

March 10, 2025—How Do People In Power See People With Disabilities?



In the engaging discussion on how culture and context shape our perceptions of disability, Dr. Stetson delves into the intricate interplay between societal norms, historical narratives, and individual identity. Highlighting diverse cultural perspectives, the talk examines how different societies define disability, often reflecting deeper values and beliefs about human diversity. From the lens of cultural relativism to the impact of media representation, attendees explore how these factors influence attitudes towards disability, ranging from stigmatization to celebration of unique abilities. Emphasizing the power of inclusive narratives and policy frameworks, the discussion underscores the transformative potential of understanding and valuing diverse experiences across global contexts.

Dr. Sara Stetson



Dr. Sara Stetson brings over 30 years of experience to educational leadership, encompassing roles as a learning disabilities specialist, school psychologist, special education administrator, and assistant superintendent. She has led initiatives in special education, 504 accommodations, homeless and migrant education, Title One programs, English as a second language education, social work, school nursing, mental and behavioral health, civil rights, and multiple competitive grant projects. For the past 22 years, Dr. Stetson has been a respected faculty member at Rivier University, where she teaches courses in psychological and cognitive assessment, reading, school psychology, learning disabilities, and cognition. Her dedication and expertise have earned her prestigious accolades including Rivier University's Benoit Outstanding Educator Award, an American Association of School Administrators award for leadership in literacy reform, a national Magna award for enhancing mental health services in schools, a NH Department of Education award for parent involvement, and a national Title One award for closing the achievement gap.