

Appendix 1

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- **Research groups**

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Appendix 2

List of research participants

1. Research groups in Colchester

21/06/2005 - Museum Advisory Group, PORTAL Focus group at Colchester Castle Museum

Andrew
Brian
Chris
Dorothy
Pam
Richard

BSL interpreter
Researchers: Jocelyn Dodd, Annie Delin, Ceri Jones

21/06/2005 - Teenagers and young people (14–25 years) Focus group at Thomas Lord Audley School

Catherine
Jenny
Lucy
Luke

Researchers: Jocelyn Dodd, Annie Delin, Ceri Jones

22/06/2005 - A group of older people (65-75 years) who have become disabled but do not define themselves as disabled Focus group with Grymes Dyke Tenants Association

Bruna
Eddie
Enid
Mick
Roger
Rose
Jo Hill, Scheme Manager

Researchers: Jocelyn Dodd, Annie Delin, Ceri Jones

2. The Deaf community

17/01/2006 –Tom Fenton, Chief Executive, Royal Association for the Deaf (RAD)

Interview at RSA, John Adam Street, London

Researchers: Jocelyn Dodd, Ceri Jones

27/01/2006 –Simon Hesselberg, Head of Community Development, Royal Association for the Deaf (RAD)

Interview at Congress Centre, Great Russell Street, London

BSL interpreter: Walter Reid, RAD Sign Language Interpreting Agency

Researchers: Jocelyn Dodd, Ceri Jones

3. Testing the findings

27/02/2006 – Colchester Museums Staff

Discussion at Hollytrees Museum, Colchester

Peter Berridge

Anne-Maria Bojko

Lynette Burgess

Georgina Colthorpe

Tom Hodgson

Caroline MacDonald

Sophie Weaver

Researchers: Jocelyn Dodd, Ceri Jones

01/03/1006 – Professor Colin Barnes, Director of the Centre for Disability Studies, University of Leeds

Interview at the Centre for Disability Studies, University of Leeds

Researchers: Jocelyn Dodd, Annie Delin, Ceri Jones

10/03/2006 – Museum Professionals whose work involves disability representation from a variety of different perspectives

Discussion at Department of Museum Studies, University of Leicester

Heather Hollins, Access and inclusion, The Holocaust Centre

Jane Montgomery, Access Officer, NE Regional Museum Hub

Alison Plumridge, Director of Bury St Edmunds Art Gallery

Researchers: Jocelyn Dodd, Ceri Jones

15/03/2006 - Dis:cover, Colchester Museums Conference
Presentation of research findings by Jocelyn Dodd and discussion group

17/03/2006 - PORTAL group
Discussion at Hollytrees Museum, Colchester

Andrew
Brian
Chris
Dorothy
Richard
Robert

BSL interpreters
Researchers: Jocelyn Dodd, Ceri Jones

Appendix 3

Research tools¹

1. Focus groups in Colchester

Introduction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ Introduce AD,CJ,JD ❑ Independent researchers from University Of Leicester, doing some work for Colchester museums ❑ The research is to see what museums can do for young/ older people ❑ Each member of the focus group introduce themselves
Section 1	What is the point of knowing about the past?
Section 2	<p>Have you ever been to any places directly linked with history e.g. museums, castles, stately homes?</p> <p>When you were there what experience of the past did it give you?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Do you remember seeing any objects in museums that were particularly meaningful to you? ❖ Have you ever seen anything which you thought was connected with disability?
Section 3	<p>AD – introduce with e.g. JD, CJ contribute</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Choose an object, anything big or small it is, but something which matters to you. Tell us about the object and why it is important to you? <p>AD- Introduce with an example JD,CJ contribute</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ If you could tell stories in museums about your life and experience, what would you say? - how would you want to tell the story (interpretive techniques- show case, film, video, role play) <p>What would it tell people about you?</p> <p>Do you think museums should tell stories about disabled people? (Famous or ordinary?)</p>
Section 4	<p>Summary</p> <p>We have talked about:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Your experiences of Museums etc • You have told us about objects that are special to you • You have described yourselves • Talked about what you would like in museums <p>Is there anything we have missed? Is there anything you would like to add?</p>

¹ NB Research tools were designed to be flexible and adapt to the circumstances of the focus group or interview so were intended to act as a guide rather than a fixed set of questions.

