
**Summary:** Based on qualitative interviews with 71 DSPs supporting people with IDD in the UK, this study found that DSPs were not comfortable in knowing how to support same-sex intimate relationships among people with IDD. A lack of policy, lack of training, and individual prejudice were identified as reasons for the apparent lack of support.


**Summary:** Qualitative data were collected from focus groups with 68 people with IDD. Barriers to social inclusion identified by the participants with IDD were lack of knowledge, the role of DSPs, the location of their residence, and poor community attitudes. This article is significant in that it accounts for the perspectives of people with IDD directly.


**Summary:** BeFrienders was implemented in 25 states to increase inclusion of people with IDD. BeFrienders congregations reported the development of significant social ties between people with and without IDD.


**Summary:** Reported results of a survey of congregations that participated in the National Organization on Disabilities’ Accessible Congregations Campaign. Findings suggested
that the ACC program was useful in increasing acceptance, knowledge, and relationships, from the perspective of congregation members.


**Summary:** This article was written following the 2012 State of the Science Conference in Halifax, Canada. The article provides a broad summary of what we know about social inclusion of people with IDD, current controversies, and potential directions for future research. The perspective is international in scope.


**Summary:** This article contributes an outline of a transition-to-retirement program, in which older adults with IDD participated in an integrated community group once weekly. The method of developing and implementing the program is covered in detail, serving as a potential roadmap for other organizations considering similar initiatives.


**Summary:** This article summarize the proceedings from the Social Inclusion strand at National Goals 2015. Research goals for social inclusion for people with IDD included development of valid instruments for measuring inclusion, embedding social inclusion outcome measures in studies of other life domains, looking at lifespan development that promotes inclusion, and community-focused training that will enable stronger inclusion outcomes.


**Summary:** This is an Irish study of 34 students attending a special school, which found that their leisure activities were typically solitary and passive. Commonly cited barriers to other leisure activities were poor access and location.

Summary: This report details an initiative of the Seattle Department of Neighborhoods, which sought creative solutions to bring people with IDD more fully into participation in neighborhood events and activities. Participation in personal activities, interactions with neighborhood leaders, and active participation in neighborhood events all contributed to the success of the program.

Summary: This book provides a comprehensive resource for ways in which faith communities can open up to greater inclusion of people with disabilities. The topics covered are wide-ranging and practical suggestions for promotion of inclusion are offered.

Summary: Examined perceptions of high school staff regarding goals, barriers, benefits, outcomes, and supports associated with including adolescents with severe disabilities in general education classes.

http://dx.doi.org/10.2511/rpsd.35.3-4.63.
Summary: Conducted comprehensive review of intervention studies evaluating strategies to improve peer interaction outcomes.

http://dx.doi.org/10.1046/j.1468-3148.2003.00157.x.
Summary: This summary of integration research finds that the literature is primarily aimed at physical integration within the general community of non-disabled people. The assumption is challenged that more frequent integration means better lives. Social integration has the positive influence on well-being, and some individuals may find integration stressful. The aim should be community connectedness, which might be found more frequently with others with disabilities. The complex relationship between individual preferences and sense of well-being, with measures of social integration, is described.

**Summary:** The authors surveyed parents of people with IDD, community members, and DSPs about their attitudes regarding several aspects of sexuality among people with IDD. Parents tended to have more conservative views about sexuality than did DSPs of community members, perhaps due to age effects (parents tended to be older). Parents and DSPs were both less positive about parenthood for people with IDD than they were about other aspects of sexuality.


**Summary:** This article provides a general overview of the current state of knowledge about how people with IDD are included in recreational opportunities in their community. This review of current literature provides a strong overview to the issue of recreational participation of people with IDD.


**Summary:** Using an English sample of 1542 people with and without IDD, this study found that friendship activities are rare among people with IDD and when they do occur they are usually with other individuals with IDD. The residential setting of a person with IDD is a more accurate predictor of social activities than are personal characteristics of the person with IDD.


