

Brain Injury Dialogues: Brain Injury Pride #3

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Video Link: <http://www.brainline.org/content/multimedia.php?id=1573>

[Silence]

Mark Sherry: There is a great strength in the disability community. You know, what we're learning these days the disability tragedy model's gone out the window that's it from time's past. What we have now is disability pride, disability cool, disability chic, you know? To think of brain injury as a source of pride is a revolutionary concept. It's so different from the medical model to think I'm brain injured and I'm proud of it, that is turning the tables upside down.

Male Narrator: Mark asked us to wait in the garage for a moment he wanted to show us something to help illustrate his point.

[Background noise]

Mark Sherry: This says a lot about brain injury for me personally I had a frontal lobe injury and the frontal lobe affects your personality. Lots of people with frontal lobe injuries have disinhibition. One way disinhibition expresses itself is through anger so lots of people who you'll talk to will have expressions of anger, maybe violent outbursts. But for me one way my personality changed was I lost the capacity to be shy. Wally, sit. Rehab professionals only tell you about the negative parts about disinhibition. Disinhibition can cause people to say things immediately but on the flip side lots of people with brain injuries who have Frontal Lobe Syndrome if they have disinhibition they'll be far more exuberant like they'll be -- they can tend to be performers those sort of things. They can be out; this is an area that's not really explored in rehab 'cause people think of deficits, people think of changes as deficits not what can they do as a result of it.

[Silence]