2. Interview with Tom Fenton and Simon Hesselberg, RAD

1. Intro: Ask about Tom's job and responsibility

Context of Colchester

RCMG

Research

Type of work we do

Research project for Colchester Museums on: museums, history and the heritage

This is part of a project with an over all theme of disabled people views of museums, history and the heritage.

Approached several organisations and some individuals about the research to try to set up either interviews or a small focus group.

My attempts did not prove fruitful.

Understand that the premise on which the research was commissioned, that Deaf people might be seen collectively with disabled people is a view contested by many members of the Deaf community.

I am now interested to better understand this. I am interested in the broader issues and the local context Colchester and its deaf community.

2. Premise on which the research was commissioned, that Deaf people might be seen collectively with disabled people is a view contested by many members of the Deaf community.

Please can you explain this?

Probe Distinctiveness from disability- political

3. Are there distinctive and separate segments in the Deaf community

i.e. hearing impaired

elderly

profoundly Deaf

use of oracy/ English notion of linguistic minority (hearing community imposing views, irradiation of deafness, implants, medical intervention, holocaust

4. Are Deaf communities interested in their individual and collective histories?

If Deaf people could tell stories about their experiences what would they tell?

e.g. Dorothy and graveyard

5. Paddy Ladd in his book Understanding Deaf culture - In search of Deafhood

Museum example....

discuss

6. What would the characteristics of an affective partnership between the Deaf community and hearing community

Probe- how would communication take place?

How would the views of the Deaf community

7. What advice would you give to a museum like Colchester Museum who is interested in presenting the views and experiences of Deaf people?

What stages need to gone through before can happen?

3. Interview with Colin Barnes, Professor of Disability Studies

1. Introductions:

Ask about the work of the Centre for Disability Studies, its aims and purpose

Introduction to RCMG

- Research
- Type of work we do

Introduce the research project we are undertaking for Colchester Museums with the overall theme of disabled peoples' views of museums, history and the heritage (refer to summary sent in advance)

2. Where is Disability history?

- Is there a public representation?
- What significance does material culture have to play in this history?
- If a museum wanted to put together an exhibition or display where could it go for information?
- What stories could museums tell about disabled people and their experiences?

3. How does the Centre for Disability Studies use history?

E.g. from our research participants tended to respond that history was important and for a number of reasons including its moral or educative use, we need to know the past in order to prevent history repeating itself and it helps to show social change

4. Disability identity

- Our participants positioned themselves, until encouraged otherwise, as people with identities other than as disabled people, (as teenagers, older people, 'ordinary' people). Why do you think this is?
- Participants want to be seen as normal and / or included within society

The "normalisation" of disability – how does this impact upon identity?

5. Participants did not raise issues of disability history until prompted.

Some suggestions from the research:

- The research appeared to show most disabled people positioned as not perceiving themselves to have a right to a culturally-specific opinion on 'history' or 'the past'. Therefore when asked about the past they initially adopted a generalised, non-disabled identity to gain authority for holding an opinion
- There's a very negative view of disability in the past so people would not want to identify with that image
- Identities are dynamic and fluid. Each group demonstrated the presence of

conflicting discourses in the messages they wished to communicate about themselves, their identity and their experience

- There is no single group of disabled people that could be identified from the research or single “reality” experienced by a disabled person

Why do you think this may be? Why might disabled people not make the link between them and disabled people in the past?

6. In this research the Deaf community presented itself as a separate cultural-linguistic minority who did not see themselves as disabled but did assert their rights through the DDA

What are the implications of this for museums who are thinking about disability representation?

7. Developing the concept of the social model and a distinct disability culture

How far is this happening?