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### Civil Disabilities

*Citizenship, Membership, and Belonging*

Nancy J. Hirschmann and Beth Linker, Editors

An estimated one billion people around the globe live with a disability; this number grows exponentially when family members, friends, and care providers are included. Various countries and international organizations have attempted to guard against discrimination and secure basic human rights for those whose lives are affected by disability. Yet despite such attempts many disabled persons in the United States and throughout the world still face exclusion from full citizenship and membership in their respective societies. They are regularly denied employment, housing, health care, access to buildings, and the right to move freely in public spaces.

*Civil Disabilities* challenges such norms and practices, urging a reconceptualization of disability and citizenship to secure a rightful place for disabled persons in society. Essays from leading scholars in a diversity of fields offer critical perspectives on current citizenship studies, which still largely assumes an ableist world. Placing historians in conversation with anthropologists, sociologists with literary critics, and musicologists with political scientists, this interdisciplinary volume presents a compelling case for reimagining citizenship that is more consistent, inclusive, and just, in both theory and practice. By placing disability front and center in academic and civic discourse, *Civil Disabilities* tests the very notion of citizenship and transforms our understanding of disability and belonging.

Contributors: Emily Abel, Douglas C. Baynton, Susan Burch, Allison C. Carey, Faye Ginsburg, Nancy J. Hirschmann, Hannah Joyner, Catherine Kudlick, Beth Linker, Alex Lubet, Rayna Rapp, Susan Schweik, Tobin Siebers, Lorella Terzi.

**Nancy J. Hirschmann** is Professor of Political Science at the University of Pennsylvania and author of *Gender, Class, and Freedom in Modern Political Theory* and *The Subject of Liberty: Toward a Feminist Theory of Freedom*.

**Beth Linker** is Associate Professor in the Department of the History and Sociology of Science at the University of Pennsylvania and author of *War's Waste: Rehabilitation in World War I America*.

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