

Faculti Summary

<https://staging.faculti.net/carers-and-human-rights/>

The speaker, an experienced lawyer involved in human rights litigation, discusses their journey into writing legislation for carers and addressing issues related to disability rights and the treatment of carers. They trace the evolution of disability rights since the 1970s and draw parallels between the civil rights movements for various disadvantaged groups, highlighting the historical treatment of disabled people and the emergence of a strong narrative advocating for their rights.

The speaker outlines what constitutes a "constitutional moment" for these groups, emphasizing the need for self-identification, recognition of oppression, and a unifying creed. They reference the social model of disability, which argues that societal barriers, rather than individual impairments, are the true obstacles faced by disabled people.

The discussion extends to the recognition of carers as a significant demographic that requires legal rights protection similar to that achieved for disabled individuals. The speaker notes the challenges that carers face, including poor health outcomes and financial issues, and emphasizes that caring roles are often gendered, rendering them invisible.

They argue that there is a growing movement to secure rights for carers, paralleling historical movements for disability rights. The speaker concludes with a cautious optimism regarding recent legal advancements for carers, yet acknowledges the ongoing struggle to achieve a clear legal definition of who qualifies as a carer and to ensure that their rights are adequately protected.