Group discussion

UNCRDP notes from main room

Health, housing education. Discrimination

DP made up 60% of covid deaths and 20% of population so not had our right to life.

Austerity has made it worse

Diagnosis of autism - people not getting multi disciplinary team, post diagnostic support, unable to access health care.

I know people with various health problems have not been able to access hospital appointments. Due to covid partly.

Blanket DNRs on many disabled people

Feels like total all out assault on social position of disabled people.

Life trampled during covid - DNRs, enforced stays in care homes, services people need to manage impairments were withdrawn.

Coronavirus act.

Social and economic rights

 - ability to control your life if you need PA - right to family life, right to travel within community,

Street furniture and change to pedestrianised areas has affected people with various impairments - blind and partially sighted, wheelchair users

Still no right to flexibility at work in terms of flexible hours, WFH.

But government wants to give disabled people right to assisted suicide rather than right to life.

“Society has never made me feel as disabled as I have in 2021”

Barriers are more than physical barriers.

Street furniture, e scooters for d/Deaf people

Lack of BSL interpreter in life or death info (covid briefings)

Right to life, independent living does not exist.

Media negative portrayal of disabled people - e.g. saying most are fakers

Segregated education - government wants to open more segregated schools

Pandemic has highlighted inequalities that have always existed.

Covid has shown that online work and learning can work

But digital exclusion - lots of people on low income can’t afford internet and device

Govt disability strategy

Push for social care to be pushed in to the NHS, which is being privatised, not good for disabled people.

Education - student debt. Some disabled people have higher debts because of takin longer to finish studies for various reasons.

Grassroots DPOs don’t get funding whereas big charities who already have money are getting more and they don’t represent the needs of disabled people.

Housing

In June govt announced they’d spend £30million on building new homes, but they refused to insist that any were built to strict accessibility standards.

Consultation about housing in December - the consultation document was not accessible and not available in easy read.

Many disabled people get stuck in residential homes for many years simply due to a lack of accessible housing.

Accessible Housing is a fundamental need of disabled people which is not being met.

“Accessible housing” can still only cater to physical impairments, Example of someone in 2020 that asked for a comfort height loo in a new accessible home - builders would not install the one requested, instead had to install a normal one, then rip it out and change it.

GOvt are nowhere close to engaging with disabled people or DPOs. Lots of evidence.

Boris Johnson talking in riddles and metaphors - really confusing in general but extra difficult for many neurodivergent people. Also no BSL interpreter for English covid briefings.

Education children with ECHPs did don’t get support during covid, or when they went back after..

Increase in suicide attempts.

People not applying for PIP despite being eligible due to trauma around the application process.

Anti discrimination and other legislation do not match up.

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