

Good Health (Care) For All

*Jeanne Nicklas-Faust
Lebenshilfe Germany*

Europe in Action, Praha, 1 June 2017

Content

Introduction

Barriers to Health Care and Specific Needs

Accessibility

Good Health Care

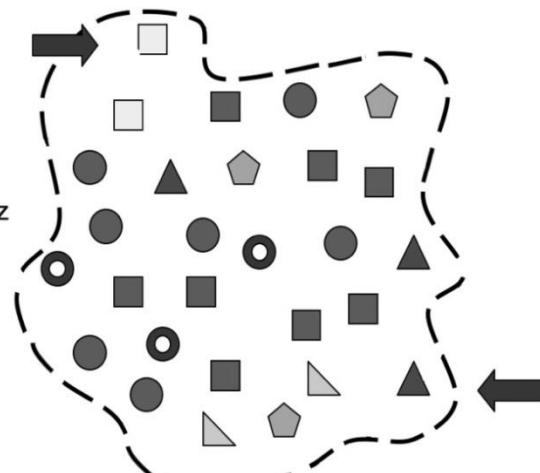
UN-CRPD

- **Article 25 Health:** Highest attainable standard of health without discrimination, access to general health care and specific services
- **Article 26 Habilitation and rehabilitation:** Attain and maintain maximum independence, full inclusion and participation
- **Article 9 Accessibility:** To live independently and participate fully in all aspects of life

Inclusion – the aim of the CRPD

Inklusion

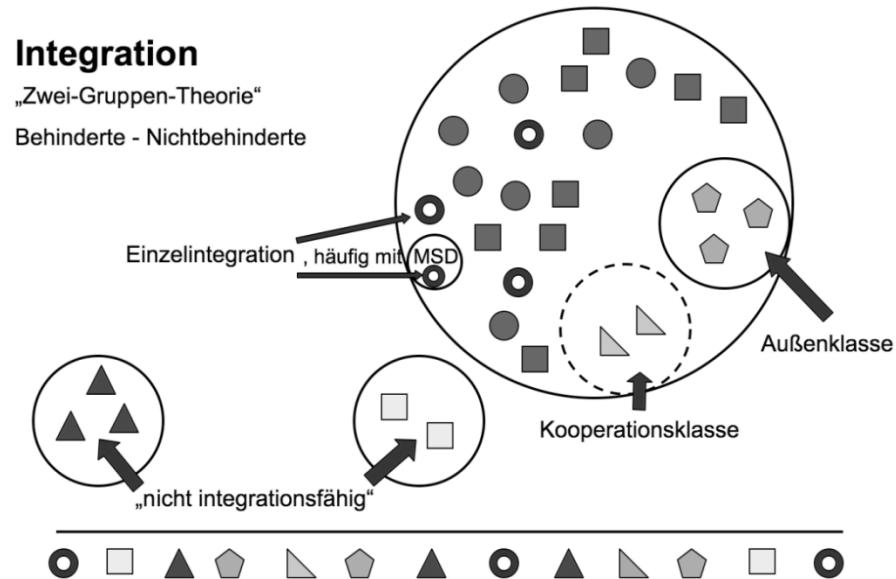
Theorie der egalitären Differenz



Dorrance, 2011

Integration

„Zwei-Gruppen-Theorie“
Behinderte - Nichtbehinderte



Good health (care)

- Healthy living
- Prevention of special risks
- Good health care for illnesses
- Habilitation and rehabilitation of impairments

→ Disability is not an illness!

