

From student with a disability to professional

Dublin 12 11 09



Who am I ?

Woman

with a disability

Ex student

from a 'special' school

Mom

of 'special' children

Teacher trainer

on 'special' needs

...

A life in diversity, a life colored
by the fight for inclusion

Woman with a disability

- Wife?
- Mother ?
- Working mother ?

Ex student from a 'special' school

- The importance of contacts with people in similar situations
- Limited choice in education
- Where are the students without limitations ?
- A lot of care, too much care

Mom of 'special' children


- The fight doesn't stop, people don't fit in narrow categories
- Inexistence of true expertise
- Organisational luxury and absence of stress
- Hello world ?

Teacher trainer on 'special' needs

- Students are astonished... a teacher with a disability... need for role models
- Thinking in terms of we/them... people are not from Mars
- Working towards an open school culture: a task for teachers!
- Lack of real 'meeting'



Challenges for the future

- No course material but a daily fight
 - Welcome in your life, or limited to your professional life ?
 - Fear for the unknown
 - The importance of 'meeting'
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Challenges for the future

- Teachers do not have the right to choose their students
- Teachers do have the right to quality education and quality support