

Living , Learning , & Advocating

November 16, 2017

Presented by Kenneth Kelty

About me

- * I am Kenneth Kelty, and I am originally from West Palm Beach, Florida
- * I graduated from The Western Carolina University UP (University Participant) program, and I am a former LEND Trainee Self Advocate and am currently in the Maternal Child Health Bureau Leadership Consortium at UNC, Chapel Hill.
- * I am a motivational public speaker and nationally published author on my experience with autism and social inclusion on a college campus.

Younger Years

- * Parents told I would not talk
- * Speech Difficulties:
 - * Jackie=Zacki
 - * Fire Truck
 - * Chicken=Shicken
- * Diagnosis
- * The power of hope & dreams, goals & expectations

Milestones that prepared me for College



- * Safety patrol trip to Washington DC
- * The Lake Worth Community High School Early Child Hood Academy
- * Going to summer camps and after school programs in inclusive settings
- * Volunteering at The Durham VA Medical Center
- * Youth Group at The Methodist Church of The Palm Beaches
- * Pushing my limits at a young age

My Experience as a UP Participant

UP Program

Western Carolina University

- * This is a two year inclusion program for students with intellectual and developmental disabilities
- * This is a full inclusion program with no separation from the campus.

My role as a student

- * I took classes in Criminal Justice and Political Science
- * I was part of The Delta Sigma Phi Fraternity and hung out with other organizations.
- * I lived in a regular dorm and had a suitemate and I did internships.



Work experiences while at Western Carolina University

- * SD Grant Office
- * Student Mailroom
- * International Student Office
- * Public Relations Office and Creative Services
- * Student EnTOURage
- * Susan's Tax and Accountant Service



Clubs and Organizations I was involved in

- * International studies club
- * ASA (Asian Student Association)
- * Diversity Committee
- * Delta Sigma Phi fraternity



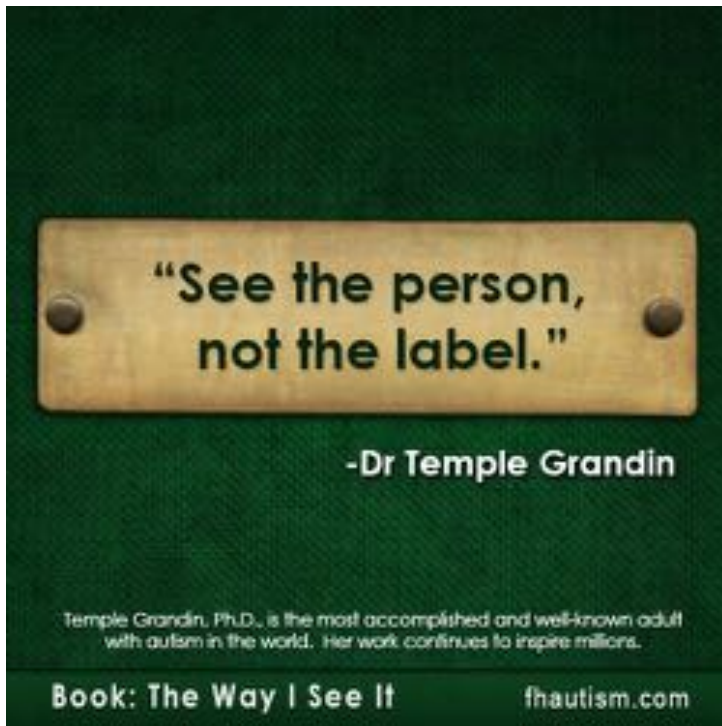
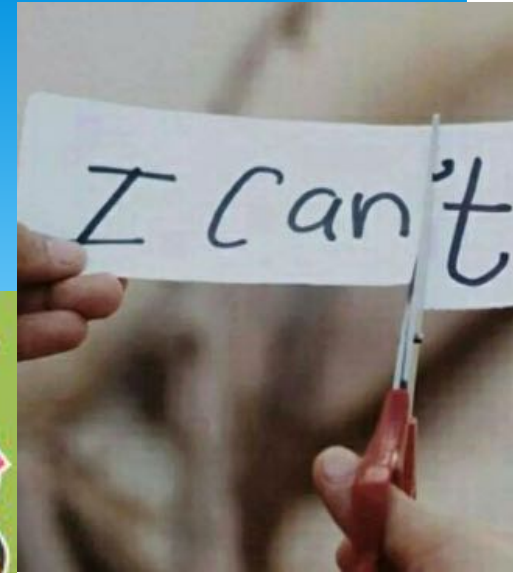
Graduation class of 2014



- * When I was in my first semester at Western Carolina, the UP Participants had to have a separate graduation ceremony but that all changed after the student body petitioned the campus and now we can join in the WCU graduation will all graduates walking together.

