

## **Identity and The Disability Discrimination Act 1992**

Campbell and Oliver (1996:124) on identity of the disabled observes that 'discovering our identity as disabled people is very, very important. It's still important today, otherwise people won't value themselves. I think that is probably the biggest success that the movement has been able to point to. It is our movement, nobody owns it. We know who we are. I think we're fairly clear about where we're going and why we're going there.

Furthermore, the roots of disability arts lie in the politicising of disability issues. Shakespeare et al (1996:186) state 'drama, cabaret, writing and visual arts have been harnessed to challenge negative images, and build a sense of unity'.

The Disability Discrimination Act 1992 is silent on identity. The drafting of the provisions does not give the disabled in Australia an identity.

Melville Miranda  
Victoria

Date: 17-9-03