

People with disabilities: from exclusion to full citizenship

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Abstract:

Citizenship of disabled people is nowadays more recognized and their rights are, in theory, accepted. But a citizen is an autonomous person within the politic community; the citizen is not a subdit, he knows that is protagonist, that should be protagonist of its own life. Many people still think that have a disability means a misfortune that make a person with a disability less valid than any other person. The access to labour posts, to educational opportunities and, more dramatic, the satisfaction of daily basic needs is not possible for many people with disability: their citizen condition has not been recognized in practice. Delibes (2010) shipwrecked parable can be a counterpoint on this reflection about citizenship and disability: «Genaro Martín wandered for weeks around the city, as a stinky, begging from door to door, but doors, without exception, were closed...» [vd. Complete citation in the text, p. 132]

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