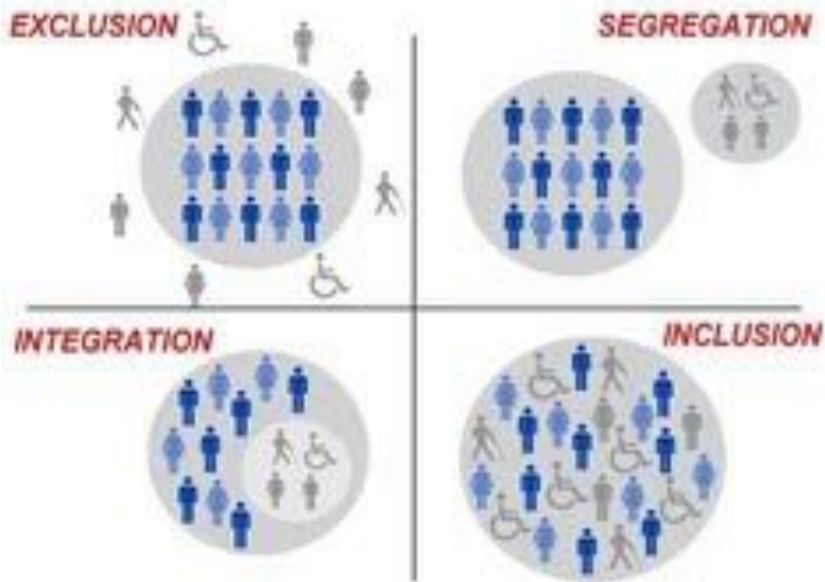


Disability History



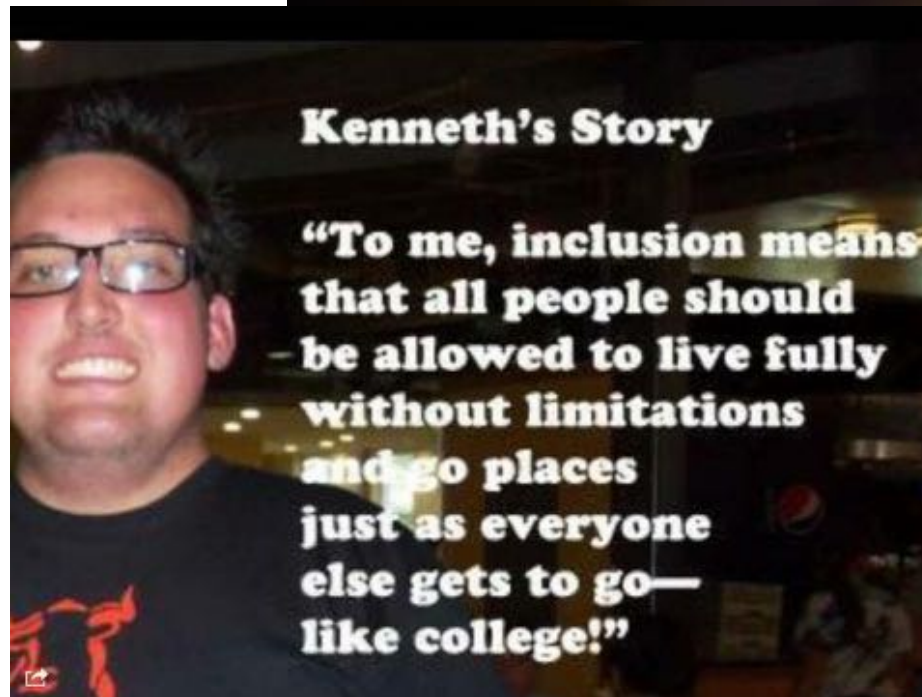
Why inclusion matters

- * Social inclusion in the school systems, community and post-secondary education matters because this can help all people learn and grow, develop and gain determination.
- * When people with disabilities are put in self-contained settings the less likely they are to grow and have self-confidence in themselves. There is no room in those settings to learn from mistakes.



Diversity and inclusion are about giving value to every human being, no matter our differences.

thinkinclusive.us



30 Things a Standardized Test Can't Measure



Resilience Passion Strength
wit Faith
Compassion
a sense of humor Intuition
Kindness self-esteem
INTELLIGENCE MOTIVATION FORTITUDE
Morals Work Ethic
Courage Determination
empathy Personality manners
Diligence common sense
Grit Ingenuity
Character
Physical Fitness a love of learning
creativity Effort LIFE SKILLS

Living with Autism



- * Remembering dates and details of events, people, and history
- * Helps me stand out and think out side of the box
- * Motivates me to do well and speak

10 'SYMPTOMS' OF AUTISM

1. Someone who never gives up.

2. A loyal friend, trustworthy & dependable.

3. Truth seeker who wants to do what is right.

4. Caring, empathetic, sensitive & creative.

5. Ability to hyperfocus, analyse & systemise.

6. Loves details & notices patterns others may miss.

7. Perceives the world in a unique way.

8. Passionate about ideas & solving problems.

9. Amazing long term memory, can share helpful information.

10. Being awesome (autism → awetism).

"Interests and talents can turn into CAREERS. Developing and nurturing these UNIQUE ABILITIES can make life more FULFILLING for a person with autism."

