

INTEGRATION OF MEDICAL AND SOCIAL MODELS OF DISABILITY: THE PANAECIA FOR WHOLESOME CARE OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITY IN THE NIGERIAN SOCIETY

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ABSTRACT

The aim of this review paper with focus on Nigeria is to examine the social contexts of disability and to canvas for adequate consideration of social environment towards extension of wholesome care to persons with disability as well as in the development disability related technologies to assist them. The paper argued that cultural, socio-political, economic, and ethical concerns must be taken into cognizance in discourses and mitigations to the challenges faced by persons with disability in Nigeria. Because of increasing role of social factors in defining nature and responses to in Nigerian society, the paper strongly advocated that bio-physical (medical) interpretations and responses towards persons with disability must be complemented with social models for fuller understanding and appropriate societal response in terms of comprehensive and wholesome care of persons with disability in Nigeria.

Keywords: Deformity, disability, impairment, physically challenged, social model.