

'Disabled' is a Verb

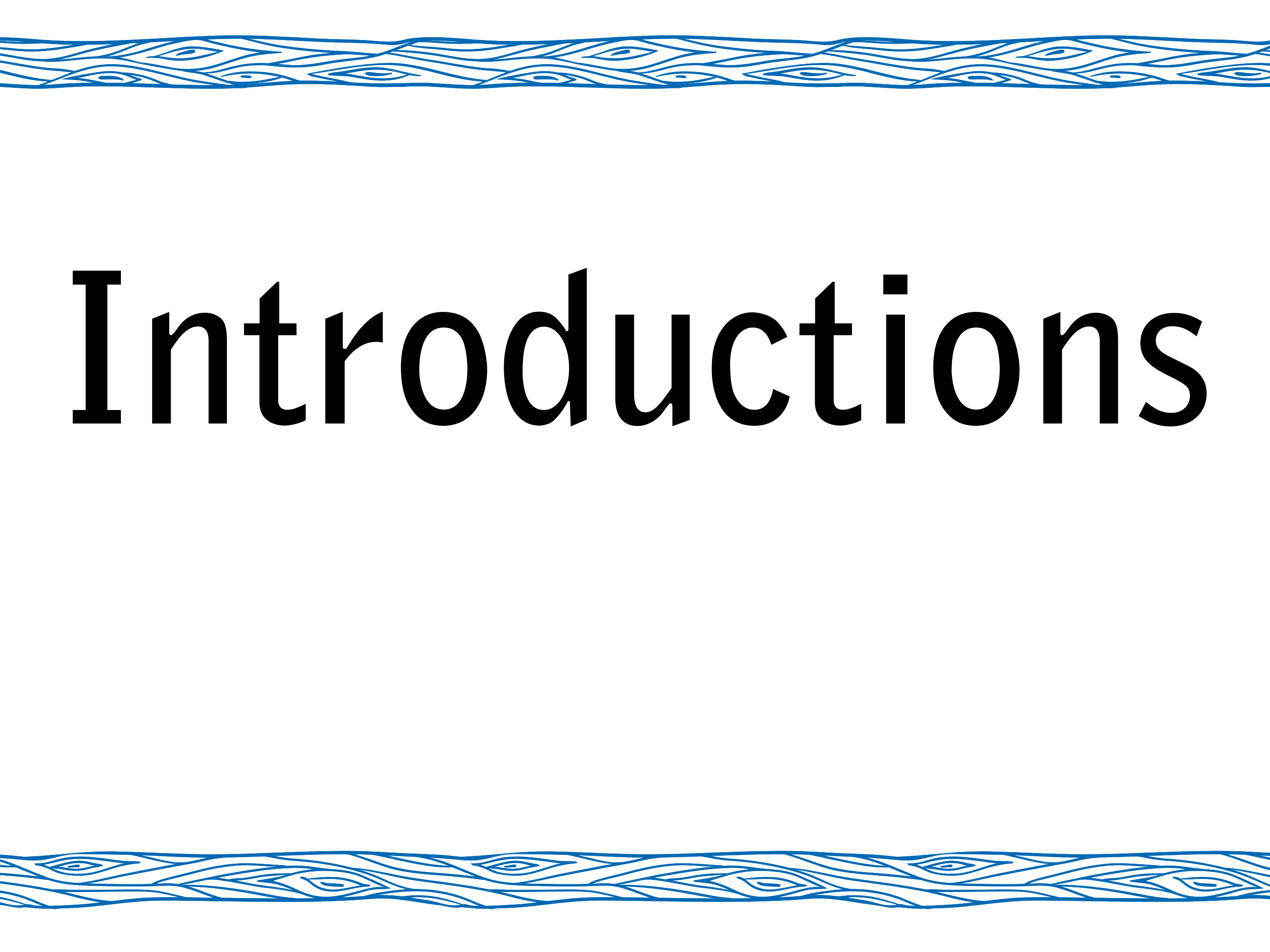
Reimagining the purposes of accessibility

