In this breakthrough book, *Disability in Australia* dares to name and explore a hidden blight in society: the routine, daily and oppressive treatment of people with disabilities. Drawing on a wide range of case studies from health and welfare, sport, biotechnology, deinstitutionalisation, political life, and the treatment of refugees, this thoughtful, lively and provocative work puts disability firmly on the agenda. A rare and timely audit, *Disability in Australia: Exposing a social apartheid* shows that disability is central to society, media and culture — a matter of human rights and justice that should concern us all.

**About the Authors**

Dr Gerard Goggin is an Australian Research Fellow at the Centre for Critical and Cultural Studies, University of Queensland. He has had a research and policy interest in disability, stemming from his work with people with disabilities in the area of new media. Gerard is a board member of the Disability Studies and Research Institute.

Associate Professor Christopher Newell, AM teaches and researches within the School of Medicine, University of Tasmania. As a consultant ethicist and a person with a disability, he works with a variety of health and disability services. He is a member of the NHMRC Licencing Committee. His directorships include the Consumers’ Health Forum of Australia, the Disability Studies and Research Institute, and Australian General Practice Accreditation Ltd. In 2001 Dr Newell was appointed as a Member of the Order of Australia (AM) for his work.

**Comments**

I congratulate the authors for the broad focus of their study. It is provocative in part, and deliberately so . . . Truly, the authors have travelled far beyond the wheelchair ramps. They have helped us to encounter disability in society and to question what disability is and how society should respond to it. If this endeavour promotes greater awareness of an important social, scientific and legal issue, it will represent a significant, important and timely achievement.

— from the ‘Foreword’ by The Hon Justice Michael Kirby AC CMG

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