judge David L. Bazelon Center for Mental Health Law was founded in Washington, D.C, to provide legal representation and to advocate for the rights of people with mental illness. Paralyzed Veterans of America, the National Paraplegia Foundation, and Richard Hedding filed suit to force the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority to incorporate access into their design for a new, multibillion-dollar subway system in Washington, D.C. Their eventual victory became a landmark in the struggle for accessible public mass transit. Parents of residents at the Willow Brook State School in Staten Island, New York filed suit (*New York ARC v. Rockefeller*) to end the appalling conditions at that institution. A television broadcast from the facility outraged the general public. Eventually, thousands of people from the institution were moved into community-based living arrangements. Demonstrations were held by disabled activists in New York City, Washington, D.C., and elsewhere to protest Nixon's veto of the Rehabilitation Act.

1973 - The first handicap parking stickers were introduced in Washington, D.C. Passage of the Federal-Aid Highway Act authorized federal funds to provide for construction of curb cuts. The Rehabilitation Act of 1973 was passed. The law prohibited discrimination in federal programs and services and all other programs or services receiving federal funds. Key language of the law states, "No otherwise qualified handicapped individual in the United States, shall, solely by reason of his handicap, be excluded from the participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity receiving federal financial assistance."

1973 - Rehabilitation Act (sections 501, 503, and 504).

The Rehabilitation Act of 1973 replaces preexisting laws (collectively referred to as the Vocational Rehabilitation Act) to extend and revise the authorization of grants to States for vocational rehabilitation services, with special emphasis on services to those with the most severe disabilities, to expand special Federal responsibilities and research and training programs with respect to individuals with disabilities, to establish special responsibilities in the Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare for coordination of all programs with respect to individuals with disabilities within the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, and for other purposes.

1974 - Vietnam Era Veterans' Readjustment Assistance Act (VEVRAA). Section 4212 specifically prohibits discrimination against covered veterans with disabilities in the full range of employment activities.

1974 - The first U.S. National Wheelchair Basketball Tournament was held, as well as the first National Wheelchair Marathon. The first convention of People First was held in Salem, Oregon. People First became the largest U.S. organization composed of and led by people with cognitive disabilities. The first Client Assistant Project (CAPs) was established to advocate for clients of state vocational rehabilitation agencies.

1975 - The Education for All Handicapped Children Act (Pub. Law 94-142) was passed, establishing the right of children with disabilities to a public school PRIDE: A Curriculum / High School Unit 3 – Student Handout 78 education in an integrated environment. The act was later renamed the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). The American Coalition of Citizens with Disabilities is founded. It became an important cross-disability rights organization of the 1970s by pulling together disability rights groups representing blind, deaf, physically disabled, and developmentally disabled people. The Association of Persons with Severe Handicaps (TASH) was founded by special education professionals responding to *PARC v. Pennsylvania* (1972) and subsequent right-to-education cases. The organization advocated for the end of aversive behavior modification and the closing of all residential institution for people with disabilities. The Atlantis Community was founded in Denver as a group-housing program for severely disabled adults who had previously been forced to live in nursing homes. The U.S. Supreme Court, in *O'Connor v. Donaldson*, ruled that people could not be institutionalized against their will in a psychiatric hospital unless they were determined to be a threat to themselves or to others. The first Parent and Training Information Centers (PTIs) were founded to help parents of disabled children to exercise their rights under the Education for All Handicapped Children Act of 1975.

1976 - Amendments to The Higher Education Act of 1972 provided services to physically disabled students entering college. *Disabled in Action of Pennsylvania, Inc. vs. Coleman* required that all buses purchased by public transit authorities receiving federal funds meet accessibility specifications. *Disabled in Action* picketed the United Cerebral Palsy telethon in New York City, calling telethons "demeaning and paternalistic shows which celebrate and encourage pity."

1977 - Disability rights activists in ten cities staged demonstrations and occupations of the offices of the federal department of Health Education and Welfare (HEW) to force the Carter Administration to issue regulations implementation Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. The demonstration in San Francisco lasted nearly a month. One 28 April, HEW Secretary Joseph Califano signed the regulations. The White House Conference on Handicapped Individuals brought together 3,000 disabled people to discuss federal policy toward people PRIDE: A Curriculum / High School Unit 3 – Student Handout 79 with disabilities. This first ever gathering of its kind acted as a catalyst for grassroots disability rights organizing.

1978 - The National Council on Disability is established as an advisory board within the Department of Education. Its purpose is to promote policies, programs, practices, and procedures that guarantee equal opportunity for all people with disabilities, regardless of the nature or severity of the disability, and to empower them to achieve economic self-sufficiency, independent living, and inclusion and integration into all aspects of society.

1978 - Disability rights activists in Denver staged a sit-in demonstration, blocking several Denver Regional Transit Authority buses, to protest the complete inaccessibility of that city's mass transit system. The demonstration was organized by the Atlantis Community and was the first action in what became a yearlong civil disobedience campaign to force the Denver Transit Authority to purchase wheelchair lift-equipped buses. Title VII of the Rehabilitation Act Amendments of 1978 established the first federal

funding of Centers for Independent Living (CILs) and created the National Council of the Handicapped under the U.S. Department of Education.

