Accessibility and the Scholarly Information Space Perspectives from a Blind Disability Rights Scholar

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Overview

- 1. Who I am, What I do and How I Access Information
- 2. The new International Journal of Disability and Social Justice
- 3. Example Problems Accessibility for Scholars Using Screen-Readers
- 4. Conclusion





RNIB and the University of Leeds Transcription Centre

https://students.leeds.ac.uk/info/1000032/ support_for_disabled_students/687/transcription_services

Centre for Disability Studies

https://disability-studies.leeds.ac.uk/

My Work

https://essl.leeds.ac.uk/law/staff/203/professor-anna-lawson

The new International Journal of Disability and Social Justice



https://www.plutojournals.com/international-journal-of-disability-and-social-justice/

The new International Journal of Disability and Social Justice

Published by Pluto Journals Part of Pluto Educational Trust

The new International Journal of Disability and Social Justice

Opening up Access and Accessibility to Ensure Inclusion

- > Tackling financial barriers for readers and for authors
- > Communicating content beyond academia plain English summaries, videos
- Writing style eg academic v plain English
- Providing an alternative electronic format
- Integrating accessibility into general systems and processes
- Inviting individual requests for accommodations and support

Example Problems

Accessing and Using -

Problem 1 – PDF Files



Problem 2 – E-Books

Problem 3 – Electronic Journals

Problem 4 – Behind-the-Scenes Scholarly Spaces

Conclusion

- ✓ Accessibility beyond 'open' access
- Recognition that there are different needs and solutions for different individuals and disciplines
- ✓ Integrating and embedding accessibility at all phases and at all stages
- ✓ Inviting requests for assistance and adjustments.