

Learning Objectives

- Describe the limited opportunities for children with disabilities to get an education before U.S. law required public education for all children.
- Describe the experiences of families trying to obtain an education for their children with disabilities.
- Compare the educational circumstances of children with disabilities before the 1970s and today.

Video Clip	Debrief Question	Possible Answers
Sandy	Who helped Mrs. Receveur create a school for children with disabilities in a church basement in southern Indiana?	<p>Leona Receveur had help from</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public health nurses who identified children with disabilities who needed educational opportunities • Rabbi Rauch, who listened to Mrs. Receveur and decided it was important to support a school for students with disabilities • Crusade for Children, where Rabbi Rauch was on the board of directors and which provided \$1,000 for a bus to transport students to the new school
Bonnie	In the 1960s, there were no opportunities for children like Brooks to go to school. In his situation, what happened?	A minister talked with Brooks' mother and learned he needed a place to go to school. The minister found a person who was willing and able to teach Brooks regularly at his church. Brooks stopped crying in the morning when his sisters went to school because he got to go to school too.
John	<p>(1) Why did families feel the need to organize together?</p> <p>(2) Do you think children with disabilities would have had access to education if the parents had not acted to change things? Why or why not?</p>	<p>(1) There were no schools that would accept children with intellectual disabilities in the 1950s. Parents wanted educational opportunities for their sons and daughters.</p> <p>(2) Parents were speaking up about the lack of services and opportunities for their children. Many improvements in the lives of people with disabilities have only happened because they or their families have pressed for changes.</p>
Pat	<p>(1) Who wanted the agency buses to say "Stone Belt Center for Retarded Citizens"? What did Pat think about it?</p> <p>(2) How can we respond if we hear people using the "R word" (retarded)?</p>	<p>(1) Parents wanted the buses to identify the name of the place where classes were available for children with disabilities, so that other parents could find out about it. Pat had learned in her undergraduate schooling that "retarded" was a negative description of those children. She wanted to use better language.</p> <p>(2) When we hear others say "retard" or "retarded" we can mention that, even though they may not be intending to hurt anyone, people with intellectual disabilities do not want words to be used that are demeaning to them. No matter who is being talked about.</p>