

Discrimination against the disabled

My mother, (pictured) has struggled throughout her life with a rare metabolic condition called Glycogen Storage Disease type iiia, there are many subtypes of Glycogen Storage Disease although this type is the most common type, affecting 85%. It affects the liver as well as the cardiac and/or skeletal muscles.

Although, this condition has created many challenges through her life, she is still more than capable than any other person to achieve anything. Discrimination against the disabled is a serious topic which is never really discussed. This needs to change. The Equality Act which defends those with a disability was only introduced in 2010. I find this in a way, disgusting.

Recently, she attempted to enrol at the local college to achieve a qualification in Counselling. They were happy to take her on, until they found out about her disability/illness and it seemed to her that many excuses were made so that she couldn't join.

Through research, I have found multiple other instances where a disabled person was discriminated against. One of these would be how recently this year, a news story was released explaining that 19-year-old Jade O'Connell from New Zealand who suffers with Tourette's Syndrome was left devastated after she was turned away from boarding her flight due to her disability. On a previous flight she was described as 'disruptive' and her mother stated, "It's ridiculous. We've never had to do any of that before. It felt like it was about her Tourette's and this crew did not want to deal with her".

Overall, I feel that more of an understanding towards disabilities is needed and that any disabled person is capable of the same as any 'abled' person. They just need some extra help. In my opinion, this is indeed fucked up and bullshit.

While composing my poster, I wanted to keep it simple and easy, to really get my point across. To be blunt with it and not create an illusion in order to make it a subject that can be hidden, we need to show the truth of it. Also, there are many charity-esque organisations who battle this issue, and I agree with their work but we need to find a way to fight ensuring that we can fix the problem so that there is no need for charity. Despite finding plenty of inspiration through the work of others, I decided that I wanted to do my own style and just show the issue how I wanted to. Perhaps my influence is from Walker Evans, an American photojournalist while in the Great Depression who always made sure to not 'censor poverty' and show everything for what it is. That's the effect that I wanted to create, I didn't want to filter the sadness and emotion of my subject.