Bethan Tovey-Walsh

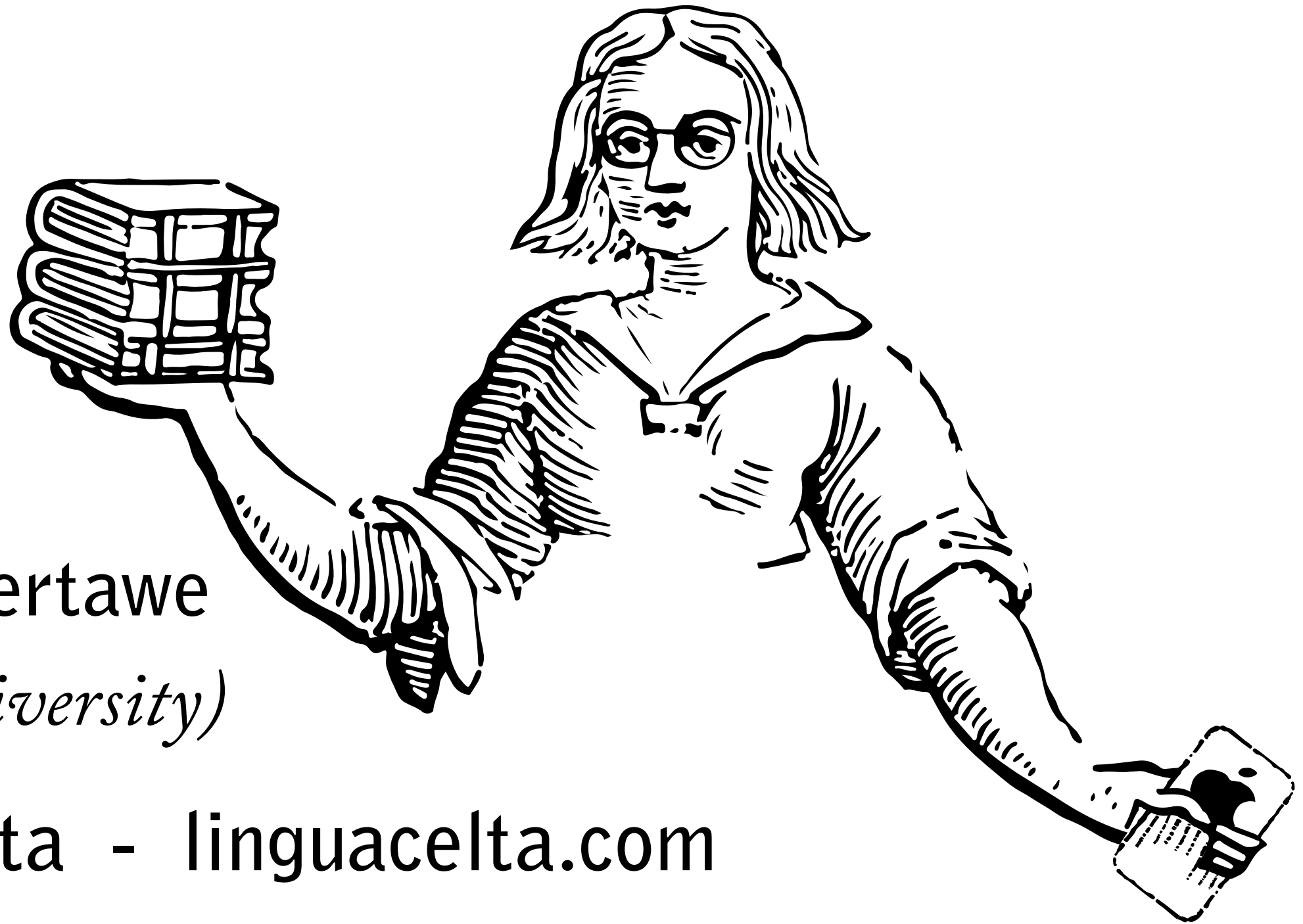
Prifysgol Abertawe
(Swansea University)



- 
- Introductions
 - Disability
 - Intersections
 - Accessibility



Introductions



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(*Swansea University*)

@LinguaCelta - linguacelta.com

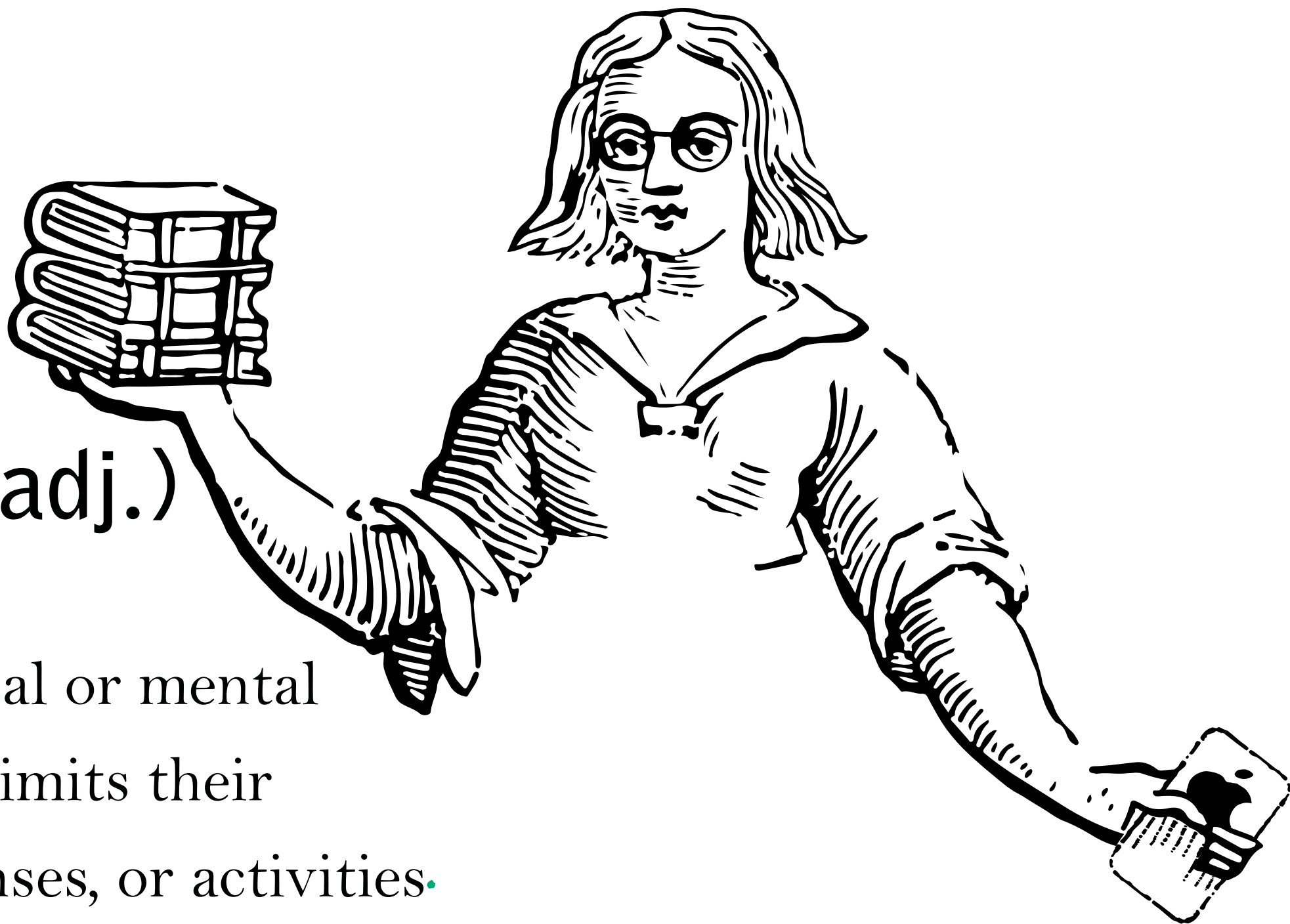
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Disabled (adj.)

