

## LANGUAGE POLICY

### Guidelines for *Disability & Society* authors



- We will never knowingly publish articles which contain offensive or disabling language;
- We will not publish articles containing words deemed offensive, even if these words are based upon medical or diagnostic classification;

*Words such as 'cripple', 'spastic', 'handicapped', 'defective', for example, undermine disabled people's role in society, directly and by implication. It is acknowledged that some historical and contemporary discourses use potentially offensive terminology, in such cases such text should be clearly demarcated through the use of apostrophes or 'sic'.*

- All contributors must demonstrate both personal and cultural sensitivity in their use of language;

*The Journal recognises there is no universal consensus as to what is and is not offensive or disabling. Authors are asked to avoid disablist language and in cases where offense may be unintentionally caused by chosen terminology, the Executive Editor team will identify this and advise on alternative phrasing.*

- All authors must demonstrate an awareness of the contested nature of International Classification Schemes (ICFs);

*The Journal will consider articles based upon such classifications, however we wish to signal that authors must demonstrate an awareness of the contested nature of such schemes before their work will merit publication. The Journal will accept the use of acronyms (as above) when they are applied to organisations, however, they are not acceptable when applied to people; for example, 'the SEN child'.*

- All submissions must be made accessible to all readers, avoiding cumbersome and over-technical terminology. All submissions ought to be written in a clear and accessible manner;

*One of the Journal's main aims is for published works to be accessible to anyone with an interest in disability studies. It is not the Journal's intention for articles to be read by a small coterie of academics or professionals, therefore contributors ought to make every effort to ensure their work is accessible to all.*