How stigma effects us: the voice of self-advocates with IDD

Dana Roth, Ph.D.*
Heli Peretz*
Dorit Barak**
Raising Society’s awareness on the rights of people with disabilities, *combating prejudice discrimination* and harmful practices and promoting their capabilities & contribution.
Stereotypes, Prejudice, Stigma

Stigma is conceptualized as a set of prejudicial attitudes, stereotypes, discriminatory behaviors and biased social structures endorsed by a sizeable group about a discredited subgroup (Corrigan 2000).
Presence and Impact of Stigma

SOCIAL LEVEL
Institutional Stigma/Discrimination

STIGMATISERS
External Stigma

PWIDD

STIGMATISED
Self-Stigma

affiliated Stigma

Adapted from Corrigan & Fong, 2014 & Katrina Scior et. al (2014)
If we have learned something from the USA human rights movement, it is that when others speak for you, you lose.

Ed Roberts (1989) often called the father of the Independent Living movement
Study design and Process

Research Question

Consulting Committee

1. Relevance / Importance of Issue
   - Very Important, Painful
2. Who Should participate
   - National self-advocates group members, or SA group that raised the issue
3. How should it be conducted
   - administered groups, not individually

Semi Structured Focus group(s)

Analyses

Conclusions/ Recommendations

Researchers & PWIDD

Researchers & PWIDD

Researchers & PWIDD

Researchers & PWIDD

Researchers & PWIDD

Researchers & PWIDD
Researches questions

1. Examine the presence of stigma in PWIDDD lives and the level of internalizing the Stigma?

2. How and in what forms do PWIDDD experience stigma in their lives?
Questions suggested by consultants with IDD

- Why are people afraid of us?
- Why are they reluctant to interact with us?
- Why do people think we are stupid?
- Why can’t people accept us as we are?
- Why can’t people believe in us?
- Are we really disabled?
- Why do people feel pity towards us?
- Why do people think we need charity?
- Why do families and others tell us we cannot do things?
Results

• Emotional impact of Stigma.
• Difficultly understanding why stigma occurs and directed toward us
• Confusion in self-concept and identity
• Ignoring as a typical response to experiencing stigma
• The opportunity provided by self-advocacy
INTELLECTUAL DISABILITY AND STIGMA

Stepping Out from the Margins

Edited by
KATRINA SCIOR & SHIRLI WERNER
спасибо 谢谢 ありがとう MERCI DANKE धन्यवाद ТОДА OBRIGADO

danar@beitissie.org.il