

Shining Light on Personhood for People with Intellectual Disability

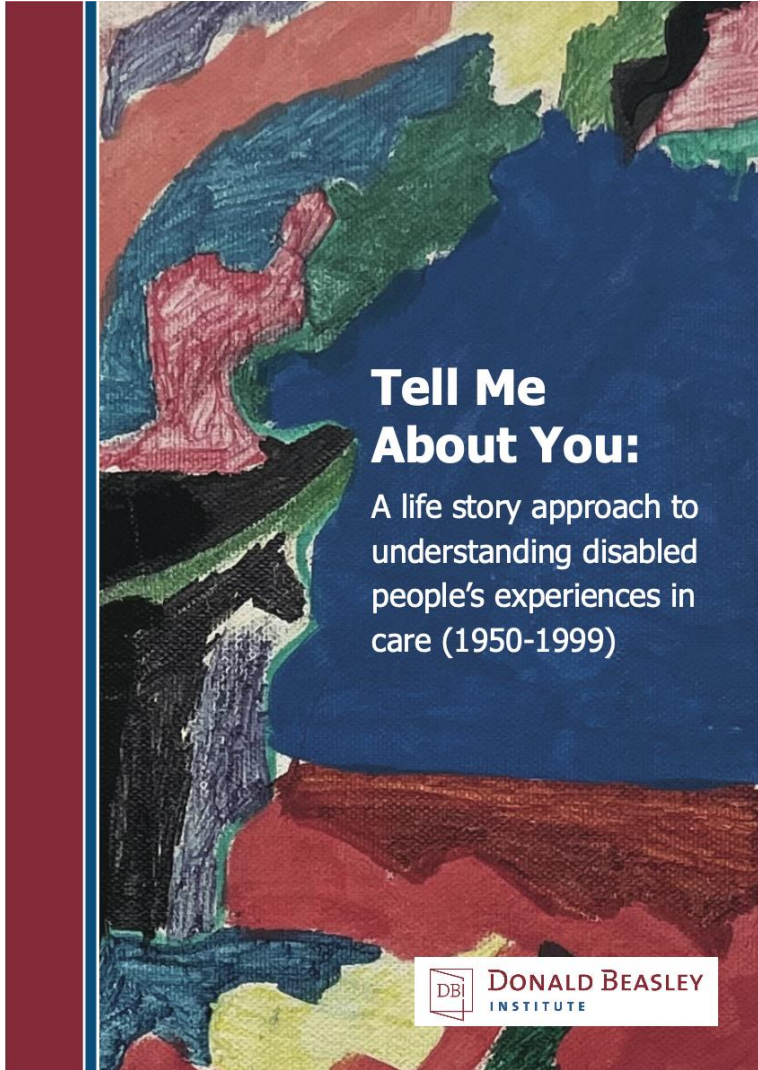
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Overview of the Presentation

- Tell Me About You
- Abuse in Care Royal Commission of Inquiry in Aotearoa
- Australia's Disability Royal Commission
- What is Personhood
- Why is Personhood important?





Tell Me About You:

A life story approach to understanding disabled people's experiences in care (1950-1999)



“Tell Me About You” Research Project



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Abuse in Care Royal Commission of Inquiry in Aotearoa

- Investigated abuse and neglect in State and faith-based care
- Focused on the time-period 1950-1999
- A specific inquiry focused on disabled people's experiences



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Australia's Disability Royal Commission

- Focused on disabled people's experiences of violence, abuse, neglect and exploitation.
- Experiences in all and any settings
- No limit on time-period of abuse

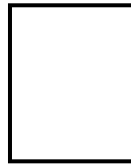


What we learned from the research project

Personhood of people with learning disabilities and neurodiversity was not recognised or respected.



So, what is Personhood?



Definition of Personhood in Tell Me About You

Personhood or Respect for personhood means:

Respect for an individual's essence of being, freedom to make choices and have autonomy, freedom to love and be loved, to belong and to relate with others.



