Under blue skies: The social construction of intellectual disability in Western Australia

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Abstract
Research into the history of people with intellectual disabilities in Western Australia has been a sporadic undertaking. Scholarship to date has been mainly institutional in character and often undertaken as an adjunct to the study of mental illness. The people themselves have remained mostly invisible. In 1989, the Editors conceived of a social history research project in which, for the first time, an attempt would be made to document the lives of people with intellectual disabilities in Western Australia. The project would also aim to describe the institutional, social, political and professional history we identify with mainstream historical scholarship...