

Disability, Sport and Society

An Introduction

Nigel Thomas, Staffordshire University, UK

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"There is a real need for this book. It provides a unique and valuable sociological analysis of disability sport."

Karen P DePauw, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University

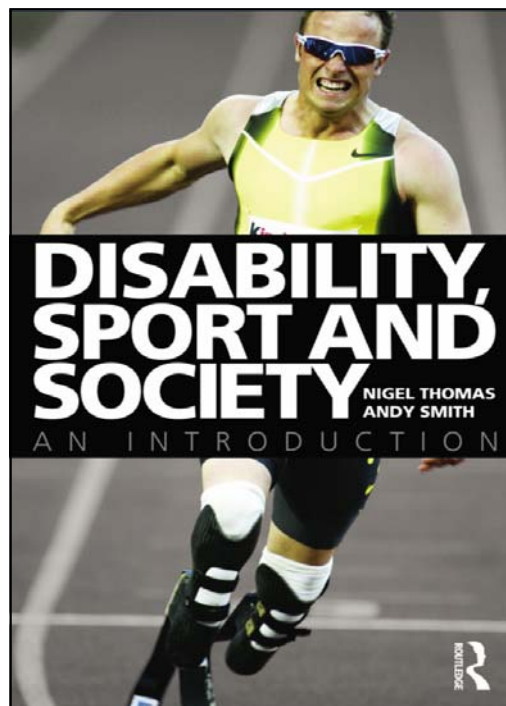
'Thomas and Smith have delivered a much-needed critical examination of the opportunities and challenges facing the modern Paralympic and disability sport movement. In the run-up to London 2012 this is a book that should be read by all students, academics, administrators and policy-makers with an interest in disability sport.' - Dame Tanni Grey-Thompson

Disability sport is a relatively recent phenomenon, yet it is also one that, particularly in the context of social inclusion, is attracting increasing political and academic interest. The purpose of this important new text - the first of its kind - is to introduce the reader to key concepts in disability and disability sport and to examine the complex relationships between modern sport, disability and other aspects of wider society.

Drawing upon original data from interviews, surveys and policy documents, the book examines how disability sport has developed and is currently organised, and explores key themes, issues and concepts including:

- Disability theory and policy
- The emergence and development of disability sport
- Disability sport development in local authorities
- Mainstreaming disability sport
- Disability, physical education and school sport
- Elite disability sport and the Paralympic Games
- Disability sport and the media

Including chapter summaries, seminar questions and lists of key websites and further reading throughout, *Sport, Disability and Society* provides both an easy to follow introduction and a critical exploration of the key issues surrounding disability sport in the twenty-first century. This book is an invaluable resource for all students, researchers and professionals working in sport studies, disability studies, physical education, sociology and social policy, and national governing bodies.



Selected Contents:

Introduction

1. Disability theory and policy
2. The emergence and development of disability sport
3. Local authorities and disability sport development
4. Mainstreaming disability sport: a case study of four sports
5. Disability, physical education and school sport
6. Elite disability sport: the Paralympic Games
7. Disability sport and the media

Conclusion

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