**Summary:** In this Irish study, a sample of almost 300 family members and DSPs indicated that DSPs tended to have more affirmative attitudes about sexuality for people with IDD than did family carers. Family carers tended to prefer low levels of intimacy for their sons and daughters.


**Summary:** This English study reported social network size substantially higher than most reports involving people with IDD, as individuals self-reported an average network size of 22. About 25% of network members were other individuals with IDD, and 43% were paid DSPs. These results suggest that social networks of people with IDD are not very integrated, even when they are relatively large.


**Summary:** This brief article explores the dimensions of faith that a family of a child with autism may experience, including both feelings of abandonment by their faith community and instances in which the faith community has embraced the family. An example is shared, which embodies both experiences.


**Summary:** A synthesis of qualitative studies resulted in six themes as crucial to social inclusion from the perspective of persons with disabilities: (1) being accepted as an individual beyond the disability; (2) having significant and reciprocal personal relationships; (3) being involved in activities; (4) having appropriate living accommodations; (5) having employment; and (6) receiving formal and informal supports. If measures of social inclusion are to be meaningful to persons with IDD themselves, such studies should address their subjective experience and satisfaction with activities in various social life contexts.


**Summary:** Including children with IDD as well as other disabilities, the authors proposed an ecological model by which leisure inclusion may be understood. The model accounts for forces at multiple levels that influence inclusion, including environmental, family, and child factors.

Summary: This article examines inclusion of students with moderate and severe intellectual disabilities in school extracurricular and community recreation activities, based on findings from a statewide survey. Reports include numbers of students participating in activities and primary types of support students required to participate in each activity, with implications for practitioners interested in increasing participation.


Summary: In a wide-ranging review, the authors found that the literature between 1997 and 2007 supports the superiority of community services over congregate services in the majority of measurement domains (7 out of 10 domains in total). Only three domains, addressing challenging behavior, psychotropic medication use, and mortality were not shown to be better in community settings.

http://dx.doi.org/10.1111/j.1365-2788.2009.01170.x.

Summary: This study compared the social inclusion of people with IDD and people with physical disabilities. Adults with IDD engaged in more social activities, but their social networks were more restricted. Few relationships with people without disabilities were found in the IDD group, whereas the people with physical disabilities reported more mixed membership in their social networks.


Summary: The dimensions of social inclusion are still limited. This study proposes five domains: relationships, leisure, productive activities, accommodations, and informal support, and applies these domains to 1341 adults with IDD in institutional and community-based settings. Percentages of social inclusion varied between 3.0% and 96.4% depending on which indicator was used. Without an understanding of what social inclusion means for people with and without disabilities, it is not clear what is being measured, or how it should be measured. A clear definition of inclusion and its measurement is needed.

Summary: Qualitative study with 27 teens suggests that companionship, doing activities across contexts, similarity in interests, proximity and stability were most important in defining friendship. Relationships with other teens with IDD were more stable and enduring than were relationships with typically developing peers.


Summary: Using a sample of 245 DSPs, findings showed that staff tended to rate care tasks to be of higher priority than social inclusion tasks. Staff in supported living settings rated social inclusion as a higher priority than did staff in day services, who tended to state that social inclusion tasks were not a part of their work.


Summary: This three-country qualitative study investigated how team members with and without IDD perceived the inclusion that was fostered through shared sport participation. Togetherness was the core concept in the analysis, with equality, friendship, participation, connections and assistance all being salient sub-themes.


Summary: Using the Mental retardation Attitude Inventory- Revised to measure attitudes of community members towards people with IDD. The authors found that increased quantity of interaction did not relate to better attitudes. High quality interactions did, however, relate to better attitudes about people with IDD among members of this sample.


Summary: This study compared the feelings of love expressed by people with and without Down Syndrome. The results suggested that feelings of love were generally similar regardless of disability status.


