Lifesavers Highway Safety Conference
Autonomous Vehicles: Sharing the Road with Vulnerable Users

L. Dara Baldwin, MPA
Director of National Policy
Center for Disability Rights
March 31, 2019 – Louisville, KY
Today’s Presenter:

L. Dara Baldwin, MPA

- Director of National Policy, Center for Disability Rights (CDR)
- Based in Washington, D.C.
- Follow Personal Twitter & IG: @NJDC07
Social Justice/Social Equity

- Here's to the *extremely enthusiastic* ones, the misfits, the rebels, the troublemakers, the round pegs in the square holes... the ones who see things differently -- they're not fond of rules... You can quote them, disagree with them, glorify or vilify them, but the only thing you can't do is ignore them because they change things... they push the human race forward, and while some may see them as the *extremely enthusiastic* ones, we see genius, because the ones who are *enthusiastic* enough to think that they can change the world, are the ones who do.” – Steve Jobs
Lifesavers Safety – AV PWD

Outline for Discussion

I. Information and History

II. Disability Rights – overview of history & “avenues” of work

III. AV and People with Disabilities & SAFETY

IV. Resources – outreach – next steps
Disability Rights Movement
Disability Rights

- Disability Rights – History – *fascinating but lacks diversity* (see resources slide for readings etc.)

  **LEADON Network & NDLA** statement on racism and bias in disability rights community and movement (handout)

- Three “avenues” to this work

  1. Paternalistic – we have to take care of PWD
  2. Clinical – we have to “cure or fix” them – genetics
  3. Civil and Human Rights - PWD can and should live in the community provided with supports and give opportunities to decent employment, housing and all aspects of life
Equity Activism/Intersectionality

- The term was identified in 1989 by Kimberlé Crenshaw who is an American civil rights advocate and a leading scholar of the field known as **critical race theory**. She is a full professor at UCLA Law School and Columbia Law School and she is the Executive Director of the African American Policy Forum - [http://www.aapf.org](http://www.aapf.org)

- People with disabilities are **ALL parts of life** and so we use this in our work – race, religions, multiple social economic statuses, sexual-orientation (LBGTQIA), incarcerated, formerly incarcerated, immigrants, refugees etc.

- The multi-marginalization and discrimination of this community – AA, Trans woman, Muslim, refugee with a disability

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Disability Rights Law

History: Disability Laws


- **Air Carrier Access Act of 1986** – guaranteed PWD would receive consistent and nondiscriminatory when traveling by air [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Air_Carrier_Access_Act](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Air_Carrier_Access_Act)
Disability Rights Law

History Disability Rights Laws– cont’d

- Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA) – This is a wide-ranging civil rights law that is intended to protect against discrimination based on disability; amended in 2008 (ADAA)
- There are Five Titles to the ADA – there are no specific statutes on Transportation or Housing as there were laws implemented prior to ADA that covered discrimination (Fair Housing Act)
- Civil Rights Act of 1964 – did not include disability in the list of protected classes – like age, pregnancy - disability was added later
- Premise of the ADA – Community Integration – the inclusion of PWD in every aspect of life
Disability Rights Law

ADA – Law

- ADA Title I, II and Title III in addition to the civil rights act
- Title I – Employment
- Title II: This title prohibits discrimination on the basis of disability by “public entities,” which are programs, services and activities operated by state and local governments. The public entity must make sure its programs, services and activities are accessible to individuals with disabilities.
- Title III: This title prohibits private places of public accommodation from discriminating against individuals with disabilities.
- ADA National Network: https://adata.org/

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Autonomous Vehicles PWD

- Autonomous Vehicles will:
- Enhance People with Disabilities lives
- Accessible transportation – MUST BE SAFE & Equitable
- Mobility for ALL – Blind, Deaf, DD, ID, Mobility Disabilities – freedom
- Equity and Civil Rights for a safe, inclusive and equitable world for all