1979 - The U.S Olympic Committee organized its Handicapped in Sports Committee. The U.S. Supreme Court, in *Southeastern Community College v. Davis*, ruled that, under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, programs receiving federal funds must make "reasonable modifications" to enable the participation of otherwise qualified disabled individuals. This decision was the Court's first ruling on Section 504, and established reasonable modification as an important principle in disability rights law. Marilyn Hamilton, Jim Okamoto, and Don Helman produced their "Quickie" lightweight-folding wheelchair revolutionizing manual wheelchair design. The Disability Rights Education and Defense Fund (DREDF) was founded in Berkeley, California, becoming the nation's preeminent disability rights legal advocacy center and participating in much of the landmark litigation and lobbying of the 1980s and 1990s. The National Alliance for the Mentally Ill (NAMI) was founded in Madison, Wisconsin, by parents of persons with mental illness. Self Help for Hard of Hearing People, Inc. (SHHH), was founded in Bethesda, Maryland, by Howard "Rocky" Stone.

1980 - Congress passed the Civil Rights of Institutionalized Persons Act, authorizing the U.S. Justice Department to file civil suits on behalf of residents of institutions whose rights were being violated. The first issue of "The Disability Rag & Resource" was published in Louisville, Kentucky. [Now known as the e-zine "Ragged Edge On-line."] PRIDE: A Curriculum / High School Unit 3 – Student Handout 80

The Civil Rights of Institutionalized Persons Act (CRIPA) authorizes the U.S. Attorney General to investigate conditions of confinement at State and local government institutions such as prisons, jails, pretrial detention centers, juvenile correctional facilities, publicly operated nursing homes, and institutions for people with psychiatric or developmental disabilities. Its purpose is to allow the Attorney General to uncover and correct widespread deficiencies that seriously jeopardize the health and safety of residents of institutions. The Attorney General does not have authority under CRIPA to investigate isolated incidents or to represent individual institutionalized persons.

The Attorney General may initiate civil law suits where there is reasonable cause to believe that conditions are "egregious or flagrant," that they are subjecting residents to "grievous harm," and that they are part of a "pattern or practice" of resistance to residents' full enjoyment of constitutional or Federal rights, including title II of the ADA and section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act.

1981 - The International Year of Disabled Persons began with speeches before the United Nations General Assembly. During the year, governments were encouraged to sponsor programs bringing people with disabilities into the mainstream of their societies. The parents of "Baby Doe" in Bloomington, Indiana, were advised by their doctors to deny a surgical procedure to unblock their newborn's esophagus, because the baby had Down Syndrome. Although disability rights activists tried to intervene, Baby Doe starved to death before legal action could be taken. The case prompted the Reagan Administration to issue regulations calling for the creation of "Baby Doe squads" to safeguard the civil rights of disabled newborns. The Telecommunications for the Disabled Act mandated telephone access for deaf and hard-of-hearing people at important public places, such as hospitals and police stations, and that all coin-operated phones be hearing aid-compatible by January 1985. It also called for state subsidies for production and distribution of TDDs (telecommunications devices for the deaf), more commonly referred to as TTYs. The National Council on Independent Living (NCIL) was formed to advocate on behalf of Independent Living Centers and the Independent Living Movement.

1982 - **National Organization on Disability**

Alan A. Reich founds the National Organization on Disability (NOD). NOD's mission is to expand the participation and contribution of Americans with disabilities in all aspects of life and to close the participation gap by raising disability awareness through programs and information. As president of NOD, Reich builds the coalition of disability groups that successfully fight for the inclusion of a statue of President Franklin D. Roosevelt in his wheelchair at the FDR Memorial. Reich remains an international leader in the disability community until his death in 2005.

1983 - Ed Roberts, Judy Heumann, and Joan Leon founded the World Institute on Disability in Oakland, California. American Disabled for Accessible Public Transit (ADAPT) was organized at the Atlantis Community Headquarters in Denver, Colorado. During the next several years, ADAPT conducted a civil disobedience campaign against the American Public Transit Association (APTA) and various local public transit authorities to protest the lack of accessible public transportation. The National Council on the Handicapped issued a call for Congress to "act forthwith to include persons with disabilities in the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and other civil and voting rights legislation and regulations." The United Nations expanded the International Year of Disabled Persons into the International Decade of Disabled Persons, to last from 1983 to 1992. Sharon Kowalski became disabled due to a drunk driver. After the accident occurred, her parents learned that she was a lesbian. They put Sharon in a nursing home rather than letting her return home to her partner Karen Thompson. Thompson's eight-year struggle to free PRIDE: A Curriculum / High School Unit 3 – Student Handout 81 Kowalski became a focus of disability rights advocates and led to links between the lesbian and disability rights communities. The Job Accommodation Network (JAN) was formed to provide information to businesses with disabled employees.

1984 - The Baby Jane Doe case, like the 1982 Baby Doe case, involved an infant being denied needed medical care because of her disability. The case resulted in litigation argued before the U.S. Supreme Court in *Bowen v. American Hospital Association*, and in passage of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act Amendments of 1984. George Murray became the first wheelchair athlete to be featured on the Wheaties cereal box.