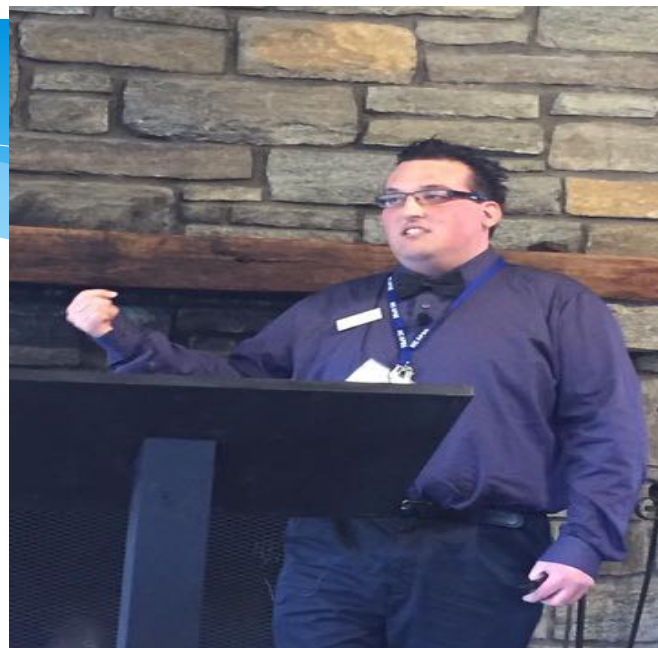
- DR. TEMPLE GRANDIN



Different
Individuals
Valuing
Each other
Regardless of
Skin
Intellect
Talents or
Years.

Public Speaking and Publications

- * My first nationally published article was with The American Evaluation Association on the research and evaluation I did with Dr. Seb Prohn on how to make WCU more inclusive.
- * I have done speaking and articles on my experience with autism and social inclusion on a college campus.
- * I have spoken to High School Students with and without disabilities. I have spoken at conferences and made my own power-point.



My Experience as a LEND Trainee

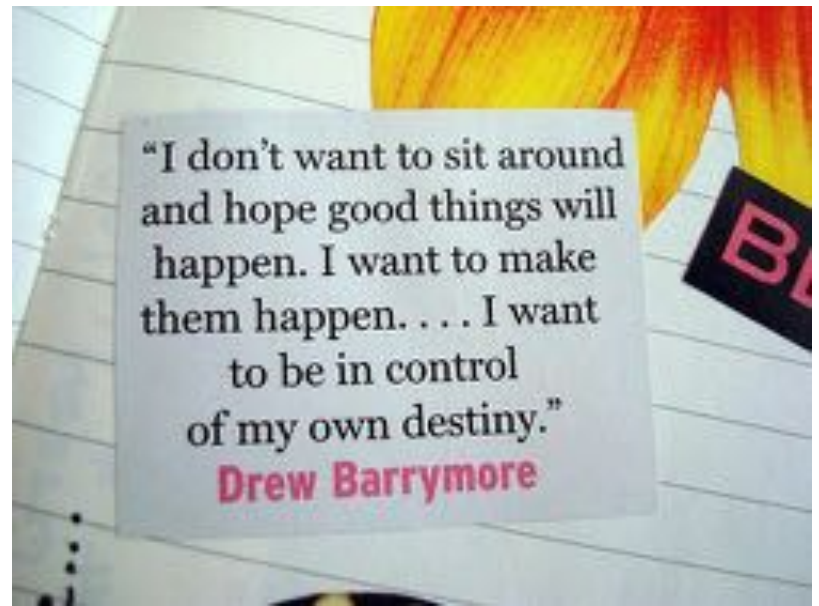
- * LEND stands for Leadership Education in Neuro-Developmental Disabilities and Related Disorders
- * This is a graduate school program for professionals in both Masters and Ph.D. programs also for post doctoral students. Students with disabilities are also included as a Self-Advocate discipline and this helps the professionals learn how to work with people with disabilities.
- * I did set goals for my semester and what I wanted to gain from my experience with LEND. I did some research work and I was part of Project STIR (Steps Towards Independence and Responsibility). We went out to local schools and talked to OCS students about goal settings and why it is important to advocate for yourself.

Leadership in Advocacy Training

- * I was a youth peer mentor for The Alliance of Disability Advocates.
- * As a youth peer mentor, I went to High Schools in Wake County and I taught the students about becoming self-advocates. I also helped teach them about disability history.
- * Part of my LEND plan was to do work with Project STIR (Steps Towards Independence and Responsibility) and part of what I would do is teach students in OCS classes to become better advocates and to know that there are options.

My goals going forward

- * I do hope to move to Washington, DC or Boston, MA.
- * I do hope to have my book published and write articles.
- * Attend University of Boston, MA and attend The Eunice Shriver Kennedy Research Center. Maybe do some work with The Association of University Centers on Disability
- * Travel abroad and in The US.





Looking Back, Looking Forward

- * 1990
- * ADA
- * ABLE ACT
- * Post Secondary Education Outcomes
- * Self-Advocacy Opportunities

Contact Information

- * My email address is kkelty561@gmail.com
- * My Public Facebook page is Kenneth Kelty, Public Speaker and Author.

