



# WORKING TOWARD A COMMON VISION



Internationally recognized journalist, writer, and broadcaster John Hockenberry.

## DISABILITY IS AN ART.

The groundbreaking Wry Crips Disabled Women's Theatre Group from Berkeley, California.



The late comedian Ben Stuart: "I'm one of Jerry's kids. Well, one of Jerry Garcia's kids."



The reigning Queen Mother of Gnarly Cheryl Marie Wade, has written powerfully and poetically on disability culture. Her essay, Disability Culture Rap, was made into an experimental documentary of the same name.

Rev. Dave and the Church of 80% Sincerity.



Expanding our understanding of disability.

Celebrating disability arts & culture at Disability Pride '94, an anti-telethon in St. Paul, Minnesota.

## CRIPPLE LULLABY

*I'm trickster coyote in a gnarly-bone suit  
I'm a fate worse than death in shit-kickin' boots*

*I'm the nightmare booga you flirt with in dreams  
'Cause I emphatically demonstrate: It ain't what it seems*

*I'm a whisper, I'm a heartbeat, I'm "that accident," and goodbye  
One thing I am not is a reason to die.*

*I'm homeless in the driveway of your manicured street  
I'm Evening Magazine's SuperCrip of the Week*

*I'm the girl in the doorway with no illusions to spare  
I'm a kid dosed on chemo, so who said life is fair*

*I'm a whisper, I'm a heartbeat, I'm "let's call it suicide," and a sigh  
One thing I am not is a reason to die*

*I'm the poster child with doom-dipped eyes  
I'm the ancient remnant set adrift on ice*

*I'm that Valley girl, you know, dying of thin  
I'm all that is left of the Cheshire Cat's grin*

*I'm the Wheelchair Athlete, I'm every dead Baby Doe  
I'm the Earth's last volcano, and I am ready to blow*

*I'm a whisper, I'm a heartbeat, I'm a genocide survivor, and Why?  
OnE thing I am not is a reason to die.*

*I am not a reason to die.*

– Cheryl Marie Wade

## DISABILITY IS A UNIQUE WAY OF LIFE.

Celebrating who we are and where we come from, while organizing for lasting change.



Lee Williams: "Disability – it's about culture."



**1995**  
Sandra Jensen, a member of People First, is denied a heart-lung transplant by the Stanford University School of Medicine because she has Down syndrome. After pressure from disability rights activists, administrators there reverse their decision, and, in January 1996, Jensen becomes the first person with Down syndrome to receive a heart-lung transplant.

**1996**  
Not Dead Yet is formed by disabled advocates to oppose Jack Kevoorkian and the proponents of assisted suicide for people with disabilities.

**1996**  
Sen. Robert Dole becomes the first person with a visible disability since Franklin Roosevelt to run for president of the United States. Unlike Roosevelt, he publicly acknowledges the extent of his disability.

**1996**  
Rodonna Freeman, self-advocate in Minnesota, purchases a home of her own.

**1998**  
The Remembering with Dignity project secures the release of names of people buried anonymously in the Faribault Regional Treatment Center and begins to mark the gravesites with proper headstones. The state of Minnesota refuses to apologize.  
Fourth International People First Conference held in Anchorage, Alaska.

**1999**  
The Supreme Court upholds "Most Integrated Setting" requirement in the Olmstead case.  
Death of Irving Martin, a national self-advocacy leader from Minnesota.

**2000**  
10th anniversary of the ADA.

Fewer than 50,000 people living in public institutions.