(of a person)

having a physical or mental condition that limits their movements, senses, or activities.



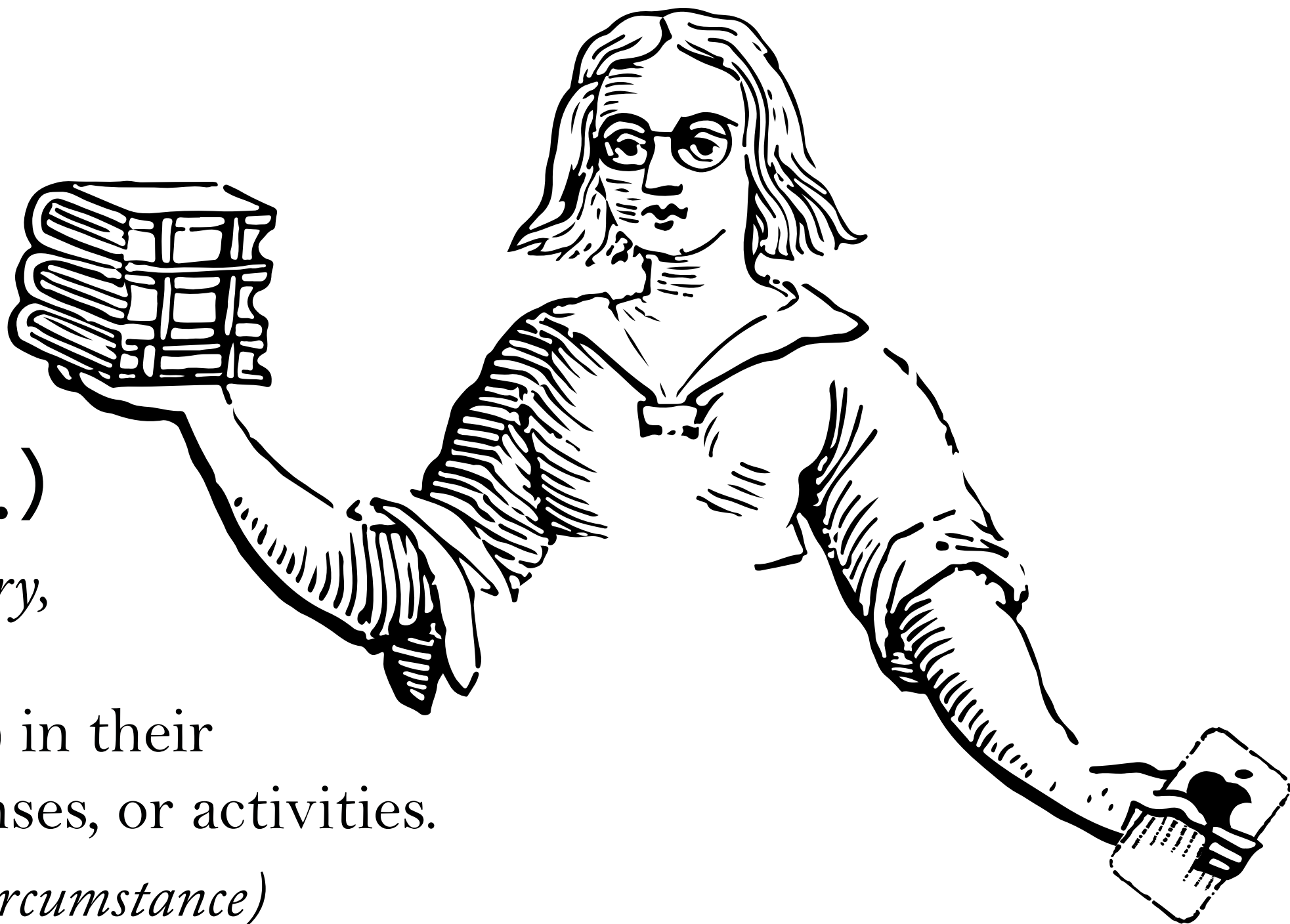
Disable (v.)

