



# In Our Words: Stories from the Intersection of LGBTQIA+ Identity and Disability

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COLLECTION EDITED BY Damian Mellifont, Jennifer Smith-Merry

## COLLECTION

Disability Studies

## EDITION

1st edition

## MARKET

College/higher education and Professional and scholarly

## This course reading...

- Shares a series of personal reflections from Queer and Disabled people and offers insight into their lived experiences.
- Provides information on how individuals can overcome the challenges and discrimination faced by Disabled and Queer people.
- Is ideal reading for students of Disability Studies, LGBTQIA+ Studies, Social Work, and Gender Studies, and Queer Disabled folk seeking a sense of community.

**"In Our Words is a book I wish had been available when I was a teenager, grappling with issues of sexuality and disability."** – Dr Alastair McEwin AM, Former Commissioner, Disability Royal Commission; Former Disability Discrimination Commissioner

### What can we learn from the lived experiences of Disabled people identifying as LGBTQIA+?

Through a series of personal reflections, *In Our Words* follows the difficult journeys of a number of Queer and Disabled authors from coming out to arriving at a place of positive identity.

This empowering collection discusses the discrimination and hatred faced by the Queer and Disabled community, and shares how these barriers can be overcome to arrive at a place of self-acceptance and love. Through examples, this book aims to promote a sense of unity and pride.

Through tales of self-reflection, insight, and discovery, this book is ideal reading for students of Disability Studies, LGBTQIA+ Studies, Social Work, and Gender Studies as well as Queer Disabled folk.

**Wayne Herbert** is an international speaker, MC, comedian, and writer. The current Vice President of Meridian, a Canberra community-controlled organisation working to prevent and ameliorate HIV, he also serves on the board of LGBTIQ+ Health Australia. Wayne was nominated as the 2017 Australian Capital Territory Australian of the year for services to the LGBTIQ and Disability communities. **Yenn Purkis** (they/them) is an author, public servant, and advocate for Autistic people and their families. Living with diagnoses of Autism, ADHD, and atypical schizophrenia, Yenn is a frequent speaker on the topics of neurodiversity, mental health, gender, and employment, and facilitates a support group for Autistic women and non-binary people.

Print edition: \$25 / £19.99

Ebook editions: \$20 / £14.99

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