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Hidden from View: Disability, Segregation and Work

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Hidden from View: Disability, Segregation and Work

in INVISIBLE LABOR (Winifred Poster, Marion Crain & Miriam A. Cherry eds.) (University of California Press) (2016)

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Abstract

The employment provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 were intended to bring working-age people with disabilities into the workplace by providing options for them to seek and gain meaningful, integrated employment. Although the ADA has made significant gains, the rate of progress in employment has been disappointing. While the lack of progress of people with disabilities in the traditional workplace has received attention, the work done by many, especially those with severe disabilities in segregated workplaces, remains hidden in sheltered workshops. This chapter explores the intersection of the concepts of disability, invisibility, and work and identifies the ways in which different and conflicting social and legal constructions of disability perpetuate the segregation and invisibility of people with disabilities in the workplace.

Keywords: Disability, Americans with Disabilities Act, Employment, Invisible Labor

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