

Doing Disability Differently: An alternative handbook on architecture, dis/ability and designing for everyday life

Jos Boys



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This ground-breaking book aims to take a new and innovative view on how disability and architecture might be connected. Rather than putting disability at the end of the design process, centred mainly on compliance, it sees disability – and ability – as creative starting points for the whole design process. It asks the intriguing question: can working from dis/ability actually generate an alternative kind of architectural avant-garde?

To do this, Doing Disability Differently:

- explores how thinking about dis/ability opens up to critical and creative investigation our everyday social attitudes and practices about people, objects and space
- argues that design can help resist and transform underlying and unnoticed inequalities
- introduces architects to the emerging and important field of disability studies and considers what different kinds of design thinking and doing this can enable
- asks how designing for everyday life in all its diversity can be better embedded within contemporary architecture as a discipline
- offers examples of what doing disability differently can mean for architectural theory, education and professional practice
- aims to embed into architectural practice, attitudes and approaches that creatively and constructively refuse to perpetuate body 'norms' or the resulting inequalities in access to, and support from, built space.

Ultimately, this book suggests that re-addressing architecture and disability involves nothing less than rethinking how to design for the everyday occupation of space more generally.

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