



Foucault and the Government of Disability (Corporealities: Discourses Of Disability)

Shelley Lynn Tremain

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Foucault and the Government of Disability considers the continued relevance of Foucault to disability studies, as well as the growing significance of disability studies to understandings of Foucault. A decade ago, this international collection provocatively responded to Foucault's call to question what is regarded as natural, inevitable, ethical, and liberating. The book's contributors draw on Foucault to scrutinize a range of widely endorsed practices and ideas surrounding disability, including rehabilitation, community care, impairment, normality and abnormality, inclusion, prevention, accommodation, and special education. In this revised and expanded edition, four new essays extend and elaborate the lines of inquiry by problematizing (to use Foucault's term) the epistemological, political, and ethical character of the supercrip, the racialized war on autism, the performativity of intellectual disability, and the potent mixture of neoliberalism and biopolitics in the context of physician-assisted suicide.

"[A]n important, prescient, and necessary contribution...a kind of litmus test for the efficacy of Foucault's concepts in the study of disability, concepts that lead to a refusal of the biological essentialism implied in the disability/impairment binary."

—*Foucault Studies*

"Tremain has done an exceptional job at organizing and procuring important, rigorously argued, and entertaining essays.... This book should be a mandatory read for anyone interested in contemporary philosophical debates surrounding the experience of disability."

—*Essays in Philosophy*

"A beautiful exploration of how Foucault's analytics of power and genealogies of discursive knowledges can open up new avenues for thinking critically about phenomena that many of us take to be inevitable and thus new ways of resisting and possibly at times redirecting the forces that shape our lives. Every scholar, every person with an interest in Foucault or in political theory generally, needs to read this book."

—Ladelle McWhorter, University of Richmond

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