

Critical Disabilities and Theory
February 6th, 2024

- Serendip posts
 - Can engage with any portion of the assigned readings/material
 - Can join in on others posts
- How are we dealing/coping with these tough reads and materials so far?
 - Taking about the strategies of protecting “national body”
 - Starting with restrictive immigration laws and marriage laws
 - Institutionalization of disabled people
 - Sterilization and reproduction control
 - Today’s policies mirroring those of the 1920s
- What does it mean to “keep America, American”?
 - All the people living in America wouldn’t gain border protection living in different places
 - Some people will not need to be reliant on the US Government, but yet they are used to further certain structures
 - These laws and policies can make some feel as though they are unwanted
 - These policies are not only about ability or disability, also about gender
 - Constructions of the ideal body form themselves in various -ism, the ideal body becomes raced, classed, gendered, etc
 - The fluidity to restrict and weaponize some people is the same fluidity that can include people in the disability group
 - Immigration LPC still exist today to exclude certain bodies and groups
 - Keeping America anglo saxon protestant as it was when it was first founded
- Normality, Culture, Power (statistics and eugenics)
 - Grouping disabled people, criminals, queer, low income people that the government is trying to label as
 - ‘Degenerates” and unwanted
 - Eugenics - unfortunate history close to home from Haverford alumni and former Bryn Mawr president
 - Fortunately some names of ableist people have been replaced
- What have we learned in past courses on disability history?
 - Learned a bit about legislation from an English teacher who had a disability herself - Renata
 - Learned about disability rights, migration in APUSH since the teacher let students discuss relevant topics - Grace