*(of a disease, injury,
or accident)*

limit (someone) in their
movements, senses, or activities.

(of an action or circumstance)

prevent or discourage (someone) from doing something.





Disability



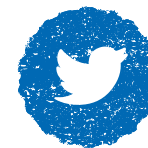
Disability

Two illustrative examples

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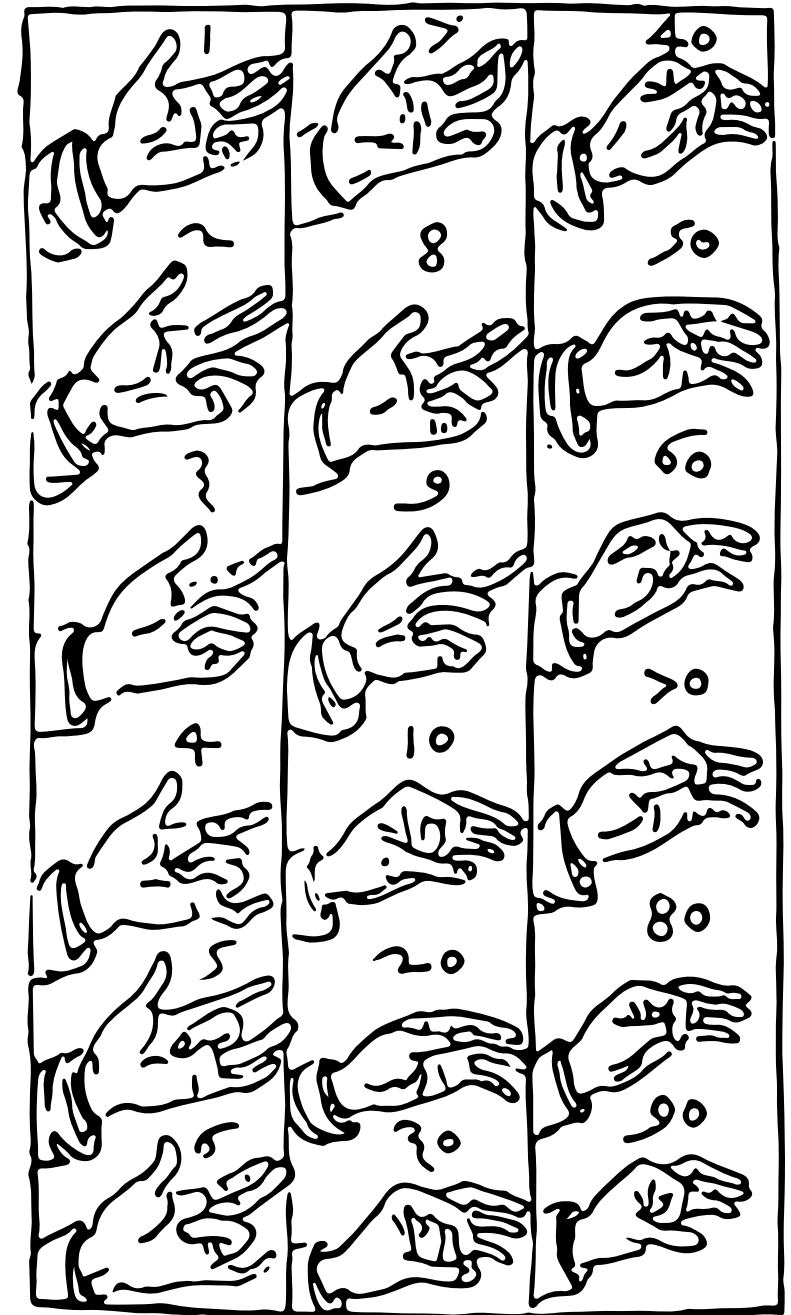


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“Sign language gloves”



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High-tech gloves translate sign language into spoken word

A phone app converts the signals from the glove

June 30, 2020 at 11:18 AM EDT - Updated June 30 at 11:18 AM

(CNN/Gray News) – Scientists at UCLA have developed a glove that translates sign language into speech in real-time.

The goal is to let deaf people communicate directly with anyone.

