


UNIVERSITY
OTAGO
Te Whare Wānanga o Ōtago
NEW ZEALAND

Disability Advocacy and Reproductive Choice

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Marsden-funded Research Programme
Troubling 'Choice': Exploring and Explaining Techniques of Moral Reasoning for People Living at the Intersection of Reproductive Technologies, Genetics and Disability
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1

Living with Disability



Photo of Ben and his mother Andrea in AA Directions magazine Winter 2010, p. 16



Photo of Poppy and her parents Matt and Janine in New Zealand Herald, 15 July 2011, p. A9

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2

Living with Disability in Contemporary Contexts

- Deinstitutionalisation
- Neoliberalism
- Participatory citizenship

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3

Living with Disability in Contemporary Contexts

- Deinstitutionalisation
- Neoliberalism
- Participatory citizenship

- *Community living*
- *Individualised funding*
- *Parent-led advocacy*
- *Self-advocacy*
- *Parent-parent advocacy*
- *Information*

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4

- Disabled Persons Community Welfare Act 1975
- Education Act 1989
- Bill of Rights Act 1990
- Human Rights Act 1993
- Health and Disability Commissioner Act 1994
- Code of Health and Disability Services Consumers' Rights 1996
- New Zealand Public Health and Disability Act 2000
- **Disability Strategy 2001: Making a World of Difference**
Whakanui Oranga
- United Nations Declaration of the Rights of Indigenous Peoples 2007
- United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities 2008

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Participatory citizenship and reproductive choice

- UN Standard Rules in the Equalization of Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities 1993

Rule 9 covers participation in family life, including having children, practising 'family planning' and parenting

- Protection of Personal and Property Rights Act 1988

The court and court-appointed welfare guardian must consult the person and not assume that the person is incapable; they must develop and exercise such capacity as that person has to understand...and to communicate such decisions

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6

- **Disability Strategy 2001: Making a World of Difference Whakanui Oranga**
Objective 9 states that New Zealand will “support lifestyle choices, recreation and culture for disabled people;” Action: to “support disabled people in making their own choices about relationships, sexuality and reproductive potential”
- **UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities 2008**
Article 3 - General principles - “Respect for inherent dignity, individual autonomy including the freedom to make one’s own choices;” Article 10 - Right to life - states “Parties reaffirm that every human being has the inherent right to life and shall take all necessary measures to ensure its effective enjoyment by persons with disabilities on an equal basis with others”

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7

PARENT to PARENT NEW ZEALAND INC.

Parents Supporting Parents



Parent to Parent Advocacy

- Meet people ‘where the issue is’
- Everyday difference: ‘no different’
- Siblings and second generation families

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9

Video connections create community



Photo thanks to Parent to Parent Otago, 17 June 2011

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10

Genetic information is now a part of family decision making

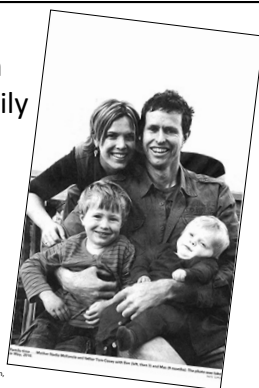


Photo of Ben and Mac and their parents Nadia and Tom,
Otago Daily Times, 21 May 2011, p. 2

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11