Summary: Literature about employment in general indicates that social relationships with coworkers contribute to improved work performance, job satisfaction, and job
longevity. This model was applied to coworkers with disabilities in this study; social integration means the employee with disabilities is included in the social activities of the workplace, not just that they are physically present. This study found that coworkers were more accepting of employees with disabilities if they have sufficient opportunities to interact with them, equal status and interdependent workshop relationships, and supervisors who support equality and acceptance. The contact model and an expanded model that included workplace culture significantly predicted coworker attitudes toward employees with disabilities and also the employees’ level of social participation and feelings of social support. Coworkers who relied on the work of an employee with a disability to get their own work done (i.e., were outcome dependent) more likely to socialize with and have a positive attitude toward the person. Strategies for promoting social integration are discussed and conditions of contact in an integrated workplace are identified.

O’Brien, J. & Lovett, H. (1996) What is Person-Centered Planning? Toronto, ON: Inclusion News. This is a seminal one-page article describing the context and basic principles of all forms of person-centered planning.

Summary: This is a review article that looks at the current state of knowledge of social inclusion of people with IDD based on individual characteristics, informal networks, professional carers, neighborhood factors, and government policy. Complexities between these domains are discussed.

Summary: The social networks of 500 people with DD in residential settings were examined. The reported median size was 2 people excluding staff. The majority of social networks consisted of staff, family members, and other people with DD. Variation in the size and composition of social networks was associated with a range of personal characteristics (age, ability, challenging behavior), type of previous and current living environment, staff ratios, institutional climate, and the degree of “active support.” The summary of literature identifies three main issues researchers have found regarding social networks of people with IDD receiving residential supports: (1) people’s social networks are highly restricted, with few meaningful relationships with people other than
staff, family, and peers: (2) people in smaller settings have more friendships and community contact than people in larger settings; and (3) contact with family members is infrequent or sporadic for many people.


**Summary:** The authors propose an ecological model of social inclusion for people with IDD based on two major domains: interpersonal relationships and community participation. The ecological model spans individual, interpersonal, organizational, community, and socio-political levels to provide one of the most comprehensive attempts to date to define social inclusion.


**Summary:** Examined social inclusion in an integrated summer recreational program. 95% of children without intellectual disabilities indicated they liked to “hang out with” at least 1 child with an intellectual disability. The majority of children without intellectual disabilities made at least 1 new friend with another child with an intellectual disability. Cooperative learning and cooperatively structured activities were effective in promoting inclusion. The perception of similarity is important in development of positive social relationships.


**Summary:** Using a small randomized trial, the researchers paired some members of a university swim team with Special Olympics swimmers. College swimmers who were paired with a swimmer with a disability showed improved attitudes towards people with disabilities compared with their teammates who did not have such a pairing.


**Summary:** This article provides an overview of research findings relating to volunteering and employment for work-age adults with ID. Findings indicated that volunteering alone is unlikely to lead to employment for adults with IDD. However,
some adults with IDD view volunteering as a meaningful and desirable alternative to paid work.


**Summary:** Four domains of community participation are proposed: (1) domestic life; (2) interpersonal interactions and relationships; (3) major life areas; and (4) community, civic and social life. Of 23 quantitative studies found, only 2 were based on a theoretical framework. Research instruments were various and most often not validated. The average number of people in the social network of people with IDD appeared to be 3.1, including one staff member. People with IDD living in community settings participate more than people in segregated settings, but their participation level is much lower than non-disabled and other disability groups.


**Summary:** This literature review on religious participation and inclusion in faith communities for individuals with disabilities addresses values of faith, barriers to inclusion, strategies for overcoming these barriers, and special considerations for adults with IDD. Recommendations for methods to enhance inclusion in faith communities are included.


**Summary:** Following involvement as mentors in a transition-to-retirement program, several people without disabilities discussed their experiences with people with IDD in community groups. The overall theme of “no different from us” suggested that, with some basic supports, retirees without disabilities are willing and able to assist people with IDD join community groups as they move into retirement. These group experiences and receiving support as mentors to the individuals with IDD enabled the mentors and other group members to see people with IDD as “no different from us.”