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Storyteller's experiences of Personhood



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Artwork by Allan –
University of Otago
Clock Tower



The impact of a lack of respect for Personhood

- Not respecting personhood was harmful to the storytellers
- Life is different now for many of the storytellers



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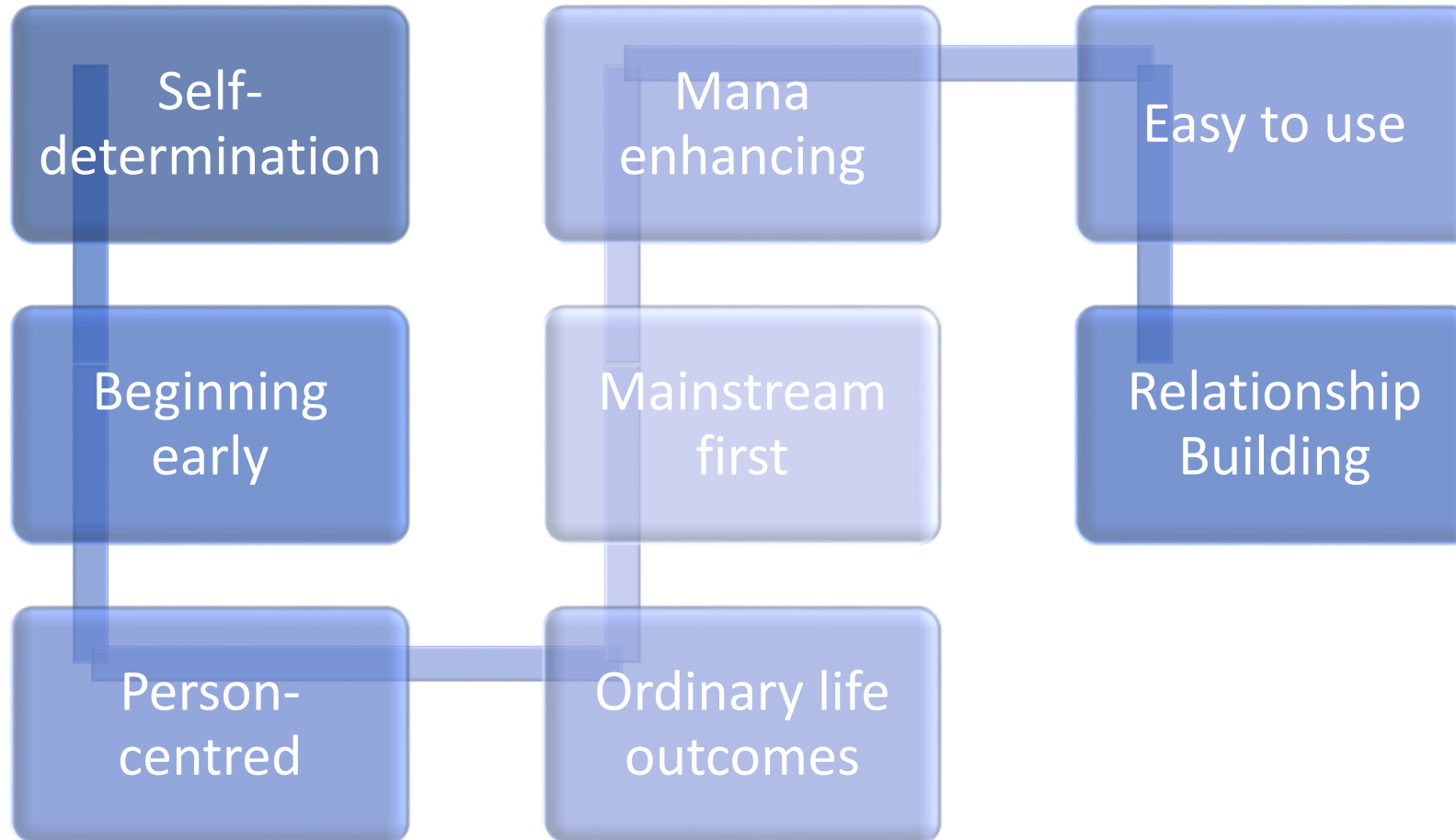


What this means for supports and services today and in the future

Supports and services must recognize and respect the Personhood of people with learning disabilities and neurodiversity.



Enabling Good Lives Approach



“If I could change what happened, I would have wanted the staff to listen to me and talk to me.”

- Allan



Whakatauki

Mā te whakarongo, ka mōhio, mā te mōhio, ka mārama,
mā te mārama, kā matau, mā te matau, ka ora.

Through listening, comes knowledge, through knowledge,
comes understanding, through understanding, comes
wisdom, through wisdom, comes wellbeing.



We would like to thank...

- All the storytellers who shared their stories with us
- The researchers who helped with the Tell Me About You project: Brigit Mirfin-Veitch, Kelly Tikao, Umi Asaka, Hilary Stace, Robbie Francis Watene, and Patsie Frawley.



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Thank you

The full “Tell Me About You” report is available on the Donald Beasley Institute website with accessible formats.

www.donaldbeasley.org.nz