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Autonomous Vehicles - PWD

- SAFETY of AV:
- Pedestrians – not recognizing mobility devices etc.
- Vehicles – not just cars, trucks and passenger vans and buses
- Cars – riding, parking – safely in spaces & place
- Non-manned – public buses – safety issues and concerns for PWD – Bus drivers are a connection to EMERGENCY Care (for ALL on bus)
- Accessible – and hold in place wheelchairs Non-manned – passenger vans – safety – luggage & other packages carried (PWD need assistance & DHS safety)

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Autonomous Vehicles & Shared Rides

- Safety – Shared rides – define safety
- Persons who are disenfranchised in this country define safety differently than privileged people
- PWD – safe spaces are rare when they are in public – getting into cars, vans and buses with people they don’t know & no person to control order – is NOT SAFE

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Autonomous Vehicles & Safety

- Sexual Assault Survivors, Hate Crimes on the rise – spaces of safety are imperative in this conversation
- Data collection – these non-manned vehicles will collect what, who gets, how long & how is this data destroyed
  - where people go – but who gets access to this information – Employer, Spouse or partner, creditors, other? Problem for many
Connecting & Collaborating

- Inclusion in outreach goes both ways
## What to Say

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Say:</th>
<th>Do Not Say:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Person with a Disability</td>
<td>Disabled or Handicapped</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blind or Low Vision</td>
<td>Visually Impaired</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deaf or Hard of Hearing</td>
<td>Hearing Impaired</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wheelchair User or Scooter User</td>
<td>Confined to a wheelchair or Wheelchair bound</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Person with an Intellectual or Developmental Disability</td>
<td>Mentally Retarded</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Person with a Mental Health Condition or Diagnosis</td>
<td>Mentally Ill or Crazy</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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Universal Signs – Accessibility & Inclusion

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DIA – Disability Integration Act

• DIA the next Civil Rights law for people with disabilities – H.R. 555 – S. 117

• DIA – please go to our website to learn more: http://www.disabilityintegrationact.org/

• To become an Organizational supporter go here: http://www.disabilityintegrationact.org/support-the-disability-integration-act/

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Resources

**Intersectionality – see information sheet**

- The term was identified in 1989 by Kimberlé Crenshaw who is an American civil rights advocate and a leading scholar of the field known as [critical race theory](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Critical_race_theory). She is a full professor at UCLA Law School and Columbia Law School and she is the Executive Director of the African American Policy Forum - [http://www.aapf.org](http://www.aapf.org)


- (one of my mentors/who has become a friend) – I work closely with the Professor Crenshaw & AAPF since 2014 – on multiple issue areas – but started through the #SayHerName campaign

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Resources

- **LEADON Network** – Black #Disability History  

- **No Pity** by Joe Shapiro (Book on the history of the disability rights movement)

- The Nation 2017 Progressive Honor Roll: ADAPT Most Valuable Grassroots Activism  

- National Disability Leadership Alliance (NDLA) statement on racism and bias in the disability rights movement -  

- 60 Minutes Segment with Ed Roberts -  
Resources

Resources cont’d:

- Cornell University Disability Statistics Online resource: http://www.disabilitystatistics.org/reports/acs.cfm?statistic=1
- ADAPT - https://adapt.org/
- Words matter – People First Language http://odr.dc.gov/page/people-first-language

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THANK YOU
Please contact me:

- **Contact information:**
  
  **L. Dara Baldwin, MPA**  
  Pronouns: She/her/hers  
  Director of National Policy  
  Center for Disability Rights (CDR)  
  [http://cdrnys.org/](http://cdrnys.org/)  
  Email: dara.baldwin@ncdr.us  
  Phone: 202-919-5725  
  
  Working everyday to pass the #DIAToday!  
  Disability Integration Act (DIA) – [www.disabilityintegrationact.org](http://www.disabilityintegrationact.org)