

Title: Disability and Social Inclusiveness: What's up with Achieving this in a Coronavirus Pandemic Aftermath-Environment in Africa



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Proposal

There is no ounce of doubt that the COVID-19 pandemic is bound to worsen the plight of physically disabled people, particularly in Africa. Before the coronavirus outbreak, the marginalization of disabled persons across all spheres of social lives had become a catchphrase in intellectual discourses globally. Progress in the arena of building inclusive societies that take into consideration physically disable persons remained disabling in the African continent mostly. Instead, the word “marginalization” continues as a famous slogan by all and sundry on the continent. Thus, the introduction into the socialization process of African societies of this dumbfounding coronavirus on the disability question of Africa, amid the established impression of the place of disabled people already, requires intellectual engagement to proffer practical solutions.

Justification of the above-stated theme stems from the reality that COVID-19 has thrown up new modes of doing things and getting things done in all avenues of social relations. Be it in government or governance, public health, sports, relaxation, partying or entertainment, and even holding formal and informal meetings, the coronavirus is and will forever be impactful in unusual ways. That is, the globally agreed social norms to combat the spread of the virus, such as maintaining social distancing, wearing face masks, avoiding physical contact, etc., are therefore bound to impact the disability question. Hence, the scholarly interrogation of this stated theme will be the right mechanism in contributing to addressing how disabled persons in Africa can live optimally in pursuit of entrenching inclusiveness in the continent under a post-COVID-19 pandemic epoch.

Consequently, the **rationale for this Special Issue** speaks for itself. This is against the backdrop of the topical currency of the stated theme and its modernizing intent to fast track achievement of social, political, economic, and all-round inclusiveness of African socio-political systems for her disabled populations. And this is the reason why critically researched and well-thought-out intellectual papers on this Special Issue's theme are invited and welcome. The need to modernize the place of disabled persons in African societies cannot be underrated. In fact, this intellectual undertaking is necessary if the theme of inclusiveness in the nation-building discussions in Africa will have to go beyond just theory but concrete realities on the ground. This Special Issue, therefore, will go a long way to further the topicality of disability diagnosis and treatment, especially in developing social systems such as are in Africa.

Following the arguments for this Special Issue's theme, deeply researched and well-articulated empirical and theoretical-based papers covering these **Sub-themes and related topics** are welcome:

- Disability question in post-COVID-19 pandemic aftermath in Africa: **Social sciences dimensions (political science, economics, sociology, geography, psychology, mass communication, etc. specializations)**
- Disability question in post-COVID-19 pandemic aftermath in Africa: **Humanities dimensions (philosophy, language fields of study, music, archeological/cultural studies, communication studies, literature in English cum poetry, etc.)**

- Disability question in post-COVID-19 pandemic aftermath in Africa: **Sports dimensions**
- Disability question in post-COVID-19 pandemic aftermath in Africa: **Regional and town planning dimensions**
- Disability question in post-COVID-19 pandemic aftermath in Africa: **Education dimensions (primary, secondary and higher cum technical schools pedagogy)**
- Disability question in post-COVID-19 pandemic aftermath in Africa: **Decision-making dimensions (Business & accounting studies, government, policy analysis, corporate governance, etc. in public and private realms)**
- Disability question in post-COVID-19 pandemic aftermath in Africa: **Architectural, building, engineering, construction dimensions**
- Disability question in post-COVID-19 pandemic aftermath in Africa: **Medicine, healthcare, pharmacology, traditional medicine, healthcare administration dimensions**
- Disability question in post-COVID-19 pandemic aftermath in Africa: **Human rights, legal jurisprudential and prosecutorial dimensions**
- Disability question in post-COVID-19 pandemic aftermath in Africa: **indigenous knowledge system (IKS) dimensions**

Articles/manuscripts are to be forwarded to Victor.Ojakorotu@nwu.ac.za before July 10, 2020.
