

CULTURE IS INCLUSION

A narrative of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people with disability

Scott Avery

FIRST PEOPLES DISABILITY NETWORK (AUSTRALIA)



First Peoples
Disability Network
Australia



INTERSECTIONALITY ACROSS THE LIFE TRAJECTORY OF AN ABORIGINAL OR TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER PERSON WITH DISABILITY



LIFE-STAGE ASPECT

Peri-Natal

Early childhood

Schooling years

Young people

Justice

Health

Ageing

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander

Low awareness of disability
Environmental factors, increased likelihood of low birth-weight

Low awareness of disability
Exposure to trauma
Increased likelihood of OOHC – off country, unstable home setting

Low awareness of disability
"Bad black kid syndrome" – punitive schooling over supported disability

Less likely to secure employment
Increased likelihood of police contact

Denial of rights – over incarceration

Subconscious bias – institutional racism

Reduced life expectancy
Disability happens earlier in life and with more comorbidities.

Disability

Low birth weight and environmental factors in developmental disability

Disability assessments aren't carried out to the extent that they need to be

Undiagnosed and unsupported disability

Less likely to secure employment
Communication impairments, reduced capacity to negotiate conflict

Denial of rights – indefinite detention and fitness to plea for people with cognitive and psychiatric disability

Subconscious bias – diagnostic overshadowing

Inadequate public infrastructure especially in remote communities.

SECTIONAL AND INTERSECTIONAL INEQUALITY IN ACCESSING HEALTHCARE SERVICES

Percentage of people reporting problems accessing healthcare services

