

AUTHORS

Friedrich Albrecht, PhD, MA. Ed., Professor for Therapeutic Pedagogy/Pedagogy of Disabilities at the University of Applied Sciences Zittau/Görlitz. He studied special education and therapeutic pedagogy in Frankfurt/Main, worked at a day care center for children at the Frankfurt Free School and as scientific assistant and instructor at the University of Frankfurt am Main (Research Theme: special education in the Third World and cross-cultural comparative special education). He has carried out field work and numerous research projects in Ecuador and is a member of the editorial board of the journal *Disability in the Third World*. He has participated for many years in the National Association for Disability in the Third World.

William Boyce, Professor, is the Director of the Social Program Evaluation Group at Queen's University, Canada. He has experience in evaluating disability and rehabilitation programmes in countries in conflict in South Asia, Central America and Africa.

Dee Burck, Dr., is a psychologist and cultural anthropologist. She has done research in Zimbabwe into cultural aspects of rehabilitation. In the Netherlands she has done research and has been director of a rehabilitation unit. Presently, she heads the health training department of the Royal Tropical Institute in Amsterdam, The Netherlands.

Francois De Keersmaecker, study of law. Project coordinator for *Handicap International* in Mozambique, Pakistan, Afghanistan und Madagascar: projects in development cooperation and/or emergency relief projects for persons with a disability. Work experience: training of local professionals, development of decentralized structures for service providing, application of locally available materials, supporting initiatives for integration. From 1994 until 1997 he worked as an independent consul-

tant in the field of development cooperation. In 1998 he founded the German section of *Handicap International*.

Patrick Devlieger, Professor, is assistant professor of human development in the Department of Disability and Human Development at the University of Illinois at Chicago. Prior to joining the University of Illinois, he was an associate expert with the United Nations in disability programme in Eastern and Southern Africa and a development worker with a group of doctors without borders in the Democratic Republic of Congo. His current research programme includes cross-cultural work on disability in African and American cultural contexts, spirituality, and disability in American history.

Parin Dossa, Dr., Associate Professor of Anthropology, received her MA from Edinburgh University and her PhD from the University of British Columbia. Her teaching and research interests include anthropology of Diaspora and transmigration, feminist ethnography, aging, mental health and disability. Her ethnographic research on Muslim minorities in Canada and on the coast of Kenya is guided by narrative discourses as these engage with post colonial and critical anthropology. Her current work on mental health of elderly Muslims in Metropolis Vancouver (BC) is supported by the Centre for the Study of Immigration and Integration, Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada.

Harry Finkenflügel, studied physiotherapy, human movements sciences and educational management. He worked as a physiotherapist for people with intellectual disabilities and was involved in training of nurses and other health and educational personnel. From 1988 to 1991 he taught at the Rehabilitation Technicians Training School and was involved with the CBR-pilot projects in Zimbabwe. He is now a manager of a centre for people with (severe) intellectual and physical disabilities.

Erick V.A. Gbodossou, Dr., is a medical doctor and studied at the University of Dakar, Senegal. Besides being a (western educated) medical doctor, he is also a traditional healer. He is director of the Centre for Experimental Traditional Medicine of Fatick. His research is about the role of traditional healing with respect to the health service. He is also president of PROMETRA. Its purpose is it to promote a more intensive co-operation between modern and traditional medicine in Africa.

Nora Ellen Groce, Professor, received her doctorate in medical anthropology from Brown University in 1983, with a study of hereditary deafness on the island of Martha's Vineyard, Massachusetts. She completed a Post-Doctoral Fellowship at Harvard University in 1986, and served on the faculty of Bowdoin College and Harvard University before coming to Yale in 1993 to join the Faculty of the International Health Division at the School of Public Health. Her research has concentrated on disability in a cross-cultural perspective and on disability issues in international development.

Brigitte Holzer, Dr., sociology studies at the Universities of Oslo and Bielefeld from 1980–1988. Graduate research assistant in the project *The women traders of Juchitan, Oaxaca, Mexico*, PhD completed within the framework of the project in 1995. Two years deputising for professor (sociology) at the Vocational University in Cologne in the department of Social Pedagogy. Since 1997 lecturer in Sociology at the Oberstufenkolleg at the University of Bielefeld. In addition, deputy chair of the Institute for the Theory and Practice of Subsistence in Bielefeld.

Maya Kalyanpur, Dr., obtained her PhD at Syracuse University, New York, in the field of special education. At the beginning of her professional career she was a teacher at a special school in New Dehli. She researches the influence of the cultural background of professionals and afflicted families on their interaction. Another research topic is the transfer of concepts of special education to developing countries.

Sophie Kasonde-Ng'andu, Dr., received her PhD at the University of London. For several years she has been engaged in the field of disability. She conducted research in a rural Zambian Bemba culture and worked as a lecturer in special education at the University of Zambia. Actually she is engaged in the research project *Gender and primary schooling in Zambia*.

Jenny Kern, J.D., practiced Civil Rights law from 1993–1996. She was introduced to Whirlwind Women at the August 1995 Fourth World Conference on Women in China. After taking the Whirlwind-building course in the Fall of 1996, she traveled to Kenya to assist teaching in the first intensive training for women. Since October 1997 she is Programme Director of Whirlwind Women whose pilot programme will be with disabled women in Uganda in 1998–1999.

Joseph Kisanji is a Lecturer in special education at the Centre for Educational Needs, School of Education, University of Manchester. He was formerly a senior lecturer at the University of Dar es Salaam in Tanzania and managed the UNESCO Subregional Project for Special Education in Eastern and Southern Africa, which was based in Kenya, for six years. His research interests include international special education, culture and disability, indigenous education, community-based rehabilitation and the education of persons with hearing, visual and intellectual impairments.

