1) Detailed Record
Title:
Developing the theoretical content in Universal Design.
Authors:
Lid, Inger Marie¹ ingermarie.lid@hioa.no
Source:
Document Type:
Article
Subject Terms:
*HOUSING
*MATHEMATICAL models
*PEOPLE with disabilities
*BARRIER-free design
*THEORY
Author-Supplied Keywords:
critical realism
CRPD
disability
phenomenology
relational model
Universal Design
NAICS/Industry Codes:
624229 Other Community Housing Services
Abstract:
Universal Design (UD) implies to plan and manufacture goods, buildings, outdoor spaces and facilities to be useable by all people to the fullest possible extent. UD has evolved from a focus on disabling barriers in the environments. As a strategy, UD has not yet clarified its relation to disability. The democratic potential for UD lies in recognizing all people as equal; this requires both theoretical and empirical studies. In this article, I focus on theoretical work related
to UD, approaching UD as a value-laden concept and argue that there is a need to develop UD with a stronger focus on the dimensions related to the concept of human. A relational model for disability is proposed as a fruitful model for theoretically developing UD on a micro, meso and macro level. This model focuses on the inter-action in situations where disability emerges, and can therefore attend to the complexity inherent in disability and UD. [ABSTRACT FROM AUTHOR]

2) Record
Title:
Universalism, universal design and equitable access to the built environment.

Images

Authors: Imrie, Rob
Document Type: Article
Subject Terms:
*HUMAN rights
*INTERIOR decoration
*PEOPLE with disabilities
*BARRIER-free design

Author-Supplied Keywords:
Accessibility
architectural design
cultural norms
disability
human rights

NAICS/Industry Codes:
541410 Interior Design Services

Abstract:
Purpose: The concept of universal design (UD) has acquired global significance and become orthodoxy of what is presented as the very best of design practice. This is despite limited evaluation of the theoretical content of the concept. This article seeks to redress this shortfall in knowledge by providing a critique of the theoretical and conceptual components that underpin the principles of universal design. Method: Commentary. Results: The content of UD appears to be reductive and functionalist, with an appeal to discourses of technical flexibility, or the notion that the problems confronting disabled people by poorly designed built environments may be redressed by recourse to technical and management solutions. UD is characterized by its advocation of the marketization of access as
the primary means to ensure the accessibility of products, including the built environment. This has the potential to reduce the 'right to access' to a right to be exercised through a market presence or transaction. There is also lack of clarity about what advocates of UD understand universalism to be, as illustrated by evidence of some ambivalence towards specialist or particular design solutions. Conclusions: UD provides a useful, yet partial, understanding of the interrelationships between disability and design that may limit how far inequalities of access to the built environment can be overcome. [ABSTRACT FROM AUTHOR]

Select websites:

http://webaim.org/articles/laws/usa/rehab

http://www.wrightslaw.com/info/section504.ada.peer.htm

https://facilities.wustl.edu/resources/Pages/Accessibility_Danforth2.aspx