UCL Research report

Intellectual disabilities: raising awareness and combating stigma A global review



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In this easy read summary we say learning disabilities for intellectual disabilities





Date of the report

July 2015



Why we did this research

We wanted to find out more about how people with learning disabilities are treated in different parts of the world



Other people's attitudes can make it harder for people with learning disabilities to

feel included



have a good life



We asked learning disability experts from around the world to tell us about people with learning disabilities in their countries



We also looked at the reports that these countries sent to the **United Nations** (UN)



These reports were about the treatment of people with disabilities in their country and what the country is doing to



include people with learning disabilities



stop discrimination



raise awareness



In January and March 2015 we did an online survey



The survey was in English and 4 other languages



667 people filled in the survey



experts / researchers



parent advocates

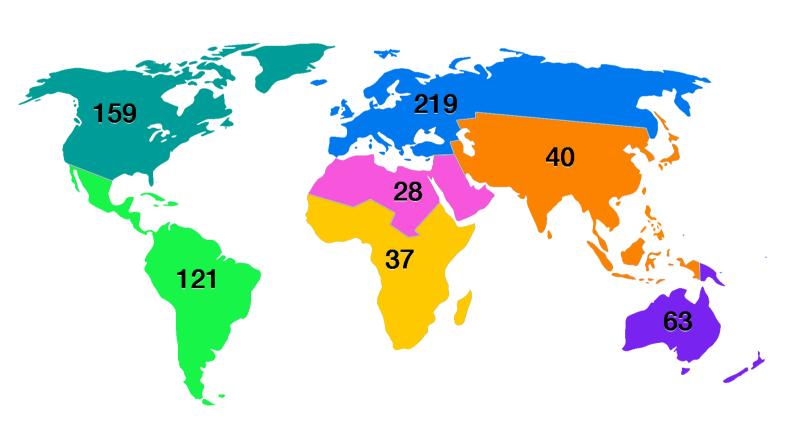


people with learning disabilities



These people were from 88 different countries

Here is a map of the world showing where the 667 people who filled in our survey came from



Summary



Our research has shown us

 how people with learning disabilities are treated in different parts of the world



 what countries are doing to raise awareness



In some countries things are getting better for people with learning disabilities



They have more rights and are included more



They can go to inclusive schools



There is more awareness of disability hate crime



Other countries still do not believe it is possible to include people with learning disabilities in society



They believe there should be special places for them to live, like hospitals



If the children go to school at all, it is to a special school



These countries have no special law about disability hate crime



In a few countries, they have closed all the places, like hospitals, where people with learning disabilities used to live



In many countries there are still 1000s of people with learning disabilities living in these places



Some countries do not have care and support for people with learning disabilities



When their parents die, people with learning disabilities have to manage on their own



We looked at what was being done in countries to raise awareness about learning disabilities



We looked at the work being done by

schools and colleges



the local community



the government



Our research shows us that people with learning disabilities from the richer parts of the world like Europe and the USA have a better chance in life



Richer countries are doing more to raise awareness and fight discrimination



There is more learning disability awareness and more inclusion



In many poorer parts of the world very little is being done to raise awareness



In these countries, people with learning disabilities have no rights and are often treated badly

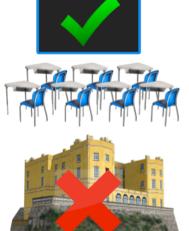


Many people said **Special Olympics** had helped raise awareness in their country



Recommendations

People with learning disabilities need to be seen and their voices must be heard



We should continue to support inclusive education



We should continue to close down the residential institutions



All countries should have a law against disability hate crime



There needs to be more learning disability awareness



We need to find out what helps change things for the better by having a way of measuring results