1984 - The Voting Accessibility for the Elderly and Handicapped Act of 1984 generally requires polling places across the United States to be physically accessible to people with disabilities for federal elections. Where no accessible location is available to serve as a polling place, a political subdivision must provide an alternate means of casting a ballot on the day of the election. This law also requires states to make available registration and voting aids for disabled and elderly voters, including information by TTYs or similar devices.

1985 - The U.S. Supreme Court ruled, *City of Cleburne v. Cleburne Living Center*, that localities cannot use zoning laws to prohibit group homes for people with developmental disabilities from opening in a residential area because its residents are disabled. The National Association of Psychiatric Survivors was founded.

1986 - The Air Carrier Access Act was passed, prohibiting airlines from refusing to serve people because they are disabled, and from charging them more for airfare than non-disabled travelers. The National Council on the Handicapped issued "Toward Independence." The report outlined the legal status of Americans with disabilities, documented the existence of discrimination, and cited the need for federal civil rights legislation (what will eventually be passed as the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990). The Protection and Advocacy for Mentally Ill Individuals Act was passed. It established protection and advocacy agencies for people who are inpatients or residents of mental health facilities. The Society for Disability Studies was founded.

1986 – Early Intervention services for infants and toddlers authorized as Part H of IDEA. It became Part C with the reauthorization of IDEA in 1997 and continues as Part C to the present day.

1987 - The US. Supreme Court, in *School Board of Nassau County, Fla. v. Arline*, outlined the rights of people with contagious disease under Title V of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. It established that people with infectious diseases cannot be fired from their jobs "because of prejudiced attitude or ignorance of others." This ruling became a landmark precedent for people with tuberculosis, HIV/AIDS, and other infectious diseases or disabilities, and for people, such as individuals with cancer or epilepsy, who are discriminated against because others fear they may be contagious. PRIDE: A Curriculum / High School Unit 3 – Student Handout 82

1988 - Students at Gallaudet University organized the "Deaf President Now" protest. I. King Jordan become the university's first deaf president. The Fair Housing Amendments Act added people with disabilities to those groups protected by federal fair housing legislation. It established minimum standards of adaptability for newly constructed multiple-dwelling housing. 1989 - The original version of the Americans with Disabilities Act, introduced into Congress the previous year, was redrafted and reintroduced. Disability organizations across the country advocated on its behalf. "Mouth: The Voice of Disability Rights" began publication.

1988 - The Fair Housing Act, as amended in 1988, prohibits housing discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, disability, familial status, and national origin. Its coverage includes private housing, housing that receives Federal financial assistance, and State and local government housing. It is unlawful to discriminate in any aspect of selling or renting housing or to deny a dwelling to a buyer or renter because of the disability of that individual, an individual associated with the buyer or renter, or an individual who intends to live in the residence. Other covered activities include, for example, financing, zoning practices, new construction design, and advertising.

1990 - ADAPT organized The Wheels of Justice campaign in Washington, D.C., bringing hundreds of disabled people to the nation's capital in support of the Americans with Disabilities Act. Activists occupied the Capitol rotunda, and were arrested when they refuse to leave.

Capitol Crawl Protest

On March 12, 1990 disability rights activists arrive at the U.S. Capitol and demand the passage of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Over 1,000 protesters from 30 states to protest the delay in passing the Act. After a day of rallies and speeches, over 60 activists abandoned their wheelchairs and mobility devices and began crawling the 83 stone steps up to the U.S. Capitol Building. Protestors chant "What do we want?" "ADA!" "When do we want it?" "NOW!" Other activists remained at the bottom encouraging the crawlers. "I want my civil rights," Paulette Patterson of Chicago states as she inched her way to the top. "I want to be treated like a human being." The "Capitol Crawl" becomes instrumental in the passage of the ADA.

1990 - The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) was signed by President George Bush on 26 July. Disability rights activists attended the signing ceremony on the White House lawn. The law mandated that local, state, and federal governments and programs be accessible, that businesses with more than 15 employees make "reasonable accommodations" for disabled workers, and that public accommodations such as restaurants and stores make "reasonable modifications" to ensure access for disabled members of the public. The act also mandated access in public transportation, communication, and in other areas of public life. With passage of the Americans with Disabilities Act, American Disabled for Accessible Public Transit (ADAPT) changed its focus to advocating for personal assistance services and changed its name to American Disabled for Attendant Programs Today.

"And on your behalf, as well as the behalf of this entire country, I now lift my pen to sign this Americans with Disabilities Act and say: Let the shameful wall of exclusion finally come tumbling down. God bless you all." President George Bush

1990 - The Education for All Handicapped Children Act is renamed the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). Reauthorized Act requires students with disabilities to be involved in developing their transition plans, and their interests and preferences are to be considered.

1991 - The federal government makes autism a special education category. Public schools begin identifying children on the spectrum and offering them special services.

1993 - The National Voter Registration Act of 1993 (also known as the "NVRA" or "motor voter law") sets forth certain voter registration requirements with respect to elections for federal office. Section 5 of the NVRA requires that States offer voter registration opportunities at State motor vehicle agencies. Section 6

of the NVRA requires that States offer voter registration opportunities by mail-in application. Section 7 of the NVRA requires that States offer voter registration opportunities at certain State and local offices, including public assistance and disability offices. Section 8 of the NVRA contains requirements with respect to the administration of voter registration by States and requires States to implement procedures to maintain accurate and current voter registration lists.