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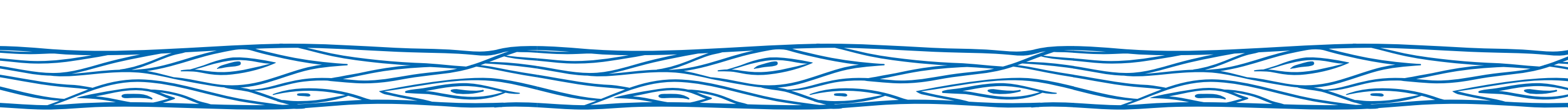


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- 
- sign languages are all different
 - sign languages are not just hand gestures
 - who benefits?

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Myopia



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Myopia is not a disability because it is easily correctable to the level of normal vision.

(U.S. Supreme Court ruling, 1999)

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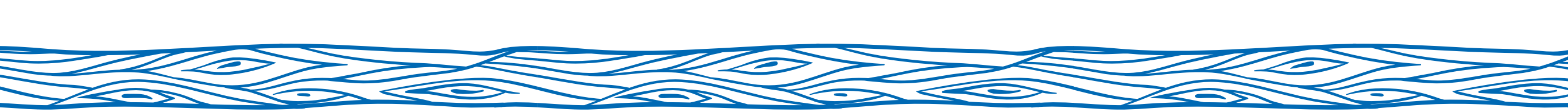


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Adults' eyeglasses were not covered by
Medicaid in 13 U.S. states in 2018.

<https://www.kff.org/medicaid/>

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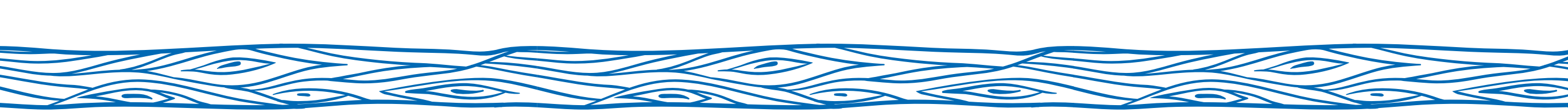


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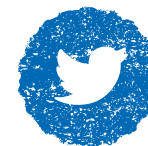
In 2002, ~5 million U.S. adults at risk of vision loss could not afford eyeglasses when needed.

*Zhang et al.,
Arch Ophthalmol. 418-411:(3)125;2007*

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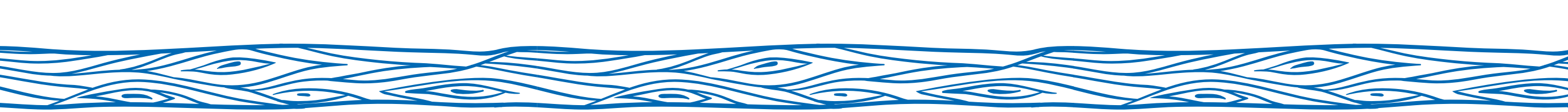


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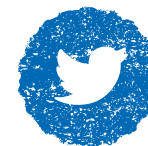
~108 million people globally had
uncorrected distance vision impairment in
2013 - the leading cause of moderate and
severe vision impairment (42%).

Bourne et al., Lancet Global Health 1:e339–e349

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ChromeFileEditViewHistoryBookmarksPeopleTabWindowHelp

Balisage: The Markup Conf

captcha accessibility - Google

Captcha Alternatives and thou

CAPTCHA Accessibility - Oran

whova.com/portal/webapp/balis_202007/Agenda/1068994

AppsBalisage: The Mar...

Whova

Organizing your own event?Bethan Tovey-Walsh

Balisage
The Markup Conference
2020

Balisage: The Markup Conference 2020
Jul 24 - 31, 2020

Docugami

Sponsor level: Silver

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Eliot Kimber

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High-Quality Microsoft Word documents from XML: The Wordinator

Mon. Jul 27, 2020

4:00 PM - 4:50 PM

19 Attending

1 Questions

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Many products make XML from Microsoft Word , but consider the reverse: making Word versions of your XML documents, thus using MS Word as an document composition engine. The Wordinator enables automatic creation of high-quality Word documents

Session Q&AChatCommunity

Andrew Sales

proofing the Excel part of the spec was... fun

Laura Randall

Forced standardization, still standardization. Personally not going to complain about the why!!

Mary Holstege

There is always some kind of forcing business reason

Michael Kay

I've lost contact, is it just me?

Tom Hillman

Think so, Mike

(sorry)

David Turner

Phineas and Ferb...Dr. D always had "inators"

