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An Ableist Society: What Does Disability Look Like?

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An Ableist Society: What Does Disability Look Like?
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Abstract
One out of every five adults in the United States has a disability. That is about 63.976 million people, yet, ableism is a common type of discrimination. This paper is an attempt to create awareness of ableism and its negative effects by providing testimonies and methods that will help people with disabilities live a life without prejudice.

Key Points or Important Facts from the Research
- Ableism is defined as “discrimination or prejudice against individuals with disabilities.
- A disability is a physical, mental, or cognitive condition that interferes with a person’s ability to do a certain task or action.
- Education Disabilities Act of 1975 allowed for disabled students to attend school with special education services.
- Incorporating disabled students with their abled peers improves their emotional health and academics.
- Ableist language has become an acceptable norm in society.
- Quotas prevent disabled people from having a normal life.
- American Disabilities Act of 1990 requires businesses to be wheelchair accessible.
- People often avoid a conversation with those with a disability.
- Mocking disabilities is used as entertainment.
- Prejudice makes disabled people feel inferior and have a lower self-esteem.

Conclusion & Discussion
The United States is nowhere close to being an ableist free society and it will remain this way until people stop using ableist language as an insult or to mock someone, until mocking the disabled is not a media entertainment, until public figures realize that bullying others is not okay, until businesses stop being greedy and selfish and start obeying wheelchair laws, and until buses and concert venues get rid of those ridiculous quotas that interfere with the everyday life of someone with a disability. Disabilities are not the real problem, instead, it is the negative influence of society. The real disability is society being blind and deaf. People do not see the inequality and discrimination of ableism and they do not listen to what disabled people have to say. The key to overcoming this blindness and deafness is to create awareness in order to eliminate ableism.

Further Research Ideas
In the future I am interested in researching how disabled people are treated in the workplace and specific differences on the treatment of disabled people in different countries.

Works Cited

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