1993 - "Communication Unbound," by Douglas Biklen, was published, leading to a great increase in the use of Facilitated Communication. The method became controversial when it resulted in accusations of physical and sexual abuse by teachers, caretakers, and family members of people with communication disabilities. PRIDE: A Curriculum / High School Unit 3 – Student Handout 83 The Glen Ridge case came to trial in New Jersey, and three men were convicted of sexual assault and conspiracy, and a fourth of conspiracy, for raping a 17-year-old mentally disabled woman. The case highlighted the widespread sexual abuse of people with developmental disabilities. *Holland v. Sacramento City Unified School District* affirmed the right of children with disabilities children to attend public school classes with nondisabled children. The ruling was a major victory in the ongoing effort to ensure enforcement of IDEA.

1995 - Justice for All was founded in Washington, D.C. "When Billy Broke His Head ... and Other Tales of Wonder" premiered on PBS. The film gave many a first introduction to the concept of disability rights and the disability rights movement. The American Association of People with Disabilities (AAPD) was founded in Washington, D.C. The First International Symposium on Issues of Women with Disabilities was held in Beijing, China in conjunction with the Fourth World Conference on Women. Sandra Jensen, a member of People First, was denied a heart-lung transplant by the Stanford University School of Medicine because she had Down Syndrome. After pressure from disability rights activists, administrators there reversed their decision, and in January 1996, Jensen became the first person with Down Syndrome to receive a heart-lung transplant. The U.S. Court of Appeals ruled that continued institutionalization of a disabled Pennsylvania woman, when not medically necessary and when there is the option of home care, was a violation of her rights under the Americans with Disabilities Act (*Helen L. v. Snider*). Disability rights advocates viewed this ruling as a landmark decision regarding the rights of people in nursing homes to instead live in their own home and receive personal assistance services.

1996 - Federal Telecommunications Act Enacted

Act requires computers, telephones, closed captioning and many other telecommunication devices and equipment be made accessible. Section 255 and Section 251(a)(2) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended by the Telecommunications Act of 1996, require manufacturers of telecommunications equipment and providers of telecommunications services to ensure that such equipment and services are accessible to and usable by persons with disabilities, if readily achievable. These amendments ensure that people with disabilities will have access to a broad range of products and services such as telephones, cell phones, pagers, call-waiting, and operator services, that were often inaccessible to many users with disabilities.

1996 - Not Dead Yet was formed by disabled advocates to oppose Jack Kevorkian and the proponents of assisted suicide for people with disabilities. Disability rights advocates were concerned by movements to "ration" health care for people with severe disabilities and the imposition of "Do Not Resuscitate" (DNR) orders for disabled people in hospitals, schools, and nursing homes. PRIDE: A Curriculum / High School Unit 3 – Student Handout 84 The Supreme Court determined that the issue of physician-assisted suicide was within states' jurisdiction (*Vacco v. Quill* and *Washington v. Glucksberg*).

1996 - Federal Telecommunications Act Enacted

Act requires computers, telephones, closed captioning and many other telecommunication devices and equipment be made accessible.

1998 - **Assistive Technology Act Signed into Law**

The Act was a renewal and expansion of the Technology-Related Assistance for Individuals with Disabilities Act of 1989.

1999 - **Olmstead v. L.C. and E.W.**

Most important civil rights decision for people with disabilities in US History. Olmstead requires states to provide services in the most integrated setting and reinforced the right of people with disabilities to live in the community.

1999 - The Supreme Court ruled in three employment cases that individuals whose conditions do not substantially limit any life activity and are easily correctable are not disabled under the Americans with Disabilities Act (Sutton et. al. v. United Airlines, Inc., Murphy v. United Parcel Service, Inc., and Albertsons, Inc. v. Kirkingburg). As a result, individuals with epilepsy, diabetes, and other types of disabilities may not be protected from employment discrimination by the ADA. These court decisions prompted disability rights advocates to begin working towards legislation that will clarify the original intent of the ADA.

2001 - The Commonwealth of Virginia House of Delegates approved a resolution expressing regret for its eugenics practices between 1924 and 1979.

2002 - **Help America Vote Act of 2002 (HAVA)** requires jurisdictions responsible for conducting federal elections to provide at least one accessible voting system for persons with disabilities at each polling place in federal elections. The accessible voting system must provide the same opportunity for access and participation, including privacy and independence, that other voters receive.

2004 - The first ever Disability Pride Parade was held in Chicago and other communities around the country.

2005 - Not Dead Yet and other disability rights advocacy groups protested the court ordered removal of feeding tube that supplied nutrition and hydration to a disabled woman. Several attempts were made to enact state and federal legislation to protect the rights of people with disabilities in similar situations. Despite the fact that she had never indicated a desire to refuse medical treatment in a Living Will or other legal document, Terri Schiavo eventually died from the effects of starvation and dehydration. Sources Author Unknown.

2006 - Lifespan Respite Care Act of 2006 - (Sec. 2) Amends the Public Health Service Act to authorize the Secretary of Health and Human Services to award matching grants or cooperative agreements to eligible state agencies to: (1) expand and enhance respite care services to family caregivers; (2) improve the statewide dissemination and coordination of respite care; and (3) provide, supplement, or improve access and quality of respite care services to family caregivers, thereby reducing family caregiver strain.

