THE HISTORY OF DISABILITY

• Disability History started in 400 B.C.
• Disability meaning is a physical or mental condition that limits a person's movements, senses, or activities.
• The first residential facility for the feebleminded in the United States opened in 1848, called the "Experimental School" located in the city of Boston.
Those with intellectual Disabilities were not treated fairly
They were denied the right to autonomy
Given up for adoption
Treated as no human value

For centuries, society as a whole treated these people as objects of fear and pity
SOCIETAL VIEWS

- Viewed as monsters
- Deformed
- Useless
- Worthless
- Unworthy of society
- Illiterate
- Misfits
WHAT IS STERILIZATION

• Sterilization is defined as the elimination of the ability of a person or animal to produce offspring, as by altering or removing the reproductive organs.

• In Delaware
  – Sterilization occurred between 1923-1963.
  – The first law was passed in 1923
  – There were 945 Sterilizations in Delaware
  – 50% Female – 50% Male
STERILIZATION

- Used to prevent the spread of mental diseases
- They wanted to stop propagation
- Criminals, Homosexuals, those with mental Illnesses, disabled, feebleminded, insane, low IQ's, Ethnicity, were all sought to be sterilized by doctors order.
- Close to 1/3 sterilized were considered mentally ill while more than 2/3 were considered mentally deficient.
- The highest rate of sterilization took place between 1927-1937 approx. 44 people were sterilized per year
Sterilized at the age of 14
Put in a juvenile detention center and was sterilized because they thought he was mental.

▼ No facts
▼ No proof
▼ Just assumptions!

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=I_yWZlgQOz0#action=share
IQ’S

People were diagnosed off their IQ’s classified as mentally defective, at the moron level, according to Doctors.
**Care of Mentally Ill in Delaware**

*By M. A. TARUMIANZ, M. D.*

The present State Board of Trustees decided to form a State Hospital for detention of mental patients. This was a matter of evolution rather than revolution; conditions were slowly improved from year to year. At the department were established the wards, and consulting medical staff increased, and living conditions improved.

To treat patients successfully, it is vital to have proper facilities, trained personnel, and adequate salaries. Those who are prepared to enter the field of mental hospitals are, of course, fewer, and it is necessary to save as many as possible faith and patience.

The law did not specify in what types of mental treatment should be carried out in the hospital. For example, physicians, who have been in practice for many years in the State, could not always care for the patients, especially in the State Hospital. The reports were approved by one of the members of the board. It should be noted that not every mental patient can be legally committed to the hospital.

In spite of all efforts, the field of mental treatment is still in its infancy. There are still a lot of problems to be solved. The need for proper facilities and trained personnel cannot be overemphasized. The need for proper facilities and trained personnel cannot be overemphasized.

Delaware was among the first states to give serious consideration to the establishment of a hospital for mental patients. This was a matter of evolution rather than revolution; conditions were slowly improved from year to year. The hospital was established at Wilminton. In 1928, the State Board of Trustees decided to form a State Hospital for detention of mental patients.

The building of the psychiatric hospital at Wilmington was a significant step in the mental health field. It was a matter of evolution rather than revolution; conditions were slowly improved from year to year. The need for proper facilities and trained personnel cannot be overemphasized. The need for proper facilities and trained personnel cannot be overemphasized.
“State Psychiatrist said yesterday that imbecility is inherited and that the children of moronic parents are likely to be morons.”
EVOLUTION OF TERMINOLOGY

- Idiot
- Imbecile
- Moron
- Retardate
- Inmate
- Mentally Retarded
- Mentally Deficient
- Crippled
- Handicapped
- Feebleminded

Current
- Intellectual Disabled
- Individuals
WHAT HAS BEEN DONE?

- ADA
- Employment and social welfare policies
- Education
- Transportation
- Rehabilitative Services
- Advocacy
WHERE ARE WE NOW?

- Still Fighting
- Technology Improvement
- More support
- More findings/Research
- Disability History Project
- Disability Awareness
CONCLUSION

• This is where we are now, thank you to those who have dedicated their life to making this all possible.

• In loving memory of those who suffered torture of sterilization.

• There is a plan and a purpose, a value to every life, no matter what it’s location, age, gender or disability.

• -THANK YOU