John Lumley

Eliot's last project will of course be the Terminator

Sheila Morrissey

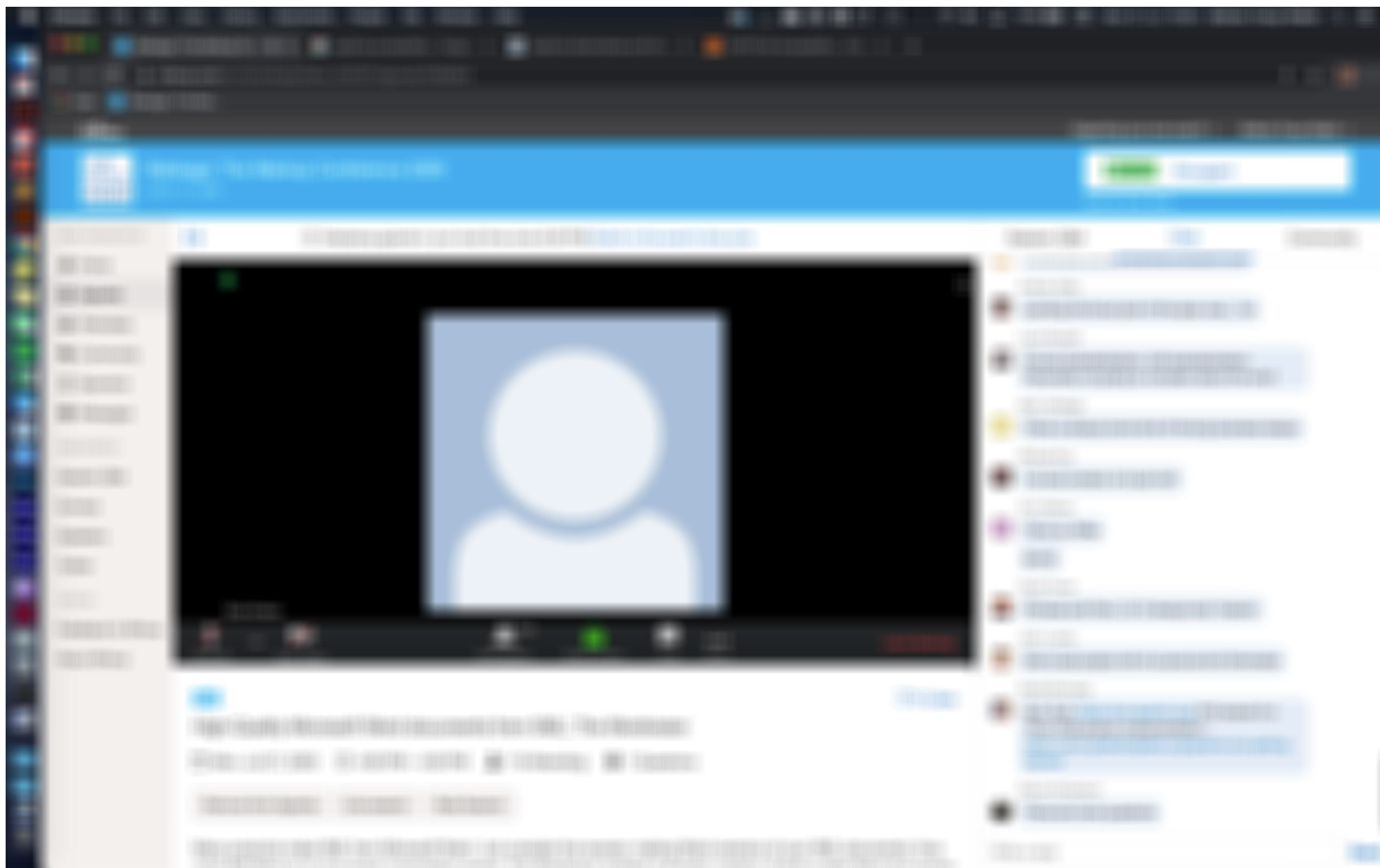
Syd: Syd: <https://poi.apache.org/> POI stands For "Poor Obfuscation Implementation". <https://www.geeksforgeeks.org/apache-poi-getting-started/>

Steven Pemberton

There are more questions

Write a reply

Send



Disability

Legal problems

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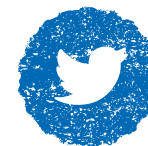
Common problems with legal definitions:

- *ambiguous / contradictory*
 - myopia is not legally a disability in the U.S., because it can be corrected
- most impairments that can be corrected with assistive devices are still legally disabilities



Common problems with legal definitions:

- *ambiguous / contradictory*
- *rigid / conventional*
 - in the U.K., drug addiction is not legally a disability
 - but addiction to prescribed drugs is legally a disability



Common problems with legal definitions:

- *ambiguous / contradictory*
- *rigid / conventional*
- *motivated by political expediency*
 - definitions (are designed to) allow gatekeeping of entitlement to support



Common problems with legal definitions:

- *ambiguous / contradictory*
- *rigid / conventional*
- *motivated by political expediency*
- *unilaterally produced*





Social models

- focus on the context that produces disablement

Capability/Diversity models

- focus on the diversity of human embodiment
- focus on what is possible in the context

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Disability

Impairment and disablement

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Impairment

is a characteristic of the individual's body
(including brain, cognition, senses, etc.)

Disability (or disablement)

is a process that results from impairment in
context

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What is disability?