2007 - The Road-to-Freedom bus tour and photographic exhibit chronicled the history of the grassroots "people's movement" that led to passage of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Photographer and activist Tom Olin drives the bus to 48 states, drawing governors, mayors, and commissioners to events in cities and towns across the nation. Event repeated in 2014 for the ADA Legacy Tour.

2008 - West Virginia Requires Disability History to be Taught in Schools

Largely due to the efforts of 20 young people with disabilities (the West Virginia Youth Disability Caucus), West Virginia becomes the first state to require that the history of the disability rights movement be taught in schools grades K-12.

2009 Rosa's Law Enacted. President Barack Obama signs legislation that replaces the term "mental retardation" with the term "intellectual disability." Law is named for 9 year old Rosa Marcellino, a young advocate with Down syndrome.

2009 - The Matthew Shepard and James Byrd, Jr. Hate Crimes Prevention Act (which expanded the definition of federal hate crimes to include those violent crimes in which the victim is selected due to their actual or perceived disability.)

2012 - Philadelphia Disability Pride Celebration

Philadelphia celebrates its first Disability Pride day. Advocate Justin Dart's wheelchair is put on permanent exhibit in the National Constitution Center.

2014 - Achieving a Better Life Experience (ABLE) Act⁽¹⁾ and the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA).

2017 - ADAPT Activists Fight to Save Affordable Care Act / Medicaid

On June 22, after numerous attempts to meet with legislators to discuss their concerns about the healthcare bill, a group of disability rights advocates and ADAPT protest in Senator Mitch McConnell's Washington, D.C. office. Some protesters lay on the ground to stage a die-in, while others are dragged from their wheelchairs by police. Dozens of people are arrested — similar scenes unfold nationally. Protestors notably sat in Senator Cory Gardner's Denver office for two days before being forcibly removed.

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A Brief History of the Disability Rights Movement

National Consortium on Leadership and Disability for Youth

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Liberty Resources

Karin Willison

History by ZIM, Beyond the Textbooks (Jess Zimmerman)

A Guide to Disability Laws

ABLE National Resource Center.

DISABILITY RIGHTS HISTORY TIMELINE (Laws, Events, Organizations and Individuals)

This timeline uses language that is historically correct, but no longer considered acceptable.

Laws

1927 - The U.S. Supreme Court, in *Buck v. Bell*, ruled that the forced sterilization of people with disabilities was not a violation of their constitutional rights. Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes compared sterilization to vaccination. The decision removed the last restraints for eugenicists. By the 1970s, over 60,000 people with disabilities were sterilized in the U.S.

1935 - President Franklin Delano Roosevelt signs the **Social Security Act**, establishing a program of permanent assistance for adults with disabilities.

1938 - Passage of the **Fair Labor Standards Act** led to an enormous increase in the number of sheltered workshop program for blind workers. Meant to provide training and job opportunities for blind and visually disabled workers, employment practices at workshops often led to exploitation of workers at sub-minimum wages in poor conditions.

1954 - **The U.S. Supreme Court in *Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka*** ruled that separate schools for black and white children were unequal and unconstitutional. This pivotal decision became a catalyst for the civil rights movement, which eventually became a major inspiration to the disability rights movement. Mary Switzer, Director of the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation, authorized federal funds for more than 100 university-based rehabilitation related programs.

1963 - **On October 31, 1963**, President John F. Kennedy signs into law... **the Community Mental Health Act** (also known as the Mental Retardation and Community Mental Health Centers Construction Act of 1963*). The Act drastically altered the delivery of mental health services and inspired a new era of optimism in mental healthcare.

1968 - **The Architectural Barriers Act** required that all federally owned or leased buildings be accessible to people with physical disabilities.

1970 - **The Urban Mass Transit Act** required all new mass transit vehicles be equipped with wheelchair lifts. Implementation was delayed for twenty years. Developmental Disabilities Services and Facilities Construction Amendments were passed containing the first legal definition of developmental disabilities. They authorized grants for services and facilities for the rehabilitation of people with developmental disabilities and state DD Councils.

1972 - **The U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia, in *Mills v. Board of Education***, ruled that the District of Columbia could not exclude disabled children from the public schools. Similarly, the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, in *PARC v. Pennsylvania*, struck down various state laws used to exclude disabled children from the public schools. These decisions inspired advocates to work towards the passage of the **Education for All Handicapped Children Act of 1975**. The Center for Independent Living (CIL) was founded in Berkeley, California. It is recognized as the first center for independent living. PRIDE: A Curriculum / High School Unit 3 – Student Handout 77

1973 - **Rehabilitation Act (sections 501, 503, and 504).**

The Rehabilitation Act of 1973 replaces preexisting laws (collectively referred to as the Vocational Rehabilitation Act) to extend and revise the authorization of grants to States for vocational rehabilitation services, with special emphasis on services to those with the most severe disabilities, to expand special Federal responsibilities and research and training programs with respect to individuals

with disabilities, to establish special responsibilities in the Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare for coordination of all programs with respect to individuals with disabilities within the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, and for other purposes.