(even when illness might be the cause, a side effect or a consequence of disabilities)



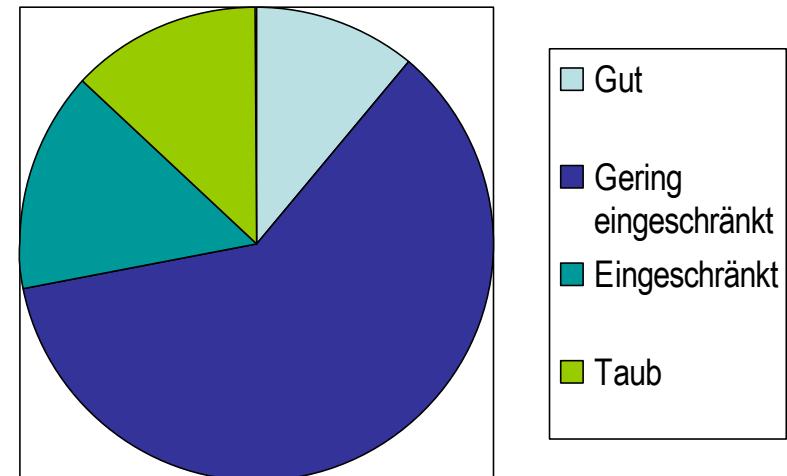
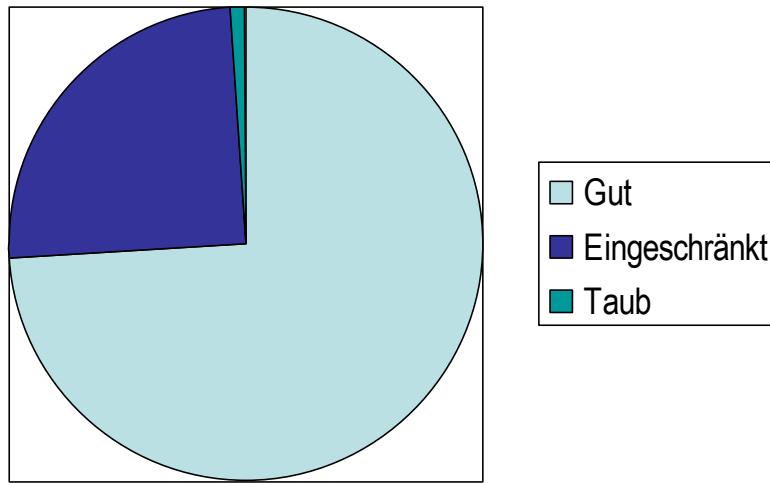
Hindered access to health care

- Visit to physician not self-initiated
- Communication complicated
- Hindered access to health care institutions
- Anamnesis and diagnostic procedures often difficult and lengthy since many people are involved: Care persons from residential homes and workshops, relatives and custodians, different physicians

Problems in diagnose finding

- Atypical symptoms
- Lacking ability to communicate
- Enduring attitude needs disclosing approach
- Different frequency of illnesses, especially with profound, multiple disabilities and chronic conditions

Hearing ability



Atypical symptoms

- Change in behaviour
- Expression of feelings
- Changes in habits and (daily)
activities
- Lack of thriving
- Diminished food intake



©Lebenshilfe für Menschen mit geistiger Behinderung Bremen e. V., Illustrator Stefan Albers, Atelier Fleetinsel, 2013

Specialties in therapy

- Medication:
 - Good compliance
 - Enhanced interaction of various drugs
 - More (often hidden) side effects
- Contribution to healing through change of action:
 - Often reduced with lack of understanding
- Long-term therapy:
 - No initiative for monitoring therapy



Specific knowledge of health care professionals

- Special knowledge of specific symptoms and differences in illnesses is lacking since it is not taught
- Lacking of experience, also in terms of dealing with situation and communication
- Vast differences among people living with a disability hinders experience
- Special knowledge about disabilities in pediatrics is lacking for adults

Communication in health care

- Talk to the person with the disability
- Use simple language, or if needed sign language
- Use demonstration material, also for touching
- Information in Easy-to-Read and Braille
- Set aside enough time
- Careful weighing of aims and priorities of health care
- Be aware of possible traumatization in the past (by the health care system)

Accessibility in health care

- Information in Easy-to-Read
- Guidance system
- Wheelchair-proof rooms
- Accessible examination devices
- Calm atmosphere and time



Requirement of health care

- Community-based health care
- Complementary specialised services
- Coordination of health care
- Documentation to ease communication
- Enhancing knowledge in professionals of health care system
- Adequate framework for and organisation of health care services



It's normal to be different!



Change
needs
collective action!

