



13.6% of Michigan's population is living with a disability, 5.1% of which being a cognitive disability (Research on Disability)

Do these numbers surprise you? Why or why not?

In 2010, 27.3% of people with disabilities between 18 & 64 were living in poverty, compared to the national 12.8% poverty rate for individuals without disabilities (Research on Disability)

The poverty rate for persons with disabilities is more than twice as high as for those without disabilities. Why do you think this might be? What does this tell us about the way our economy is structured?

Michigan's poverty rate for those with disabilities is 30.2%. What measures could we take at our local level to address this?

In Michigan, those with disabilities earn an average of \$11,144 less per year than those without disabilities

Disability rights leader Fred Fay once said that curbs were "Berlin Walls" between him and the places he had every right to go. What do you think of this quotation?

Wal-Mart to Pay \$275,000 to Former Employee Fired after Cancer Surgery

<http://www1.eeoc.gov/eeoc/newsroom/release/12-16-11b.cfm>

Disabilities need not be permanent. Have you ever been injured for a period of time (broken bone, surgery) and felt like you were treated differently because of your temporary impairment without disability?

What about the journalist who delivered the story? Were you frustrated with her speech? What were your initial thoughts when she started speaking? Reflect upon your initial reactions and assumptions when she started the story. Do these reflect a bias in your own life?

Love is Blind- CBS News

<http://www.cbsnews.com/video/watch/?id=5422743n>

What do you think about the statement made about someone with Pandu's condition, that "nobody wants that"? As Christians, how are we to respond to such a statement?

All God's Children Have Gifts: Disability and Worship- Calvin Institute of Christian Worship

<http://worship.calvin.edu/resources/resource-library/all-god-s-children-have-gifts-disability-and-worship/>

What did you think about the "Apart, For, With, By" progression of church's and their responses to persons with disabilities? Is it helpful or too limited?

Beatitudes for Disabled People....by Marjorie Chappell.