1975 - **The Education for All Handicapped Children Act** (Pub. Law 94-142) was passed, establishing the right of children with disabilities to a public school PRIDE: A Curriculum / High School Unit 3 – Student Handout 78 education in an integrated environment. The act was later renamed the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). The American Coalition of Citizens with Disabilities is founded. It became an important cross-disability rights organization of the 1970s by pulling together disability rights groups representing blind, deaf, physically disabled, and developmentally disabled people. The Association of Persons with Severe Handicaps (TASH) was founded by special education professionals responding to *PARC v. Pennsylvania* (1972) and subsequent right-to-education cases. The organization advocated for the end of aversive behavior modification and the closing of all residential institution for people with disabilities. The Atlantis Community was founded in Denver as a group-housing program for severely disabled adults who had previously been forced to live in nursing homes. The U.S. Supreme Court, in *O'Connor v. Donaldson*, ruled that people could not be institutionalized against their will in a psychiatric hospital unless they were determined to be a threat to themselves or to others. The first Parent and Training Information Centers (PTIs) were founded to help parents of disabled children to exercise their rights under the Education for All Handicapped Children Act of 1975.

The Telecommunications for the Disabled Act mandated telephone access for deaf and hard-of-hearing people at important public places, such as hospitals and police stations, and that all coin-operated phones be hearing aid-compatible by January 1985. It also called for state subsidies for production and distribution of TDDs (telecommunications devices for the deaf), more commonly referred to as TTYs. The National Council on Independent Living (NCIL) was formed to advocate on behalf of Independent Living Centers and the Independent Living Movement.

1984 - **The Voting Accessibility for the Elderly and Handicapped Act of 1984** generally requires polling places across the United States to be physically accessible to people with disabilities for federal elections. Where no accessible location is available to serve as a polling place, a political subdivision must provide an alternate means of casting a ballot on the day of the election. This law also requires states to make available registration and voting aids for disabled and elderly voters, including information by TTYs or similar devices.

1986 - **The Air Carrier Access Act** was passed, prohibiting airlines from refusing to serve people because they are disabled, and from charging them more for airfare than non-disabled travelers. The National Council on the Handicapped issued "Toward Independence." The report outlined the legal status of Americans with disabilities, documented the existence of discrimination, and cited the need for federal civil rights legislation (what will eventually be passed as the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990). The Protection and Advocacy for Mentally Ill Individuals Act was passed. It established protection and advocacy agencies for people who are inpatients or residents of mental health facilities. The Society for Disability Studies was founded.

1988 - **The Fair Housing Act, as amended in 1988**, prohibits housing discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, disability, familial status, and national origin. Its coverage includes private housing, housing that receives Federal financial assistance, and State and local government housing. It is unlawful to discriminate in any aspect of selling or renting housing or to deny a dwelling to a buyer or renter because of the disability of that individual, an individual associated with the buyer or renter, or an individual who intends to live in the residence. Other covered activities include, for example, financing, zoning practices, new construction design, and advertising.

1993 - **The National Voter Registration Act of 1993** (also known as the "NVRA" or "motor voter law") sets forth certain voter registration requirements with respect to elections for federal office. Section 5 of the NVRA requires that States offer voter registration opportunities at State motor vehicle agencies. Section 6 of the NVRA requires that States offer voter registration opportunities by mail-in application. Section 7 of the NVRA requires that States offer voter registration opportunities at certain State and local offices, including public assistance and disability offices. Section 8 of the NVRA contains requirements with respect to the administration of voter registration by States and requires States to implement procedures to maintain accurate and current voter registration lists.

1996 - Federal Telecommunications Act Enacted

Act requires computers, telephones, closed captioning and many other telecommunication devices and equipment be made accessible. Section 255 and Section 251(a)(2) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended by the Telecommunications Act of 1996, require manufacturers of telecommunications equipment and providers of telecommunications services to ensure that such equipment and services are accessible to and usable by persons with disabilities, if readily achievable. These amendments ensure that people with disabilities will have access to a broad range of products and services such as telephones, cell phones, pagers, call-waiting, and operator services, that were often inaccessible to many users with disabilities.

1998 - Assistive Technology Act Signed into Law

The Act was a renewal and expansion of the Technology-Related Assistance for Individuals with Disabilities Act of 1989.

1999 - Olmstead v. L.C. and E.W.

Most important civil rights decision for people with disabilities in US History. Olmstead requires states to provide services in the most integrated setting and reinforced the right of people with disabilities to live in the community.

2002 - **Help America Vote Act of 2002 (HAVA)** requires jurisdictions responsible for conducting federal elections to provide at least one accessible voting system for persons with disabilities at each polling place in federal elections. The accessible voting system must provide the same opportunity for access and participation, including privacy and independence, that other voters receive.

2006 - **Lifespan Respite Care Act of 2006** - (Sec. 2) Amends the Public Health Service Act to authorize the Secretary of Health and Human Services to award matching grants or cooperative agreements to eligible state agencies to: (1) expand and enhance respite care services to family caregivers; (2) improve the statewide dissemination and coordination of respite care; and (3) provide, supplement, or improve access and quality of respite care services to family caregivers, thereby reducing family caregiver strain.

