



Al Foxx

Disability Awareness Speaker

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Ten Commandments of Working Alongside People with Disabilities

1. Treat people with disabilities with respect by considering but not calling attention to their limitations.
2. If you see people regularly who have a disability, get to know their names and greet them by name.
3. Smile and treat people with disabilities as if they're your friends (whether they're nice to you or not). You don't have to live with them 24/7... like they do.
4. Make friendly and respectful eye contact, without staring.
5. Offer assistance, but don't automatically assume your assistance will be accepted. It's best to ask first.
6. A person's wheelchair is their personal space. Only lean on a wheelchair when you are in a place where people are leaning on you.
7. Don't push a wheelchair, unless you are asked to do so, especially if you're at the top of a flight of stairs.
8. Talk to each person directly—not to the attendant—unless asked.
9. If the person is hearing impaired, be sure that when you speak, the person can see your face and lips.
10. Never underestimate people with disabilities, or be afraid to invite them to do more.

Beware of 3 Myths About People with Disabilities

People with disabilities:

1. Are not intelligent, 2. Are not capable, 3. Do not have dreams.

Remember: A myth is NOT a fact.