

Equinet Seminar 2017

Session 2

Respect, solidarity, inclusion



Session objective

- Increase our understanding of the types of discrimination experienced by women and girls with an intellectual disability and how to address it



Introduction to Inclusion Europe



- People with intellectual disability and their families working together for better lives



Who we are

An association:

- 39 countries
- 67 members
- 17 in EPSA



- 10 to 14 million people with intellectual disabilities



Support our members

Mara wants to vote



CONCENTRACIÓN frente al Tribunal Constitucional

C/Domenico Scarlatti, 6. Madrid

**Por el derecho a votar
de las personas con discapacidad**



Inclusion Europe

General Comment 3

In practice, the choices of women with disabilities, especially women with psychosocial or intellectual disabilities, are often ignored and their decisions are often substituted by those of third parties, including legal representatives, service providers, guardians and family members, in violation of their rights under article 12 of the Convention.

Exchange of ideas and learning



Mencap findings

The balance between risk and rights when it comes to people with a learning disability having intimate or sexual relationships is often skewed towards restricting their choices, both in the family home and other living arrangements.

These social attitudes are restricting, which means that people with a learning disability are often not getting the freedom or privacy to have intimate or sexual relationships.



Fighting discrimination

Follows you



Mencap UK Charity  @mencap_charity · 19/02/2017

'Would the world be a better place if people with low IQs were not allowed to reproduce?' @okcupid removes offensive question [#NotOkCupid](#)



Inclusion Europe

General Comment 3

Women with disabilities have the right to found a family and be provided with appropriate assistance to raise their children.

Women with intellectual disabilities especially those in institutions or in custody may experience forced contraception and sterilization.



What we do

- Projects

- Work on new ideas and better ways of doing things



Parents with Intellectual Disabilities

Mutual support network of mothers

European Family Set training resource

General Comment 3

Harmful gender and/or disability stereotypes based on such concepts as incapacity and inability can result in mothers with disabilities facing legal discrimination, which is why these women are significantly overrepresented in child protection proceedings and disproportionately lose contact and custody of their children, who are subject to adoption proceedings and/or to being placed in an institution.







Current project



Women with disabilities are at risk of violence. They experience violence very often and from many people. They have few people they can complain to and are often afraid to go to the police. There are also very few services which help these victims.

Languages

-  English
-  Easy-to-read
-  Nederlands
-  Makkelijk te lezen

Search



General Comment 3

Violations relating to deprivation of liberty disproportionately affect women with intellectual or psychosocial disabilities and those in institutional settings. Women with intellectual disabilities, may be at an even greater risk of violence and abuse because of their isolation, dependency or oppression.

Inclusion Europe

What we do

- Better policies for people with intellectual disabilities



The legal landscape



- United Nations treaties
 - CRPD
 - CEDAW
 - UNCRC
- UN mechanisms
 - Periodic reviews
 - Monitoring bodies
 - Optional protocol
 - General comments
 - Enquiries

The legal landscape

Europe



Council of Europe

- European Convention on Human Rights
- Other conventions including violence against women
- Commissioner for Human Rights
- European Court of Human Rights
- European Social Charter
- European Committee on Social Rights



The legal landscape

European Union



Laws and mechanisms

- Employment equality directive
- Gender-equality directives
- Horizontal Directive
- Charter of rights and fundamental freedoms
- CRPD implementation
- Petitions
- Consumer rights
- EU Institutions



Legal landscape

Member states



Laws and mechanisms

- National implementation of international law
- Non discrimination
- Equality and rights bodies
- Public accountability mechanisms
- Consumer rights



General Comment Key Issues

Three main subjects of concern with respect to the protection of human rights of women with disabilities:

- violence,
- sexual and reproductive health and rights,
- multiple and intersectional discrimination



Recommendations

- Recognise that girls and women with **intellectual** disabilities are **distinct** rights holders,
- Provide channels to have their voice heard and to exercise agency,
- Raise their self-confidence and increase their power and authority to take decisions in all areas affecting their lives.



Recommendations

- Promote, protect and fulfil the human rights of women and girls with disabilities
- Equal and effective legal protection
- Ensure the development, advancement and empowerment of women with disabilities at all stages in their lives



Additional measures

- Respect and highest attainable quality in the area of sexual and reproductive rights.
- Full and equal participation in the life of society.
- Awareness-raising of main stakeholders about the situation of women and girls with intellectual disability
- Prevent discrimination against mothers of people with intellectual disability and enable them to support their daughters and sons



Twin track approach

- Mainstream measures in all national and sectoral actions
- Targeted and monitored action



We are all advocates for change



What do we do?

- Opportunities to be seen and heard



Organisers:
Inclusion Czech Republic
and Inclusion Europe



Conference Europe in Action 2017:
Love, life and friendship



Thank you!

