

What is The Medical Model of Disability?

The Medical Model of Disability believes **your illness or medical condition**, for example:



● Being Deaf or hard of hearing



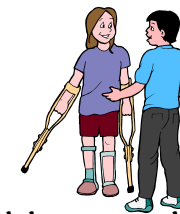
● Being blind or partially sighted



● Having learning difficulties



● Having mental ill health or hidden difficulties



● Being unable to walk, or having difficulty in walking

is the reason that you cannot fully take part in society, or take advantage of the opportunities that are available to people who do not have impairments or who are not disabled.

The Medical Model of Disability believes you cannot fully take part in society, or take advantage of the opportunities available to people who do not have impairments or who are not disabled, **because** you:



● Are Deaf or hard of hearing



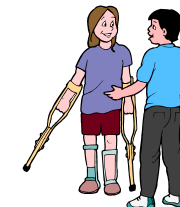
● Are blind or partially sighted



● Have learning difficulties



● Have mental ill health or hidden difficulties



● Are unable to walk, or have difficulty in walking

The Medical Model of Disability says **you are the problem**, not society or the way it is built and organised: you need to adapt to the way that it is built and organised. If that is not possible and you cannot adapt to the world as it is, the Medical Model says that you should be shut away in specialist institutions/homes or isolated in your own home.

The Medical Model of Disability is based on the assumption that **you are dependent** and need to be cured or cared for. Professionals or 'experts' control your life and **your choices are limited** to the ones they provide.