Impairment interacting with context:

- physical or mental harm
- harm to dignity
- exclusion
- inequality
- denial of rights

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Disability

Avoiding disablement

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Approaches to avoiding disablement

- change the individual
 - *doesn't scale*
 - *abdication of responsibility*
 - *denigrates disabled identity*

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Approaches to avoiding disablement

- change the individual
- change the individual's circumstances
 - *doesn't scale*
 - *ignores systemic issues*
 - *tends towards idealization*

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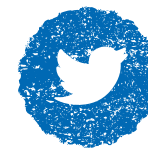
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Approaches to avoiding disablement

- change the individual
- change the individual's circumstances
- change attitudes
 - *important*
 - *must be more than superficial*
 - *must be accompanied by practical measures*



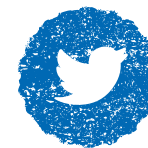
Approaches to avoiding disablement

- change the individual
- change the individual's circumstances
- change attitudes
- change social policy
 - *important*
 - *must include disabled people*
 - *must be enforced*

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Approaches to avoiding disablement

- change the individual
- change the individual's circumstances
- change attitudes
- change social policy
- change the environment
 - *we can do this!*

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TL;DR

- disablement arises in a variety of ways
- disablement is not a characteristic of individuals
- disablement is best defined by disabled people
(in collaboration with medical professionals where necessary)

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TL;DR

- disablement arises in a variety of ways
 - disablement is not a characteristic of individuals
 - disablement is best defined by disabled people
-
- we can reduce disablement by ensuring
our outputs do not disable people

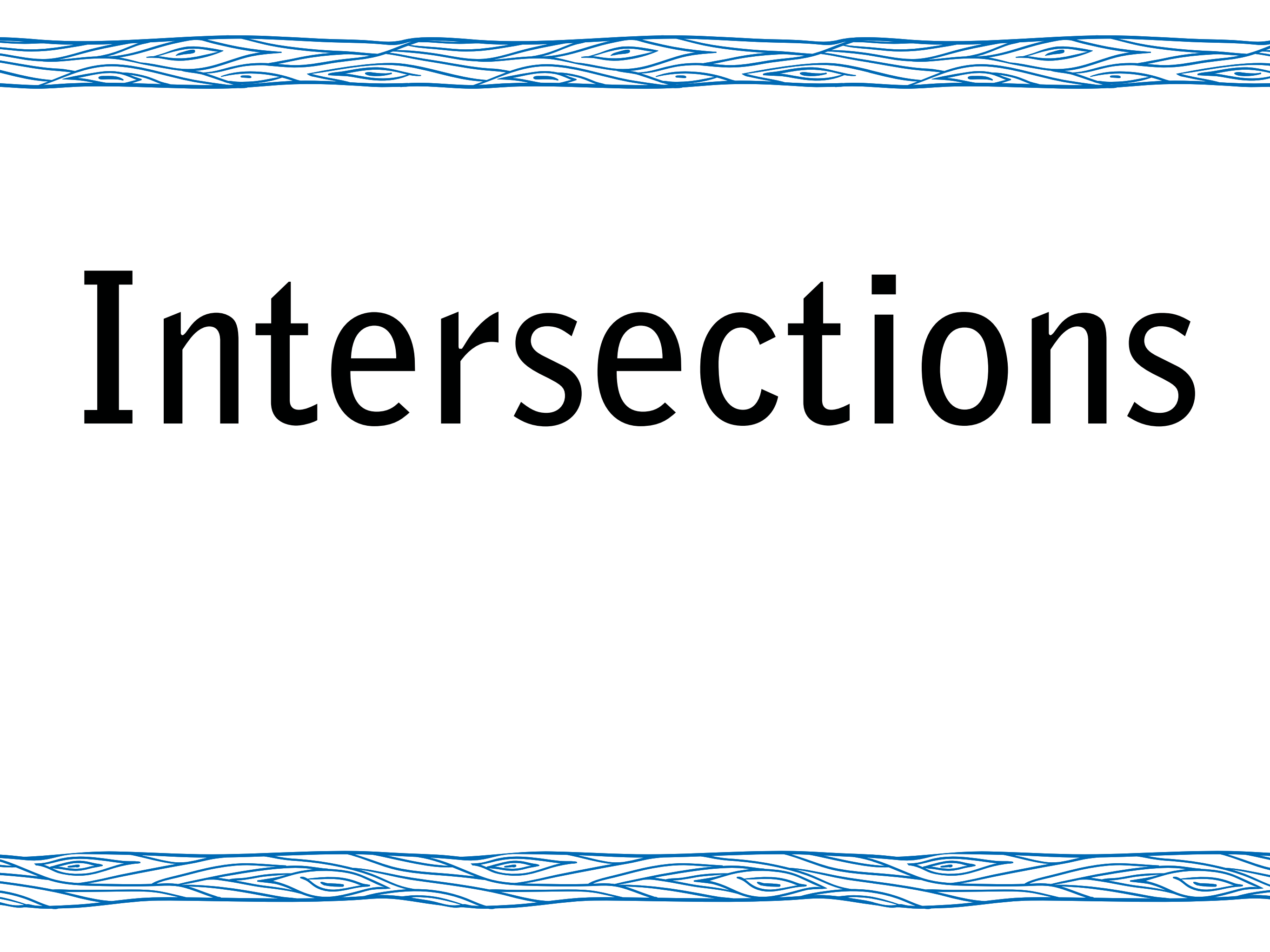
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Intersections



