

SUGGESTIONS FOR THE USE OF

RESPECTFUL/PEOPLE FIRST LANGUAGE

SAY—	INSTEAD OF—
The woman who is blind.....	The blind woman
Uses a wheelchair or uses a chair	Wheelchair-bound, confined to a wheelchair, or a wheelchair client
Disability.....	Handicap
People without disabilities.....	Normal or whole
Speech disability.....	Mute, dumb, or speech impediment
People living with AIDS.....	AIDS victims
Person with a congenital disability.....	Deformed, deformity, or birth defect
Person with Down Syndrome.....	A Down's, mongol, or mongoloid
Cognitive disability.....	Mental retardation, slow learner, or lower functioning
Person with cerebral palsy.....	Palsied or spastic
People with spinal cord injuries.....	Spinal cord injured
Child with epilepsy.....	Epileptic
Person of short stature.....	Dwarf or midget
Man with paraplegia or she has paraplegia.....	Paraplegic or quadriplegic
Person with mental illness.....	Crazy, insane, psycho, etc.
Person who has schizophrenia	Schizophrenic
Person with bipolar disorder or manic depressive illness.....	A manic depressive or a bipolar
People with disabilities.....	The retarded or the mentally ill
Has a disability.....	Defective, defect, deformed
Deaf.....	Deaf and dumb
Person with (name of disability).....	Afflicted with or suffers from
Has a learning disability.....	Is learning disabled
Has a brain injury.....	Brain injured
Receives special education.....	Special ed student
Has developmental delay.....	Is developmentally delayed
Needs or uses.....	Has a problem or has special needs



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