

Questionnaire on the Concept of Disability (CoD)

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Version 0.2

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Summary

Depending on context and individual perspective, there are different definitions of the term disability. This questionnaire utilizes the categories of disability that are commonly used in the scientific discourse in the field of special needs education in Germany, i.e. the individual-medical, social, systemic and cultural concepts of disability.

This is the **second version** of the questionnaire. All items of the questionnaire are specified according to construct and questionnaire. All data can be found in the OSF project, see <https://osf.io/dm4cs/>.

Literature relating to version 0.1 of the questionnaire:

Gebhardt M., Schurig M., Suggate S., Scheer D. & Capovilla D. (2022). Social, Systemic, Individual-Medical or Cultural? Questionnaire on the Concepts of Disability Among Teacher Education Students. *Frontiers in Education*. 6:701987. doi: 10.3389/feduc.2021.701987

What is disability?

Write down your own definition in five sentences.

	Do not agree at all (1)	Rather disagree (2)	Neither agree nor disagree (3)	Rather agree (4)	Strongly agree (5)
Which of these statements do you personally agree with?					
Disability is the result of innate or acquired impairments or disorders.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
A disability becomes manifest in long-term physical, emotional, mental or sensory impairments.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Disabilities are the results of missing or changed bodily structures and functions as well as of chronic physical or mental diseases.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Medical-therapeutic or psychological-pedagogic measures are necessary to compensate impairments for people with disabilities in daily life.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
People with disabilities require technologies, such as a wheel chair or other assistive technologies, for social participation.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
A disability is mostly caused by biological and medical impairments.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Disability is a social construct.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
You are not disabled by nature, but become disabled.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Disability is the product of social interaction and negotiation processes.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Disability originates from the prejudices and attitudes of people without disabilities.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Disability is the fault of the non-disabled social majority which determines what is normal.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Disability is mainly caused by the way social groups live together.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Disability has mostly social and situational causes.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

	Do not agree at all (1)	Rather disagree (2)	Neither agree nor disagree (3)	Rather agree (4)	Strongly agree (5)
Which of these statements do you personally agree with?					
Disability originates from environmental barriers.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Disability originates from the interaction of different barriers.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Disability is an educational category meant to facilitate support services in standard schools or enable the attendance of schools for children with special needs.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Disability depends on how somebody's private or institutional environments respond to their being different.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Disability mostly has systemic and institutional reasons.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Disability is a category necessary to enable a system to provide people with help or support.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Disability may be viewed as a relative dimension in the context of the relevant social, financial and cultural environments.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Disability is a historically developed cultural construct that undergoes constant change.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The consequences of a disability varies along a dimensional continuum and becomes manifest only in certain contexts.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The improvement of cultural and societal participation is a political mandate defined by uncovering and pinpointing culturally developed mechanisms of exclusion.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Disability often has cultural, societal and political causes.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

“Disability is the result of innate or acquired impairments or disorders.”

Discuss this statement and explain as to what extent you agree or disagree with it.

“You are not disabled by nature, but become disabled.”

Discuss this statement and explain as to what extent you agree or disagree with it.

“Disability depends on how somebody’s private or institutional environments respond to their being “different”.”

Discuss this statement and explain as to what extent you agree or disagree with it.

“Disability is the result of an unfair distribution of rights and opportunities.”

Discuss this statement and explain as to what extent you agree or disagree with it.

“Disability is a historically developed cultural reality that undergoes constant change.”

Discuss this statement and explain as to what extent you agree or disagree with it.

Questionnaire with item codes

Individual-medical concept of disability

- I1_B Disability is the result of innate or acquired impairments or disorders.
- I2_B A disability becomes manifest in long-term physical, emotional, mental or sensory impairments.
- I3_B Disabilities are the results of missing or changed bodily structures and functions as well as of chronic physical or mental diseases.
- I4_B Medical-therapeutic or psychological-pedagogic measures are necessary to compensate impairments for people with disabilities in daily life.
- I5_B People with disabilities require technologies as for instance a wheel chair or other assistive technologies to enable social participation.
- I6_B A disability is mostly caused by biological and medical impairments.

Social concept of disability

- So1_B Disability is a social construct.
- So2_B You are not disabled by nature, but become disabled.
- So3_B Disability is the product of social interaction and negotiation processes.
- So4_B Disability originates from the prejudices and attitudes of people without disabilities.
- So5_B Disability is the fault of the non-disabled social majority which determines what is normal.
- So6_B Disability is mainly caused by the way social groups live together.
- So7_B Disability has mostly social and situational causes.

Systemic concept of disability

- Sy1_B Disability originates from environmental barriers.
- Sy2_B Disability originates from the interaction of different barriers.
- Sy3_B Disability is an educational category meant to facilitate support services in standard schools or enable the attendance of schools for children with special needs.
- Sy4_B Disability depends on how somebody's private or institutional environments respond to their being different.
- Sy5_B Disability mostly has systemic and institutional reasons.
- Sy6_B Disability is a category necessary to enable a system to provide people with help or support.

Cultural concept of disability

- K1_B Disability may be validated as a relative dimension only in the context of the relevant social, financial and cultural environments.

- K2_B Disability is a historically developed cultural construct that undergoes constant change.
- K3_B The effect of a disability moves along a dimensional continuum and becomes manifest only in certain contexts.
- K4_B The improvement of cultural and societal participation is a political mandate defined by uncovering and pinpointing culturally developed mechanisms of exclusion.
- K5_B Disability often has cultural, societal and political causes.