Intersections

Disabled *people*

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Poverty

- medical care
- assistive device access
- housing
- food security
- mental health

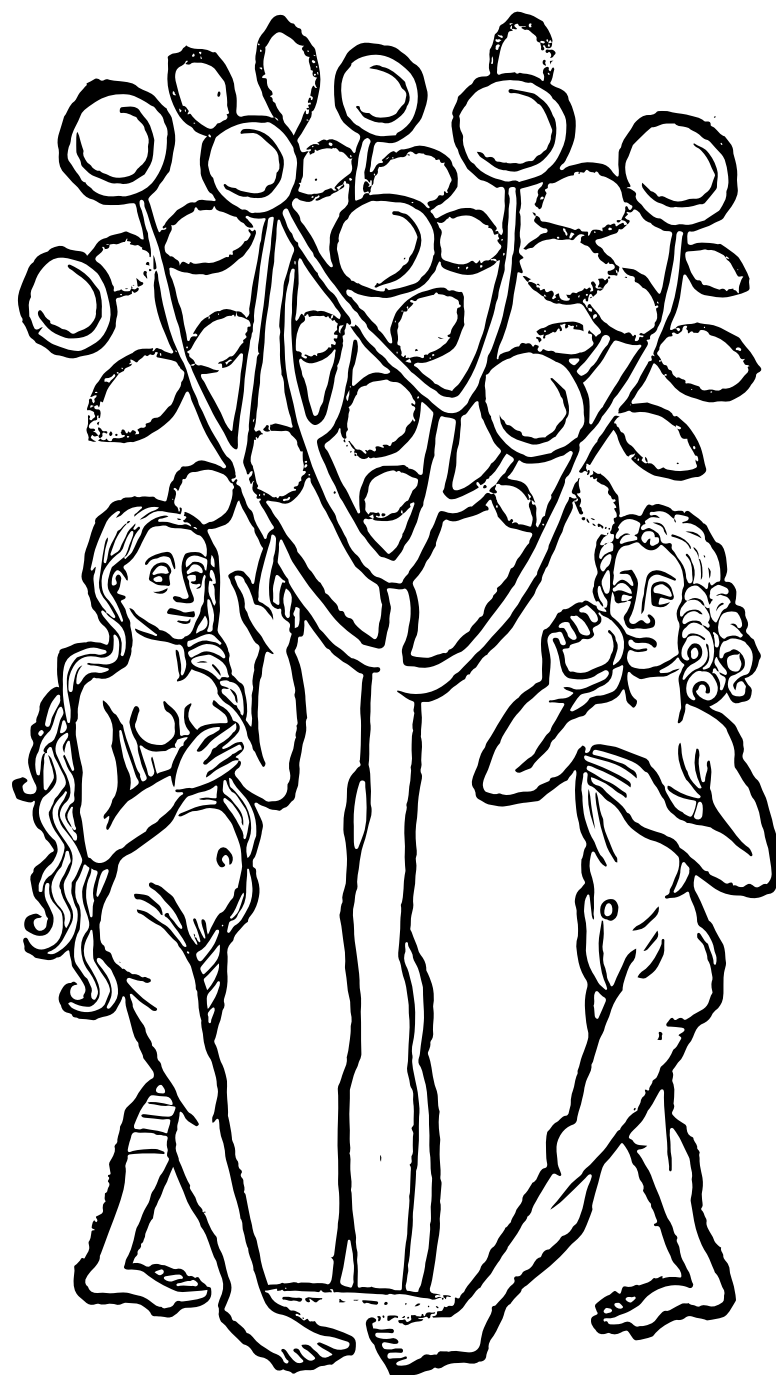
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Sex & Gender

- work-related injury
- mental health
- menstruation
- pregnancy
- autonomy

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Language

- right to language
- education
- resource inequality

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Residence/Culture

- medical support
- security
- cultural attitudes
- religious requirements

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Race/Ethnicity

- representation
- design inclusivity
- impacts of racism
- medical myths

(h/t <https://medievalpoc.tumblr.com>)

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Accessibility





Accessibility

Environmental change

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Environmental change

- remove barriers

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Environmental change

- remove barriers
- increase affordances

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Environmental change

- remove barriers
- increase affordances
- offer choices

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Environmental change

- remove barriers
- increase affordances
- offer choices
- identify needs

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Environmental change

- remove barriers
- increase affordances
- offer choices
- identify needs
- research solutions

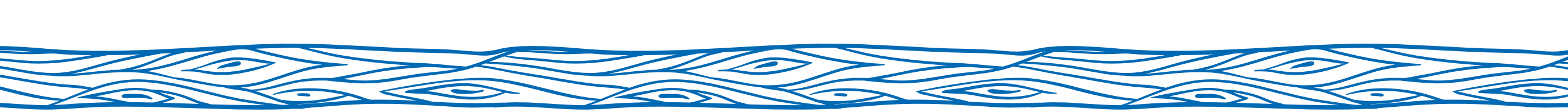
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listen to disabled people
hire disabled people

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Thank you!



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