



# Lived Experience of Disability: Disability Research and Australian Disability Policy

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COLLECTION EDITED BY Damian Mellifont

COLLECTION  
Disability Studies

EDITION  
1st edition

MARKET  
College/higher education  
and Professional and  
scholarly

## This course reading...

- Authored by contributors with lived experience of disability, ensuring authenticity and depth of perspective.
- Explores urgent issues in Australian disability policy, from restrictive practices to healthcare disparities.
- Highlights systemic barriers in research, education, and leadership representation.
- Provides forward-looking research directions for evidence-based reform and inclusion.
- Ideal for students, researchers, and policymakers in disability studies, social policy, and allied health.

### What does it truly mean to live with disability, and how do policy gaps shape everyday experiences?

*Lived Experience of Disability*, edited by Dr Damian Mellifont, brings together voices of people with lived experience and committed allies to explore critical issues in Australian disability policy.

Covering topics from restrictive practices and healthcare disparities to barriers in research participation and academic inclusion, this book examines how policy intentions often fall short of meeting real needs. With insights on linguistic deprivation, rural challenges, sensory impairments, and disability leadership, it not only critiques current systems but also points to evidence-based directions for reform.

This is more than an academic resource—it is a call for genuine inclusion, representation, and systemic change. *Lived Experience of Disability* is ideal for students, researchers, policymakers, and practitioners in disability studies and policy.

**Damian Mellifont** is a researcher and educator at the University of Sydney whose work advances disability inclusion, policy, and neurodiverse education.

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