2009 **Rosa's Law Enacted**. President Barack Obama signs legislation that replaces the term "mental retardation" with the term "intellectual disability." Law is named for 9 year old Rosa Marcellino, a young advocate with Down syndrome.

2009 - **The Matthew Shepard and James Byrd, Jr. Hate Crimes Prevention Act** (which expanded the definition of federal hate crimes to include those violent crimes in which the victim is selected due to their actual or perceived disability.)

2014 - **Achieving a Better Life Experience (ABLE) Act**^[1] and the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA).

Events

1933 - Franklin Delano Roosevelt, the first person with a significant disability becomes the 32nd president of the United States and is re-elected for an unprecedented four terms. In August 1921, while vacationing at Campobello Island, New Brunswick, Roosevelt contracted an illness, believed to be polio, which resulted in total and permanent paralysis from the waist down. After becoming President, he supports the founding of the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis (now known as the March of Dimes). In recognition of his support of this organization, FDR is commemorated on the dime.

1977 - Disability rights activists in ten cities staged demonstrations and occupations of the offices of the federal department of Health Education and Welfare (HEW) to force the Carter Administration to issue regulations implementing Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. The demonstration in San Francisco lasted nearly a month. On 28 April, HEW Secretary Joseph Califano signed the regulations. The White House Conference on Handicapped Individuals brought together 3,000 disabled people to discuss federal policy toward people PRIDE: A Curriculum / High School Unit 3 – Student Handout 79 with disabilities. This first ever gathering of its kind acted as a catalyst for grassroots disability rights organizing.

1978 - The National Council on Disability is established as an advisory board within the Department of Education. Its purpose is to promote policies, programs, practices, and procedures that guarantee equal opportunity for all people with disabilities, regardless of the nature or severity of the disability, and to empower them to achieve economic self-sufficiency, independent living, and inclusion and integration into all aspects of society.

1978 - Disability rights activists in Denver staged a sit-in demonstration, blocking several Denver Regional Transit Authority buses, to protest the complete inaccessibility of that city's mass transit system. The demonstration was organized by the Atlantis Community and was the first action in what became a yearlong civil disobedience campaign to force the Denver Transit Authority to purchase wheelchair lift-equipped buses. Title VII of the Rehabilitation Act Amendments of 1978 established the first federal funding of Centers for Independent Living (CILs) and created the National Council of the Handicapped under the U.S. Department of Education.

1988 - Students at Gallaudet University organized the "Deaf President Now" protest. I. King Jordan become the university's first deaf president. The Fair Housing Amendments Act added people with disabilities to those groups protected by federal fair housing legislation. It established minimum standards of adaptability for newly constructed multiple-dwelling housing. 1989 - The original version of the Americans with Disabilities Act, introduced into Congress the previous year, was redrafted and reintroduced. Disability organizations across the country advocated on its behalf. "Mouth: The Voice of Disability Rights" began publication.

1990 - Capitol Crawl Protest

On March 12, 1990 disability rights activists arrive at the U.S. Capitol and demand the passage of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Over 1,000 protesters from 30 states to protest the delay in passing the Act. After a day of rallies and speeches, over 60 activists abandoned their wheelchairs and mobility devices and began crawling the 83 stone steps up to the U.S. Capitol Building. Protestors chant "What do we want?" "ADA!" "When do we want it?" "NOW!" Other activists remained at the bottom encouraging the crawlers. "I want my civil rights," Paulette Patterson of Chicago states as she inched her way to the top. "I want to be treated like a human being." The "Capitol Crawl" becomes instrumental in the passage of the ADA.

1990 - **The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)** was signed by President George Bush on 26 July. Disability rights activists attended the signing ceremony on the White House lawn. The law mandated that local, state, and federal governments and programs be accessible, that businesses with more than 15 employees make "reasonable accommodations" for disabled workers, and that public accommodations such as restaurants and stores make "reasonable modifications" to ensure access for disabled members of the public. The act also mandated access in public transportation, communication, and in other areas of public life. With passage of the Americans with Disabilities Act, American Disabled for Accessible Public Transit (ADAPT) changed its focus to advocating for personal assistance services and changed its name to American Disabled for Attendant Programs Today.

"And on your behalf, as well as the behalf of this entire country, I now lift my pen to sign this Americans with Disabilities Act and say: Let the shameful wall of exclusion finally come tumbling down. God bless you all." President George Bush

Organizations

The American Association of People with Disabilities (AAPD)
The ARC
The National Council on Disability
The National Alliance for the Mentally Ill (NAMI)
National Organization on Disability

Disability Leaders and Individuals with Disabilities

Edward (Ed) Roberts:

Ed Roberts, described as the "father of independent living," was the disability rights movement's first major spokesperson. From his days studying political science at UC Berkeley to his time as director of the California Department of Rehabilitation, Ed Roberts was an unrelenting advocate for disability rights. Roberts, who suffered from polio and had to use an iron lung, is known as the "Father of Independent Living" for his accomplishments fighting for accessibility in Berkeley, across California, and throughout the country via passage of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and later the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990. Throughout, his sense of humor and adventurousness proved essential to his struggle for accessibility.

