Gender and Education of People with Disabilities in Tanzania

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ABSTRACT

This paper discusses the concept of disability, its prevalence and incidence. It highlights the importance of prevalence and incidence and provides prevalence of various disabilities in the country. The paper also discusses the concept of gender in relation to education of people with disabilities in Tanzania. From the discussions it is apparent that there are more males than females with disabilities in Tanzania. The situation may be due to some bias in determining prevalence of disabilities. The bias may result from the fact that boys are biologically vulnerable than males. Girls with disabilities in Tanzania have not had equal access to education compared to boys, especially at higher institutions of learning. Some of the reasons advanced for the imbalances may be due to negative attitudes towards people with disabilities, lack of role models, as well as lack of teaching-learning materials, and inaccessibility to educational buildings. It is recommended that parents and the Tanzanian community in general, be made aware of the education of children with disabilities and that role models be used to motivate parents to enrol their children with disabilities in school and make sure they graduate.

KEYWORDS: Gender, Education