The Emergence and History of Special Education

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Broaden Your m ind



need.

Autism



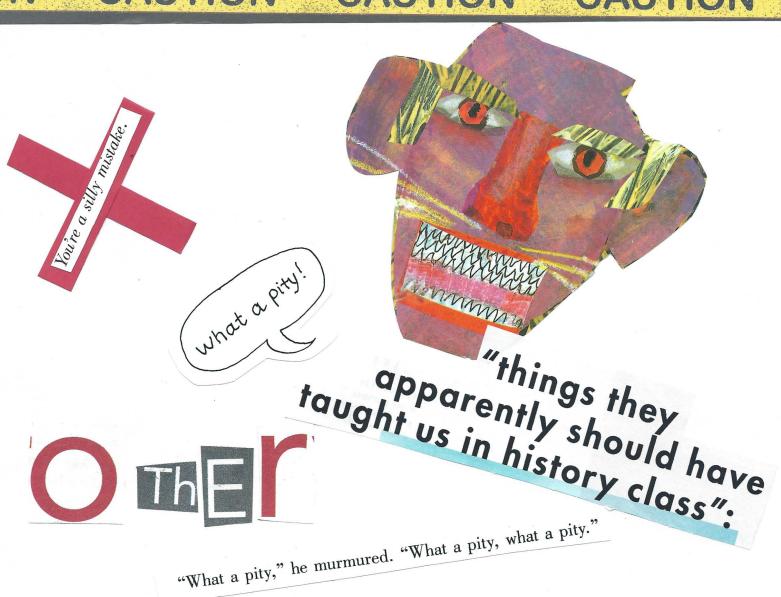
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important





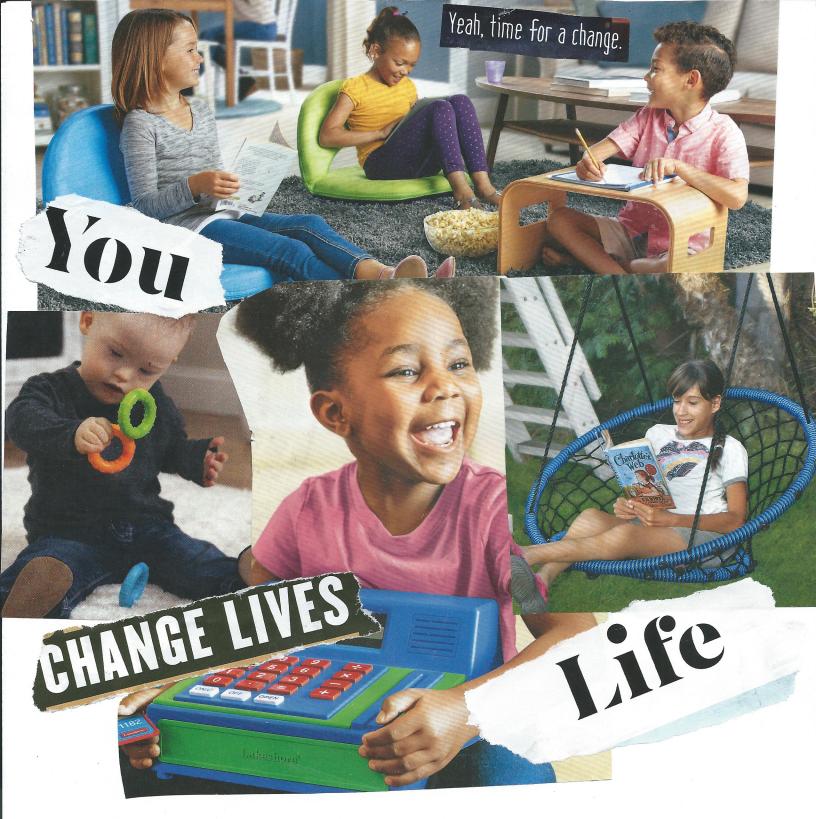
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We can learn from the past if we care enough to study it. They were called nauseating, depressing, feebleminded. But none of these are correct terms for another human. Creating "otherness" helped push along the agenda of Eugenics along with forced sterilizations and letting babies die. Who, in this period of time, were the real defects?



Brown Vs. Board of Education finally gave rights to some but not to all. It became a battle cry for all who were looked down on, but what happened to those called defective, nauseating, and imbeciles? What homes were they sent to where they were forgotten and lost? Not enough people to care for them or educate them. They became lost in a labyrinth of buildings and passages that claimed to give them care and an education but quickly the only education they received was the nightmares they had while sitting in their own rot and filth as they were shut away from the world. While they may not have been called "depressing, nauseating, defective, or imbeciles" anymore, "they" are still not "us".



Then, an IDEA! "Disability is a part of the human experience!" They are no longer not us. We are them. All people have a right to live their lives and create human experiences based on mutual respect and understanding. No longer will we shut people away from the world, everyone can go to school, everyone can participate. Each student shall be placed in the Least Restrictive Environment and, if necessary, have an Individualized Education Plan or 504 so each person can participate in an inclusive educational setting.



LISTEN. LEARN. GROW.

Educational systems and curriculum are created through collaborations between teachers, therapists, students, and families. Educators advocate for their students with disabilities and families collaborate to create environments that work for each student. Students are no longer placed outside of regular education classrooms but included with accommodations and modifications to help them learn to their greatest potential.



Multi-cultural education comes into play. How do educators create curriculum and classrooms that represent the students they teach? Social justice and equity play a part in what students are learning and culturally relevant curriculum is of the highest importance. Yazzie and Martinez vs. the NMPED showcases the inequities Indigenous and Minority Learners face in the state of New Mexico. A judge finally ruled that the state violated student's rights to sufficient educational opportunities and need to fix it for these students.



It is not always easy for families and educators to come together to advocate for a student with a disability. It can be a stressful time where everyone wants what is best for the student but do not always agree on what that is. Collaboration is the best option when it comes to creating IEPs and plans for a student with disabilities. Families often know what is best for their child and should be heard and respected.