Judith Heumann

Judith (Judy) Heumann is a lifelong advocate for the rights of disabled people. She contracted polio in 1949 in Brooklyn, New York and began to use a wheelchair for her mobility. She was denied the right to attend school because she was considered a "fire hazard" at the age of five. Her parents played a strong role in fighting for her rights as a child, but Judy soon determined that she, working in collaboration with other disabled people, had to play an advocacy role due to continuous discrimination throughout her life. Judy has traveled in her motorized wheelchair to countries on every continent, in urban and rural communities alike. She has played a role in the development and implementation of major legislation including the IDEA, Section 504, the Americans with Disability Act and the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. From 1993 to 2001, Judy served in the Clinton Administration as the Assistant Secretary for the Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services in the Department of Education. Judy then served as the World Bank's first Adviser on Disability and Development from 2002 to 2006. In this position, she led the World Bank's disability work to expand its knowledge and capability to work with governments and civil society on including disability in the global conversation. During his presidency, President Obama appointed Judy as the first Special Advisor for International Disability Rights at the U.S.

Department of State, where she served from 2010-2017. Mayor Fenty of D.C. appointed her as the first Director for the Department on Disability Services, where she was responsible for the Developmental Disability Administration and the Rehabilitation Services Administration.

Mary Temple Grandin, Born: Autism

Mary Temple Grandin is not only an American professor at animal science at Colorado State University she is also a best-selling author, autism activist and consultant to the livestock industry on animal behavior.

In 2010 she was named by Time 100 as one of the one hundred most influential people in the world and is the subject of the award-winning biographical film, Temple Grandin.

She also invented the "hug box", a device designed to calm those on the autism spectrum.

Her message to the world:

The world needs different kinds of minds to work together.

See the person the label.

Autism is a part of who I am.

I am different, but not less

Helen Keller: Blindness

Helen Keller (June 27, 1880 - June 1, 1968) was one of the most famous people with disabilities in history and the first person without sight or hearing to earn a BA. Keller's story is told in the well known movie and play "The Miracle Worker", which outlines how her teacher taught her how to communicate. Keller became an author and campaigner of women's rights. Keller was born with the senses of sight and hearing, but lost use of them at the age of 19 months as a result of illness. One of the most inspiring stories of an individual who managed to succeed despite all odds is Helen Keller, who overcame the adversity of being deaf and blind to become one of the leading humanitarians of the 20th century.

Franklin Delano Roosevelt, the first person with a significant disability becomes the 32nd president of the United States and is re-elected for an unprecedented four terms. In August 1921, while vacationing at Campobello Island, New Brunswick, Roosevelt contracted an illness, believed to be polio, which resulted in total and permanent paralysis from the waist down. After becoming President, he supports the founding of the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis (now known as the March of Dimes). In recognition of his support of this organization, FDR is commemorated on the dime.

Ralph Braun, Born 1940-2013

Diagnosis: Muscular Dystrophy

Ralph Braun was the late founder and CEO of the Braun Corporation, which is today one of the leading manufacturers of wheelchairs and accessible vehicles. At age six Braun was diagnosed with muscular dystrophy and doctors told his parents he would never be independent. Ralph and his parents were however determined to prove them wrong. In the next few years Braun lost his ability to walk and he sent his mind to engineering the first battery-powered scooter. During his teen years he created various motorized vehicles to help him get around and by 1991 he had created the first wheelchair accessible minivan. Named the "Champion of Change" by President Barrack Obama his personal drive to keep him independent evolved into BraunAbility, the leading manufacturer of mobility products across the world. He passed away at the age of 73 but not before he made a serious impact helping launch the mobility movement.

Christopher Reeve: Quadriplegia

Christopher Reeve (September 25, 1952 - October 10, 2004) was a famous American actor who is best remembered for his role as Superman on-screen. Reeve was thrown from a horse in 1995 and became a quadriplegic. He founded the Christopher Reeve Foundation and co-founded the Reeve-Irvine Research

Center in order to assist with research for those afflicted with spinal cord injuries. After his accident, Reeve continued in the business as an actor and director. He also wrote two books about his experiences as a quadriplegic.

John Nash: Schizophrenia

American mathematical genius, Dr. John Nash, born June 13, 1928, is one of the most famous people with disabilities, whose life struggle with schizophrenia inspired the movie A Beautiful Mind in 2001. Nash published a number of works on game theory and created the mathematical theory known as Nash Embedding Theorem. He was also active in cryptography work with the NSA. Nash was recognized and received a number of awards during his career, including becoming a co-recipient of the Nobel Memorial Prize in Economic Sciences in 1994.

Ray Charles and Stevie Wonder

Musicians

Michael J Fox

Famed actor Michael J. Fox was diagnosed with Parkinson's disease at the age of 29 and partly retired from acting two years later as his symptoms started to worsen. Although he initially struggled with the diagnosis that did not stop him from creating the Michael J Fox Foundation For Parkinson's Research and he firmly believes: our challenges don't define us. Our actions do.

Stephen Hawking (8 January 1942 – 14 March 2018) was one of the most famous scientist the world has ever seen. Prof. Hawking was confined to a special wheelchair mounted with a computer that used to speak for him. He had lost speech due to ALS. Prof Hawking was an eminent theoretical physicist who made significant breakthroughs about the functioning of the universe. Discovery of Hawking radiation is among several of his important scientific contributions.