Joshua Malinga, human rights and disability activist, politician and businessman, founder of the movement of disabled people in Zimbabwe; founder of the movement of disabled people in Southern Africa; co-founder of Disabled People's International, is its immediate past president; member of the United Nations Panel of Experts of the Implementation of Standard Rules on the Equalisation of Opportunities for Disabled People, current general secretary of the Pan-Africa Federation of the Disabled.

Kofi Marfo, Professor, studied in Ghana and Canada and obtained degrees in educational psychology and special education. He is an expert on parent-child interactions and learning processes of children. His international work has focused largely on personnel preparation issues and on problems in the transfer of knowledge and technology for addressing needs and issues pertaining to childhood disability in developing countries. He now lives in Tampa, Florida and holds the position of professor of special education.

Kerstin Merz-Atalik, studied educational sciences in Marburg, with a particular emphasis on special education and rehabilitation. 1989–1995 social educational support on an individual basis for an integration project in Berlin. 1993–1995 she was employed at the Technical University of Berlin and the University of Potsdam. Since 1995 she has been working at the Martin-Luther-University at Halle-Wittenberg. Specialization: integrated education of children with and without disabilities; instruction in heterogeneous learning groups; disabilities, developmental and behavioural disabilities of pupils of non-German origin; intercultural education; social work with young people.

M. Miles lives in Birmingham, UK, and is a student of disability histories in Asia and Africa.

Ottmar Miles-Paul, received his diploma as a social worker in 1990 in Kassel. Since 1993 he has been active member of Independent Living Germany. Moreover, he is co-founder of Disabled People's International in the European Union and member of the State Council of Disabled People in the State Hessen.

Mustapha Ouertani, Dr., became blind in his native country Tunisia when he was six years old. When he was seventeen he moved to Germany. There he obtained a diploma in Massage. He studied social sciences at the Universities of Marburg and Göttingen, visiting Paris and Tunisia for research purposes. He has lectured at the Universities of Göttingen and Hamburg and worked as a scientist for the German Orient Institute in Hamburg. After he acquired his PhD in 1992 he became lecturer at the *Europäischen Staatsbürger-Akademie* in Wetzlar.

Annette van der Putten, studied physiotherapy, human movements sciences and post-graduate studies on physiotherapy for children. She worked as a physiotherapist for children. In 1994/1995 she carried out a research study on *formal handling routines* in Jamaica. She is now a PhD student working on an evaluation of a training programme for severely disabled children.

Ina Rösing, Dr., Professor at the University of Ulm, Director of the Institute of Anthropology. Extensive field research on religion and ritual of the Quechua-speaking people of the Kallawaya region in the High-Andes in Bolivia and in Peru, and of the Aymara-speaking people of the altiplano. She has published eight books about the Kallawaya culture and received several scientific awards for her research. At the beginning of 1994, she started her comparative research in the Himalaya on the healing practices of shamans and on the relationship between Buddhism and shamanism.

Henri-Jacques Stiker, Professor, is Director of research, historical anthropology of disability, Université Paris. Speaker of the *Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales*, (EHESS). Among his many publications the best known is his book *Corps infirmes et sociétés*.

Ulrich Tietze, bio-medical engineer. After 19 years' working experience in a university hospital, he acted as a technical consultant for projects in Nicaragua, El Salvador and Ivory Coast. From 1994, for Medico International, he was responsible for rehabilitation projects on behalf of refugees

and victims of land mines. After that he worked in Iraqi-Kurdistan and, in 1996 and 1997, in Angola. At the moment, he is project coordinator of the programme against land mines on behalf of the Frankfurter Zentrale.

Majid Turmusani is a final year PhD student in the Social Policy Department at Leeds University and a member of the Disability Research Unit. Prior to his engagement in his PhD degree, he worked and is still working for an umbrella development NGO in Jordan. He served as a member of the National Council for the Welfare of Disabled People (the national body for policy-making in Jordan) from 1993–1995. He has worked on several projects with international agencies in Jordan and published a number of papers on health education, community development, and disability issues. His interests include issues of research on disability and development, employment rights, and community empowerment.

Arthur Vreede studied social philosophy and cultural anthropology at the University of Amsterdam. He is particularly interested in the cultures and language of the Arab world which he studied extensively. Since 1990 he is engaged in research on disability issues. Of special interest are concepts and practices of disability in countries of the South. At present he is researching subjective experience of life satisfaction of persons with disability.

Seddiq Weera, Dr., is a member of the Centre for Peace Studies at McMaster University, Canada. He has been instrumental in developing the Canadian Coalition for Afghan Peace and Development.

Gabriele Weigt, MA. Ed. studied Special Education at the Universities of Cologne and Frankfurt/Main. For several years research and work in South America and Asia, working since 1984 in the area of Disability and Third World with special emphasis on development cooperation and disability in different cultures; one of the editors of the journal *Disability and Third World* and member of the National Association for Disability and the Third World.

Sheila Wirz, Dr., background in therapy and special education (deaf and communication disabilities) and has worked as a teacher, a therapist and a researcher in the United Kingdom and the USA before “seeing the light” and being introduced to development issues. She was involved as an occasional tutor to the Diploma for Planners and Trainers of CBR

since its beginning at the Centre for International Child Health (CICH) in the mid 1980s. She joined the staff of CICH in 1993 as course director to the (then) new MSc in Community Disability Studies. She has current funded research with colleagues in India, Indonesia and Brazil.

