

MARSHA
FOREST

NO MORE SEGREGATED SETTINGS

26 FEB 87
GRANT
MACEWAN
COLLEGE



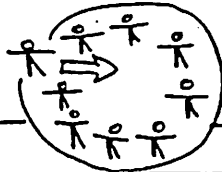
WHAT I'M
GOING TO
SAY APPLIES
TO EVERYBODY
WHO BREATHES...
CHILDREN... ADULTS...
I DON'T WANT TO
PLAY THE "MORE
HANDICAPPED THAN
THOU" GAME WITH
YOU!

WE WILL USE
 FIRST
LANGUAGE...
DE-MEDICALIZE
OUR UNDERSTANDING
OF PEOPLE!

EACH
TIME
WE
LABEL
PEOPLE...

LET'S TALK
ABOUT
"R BITES HIS...
FRIEND THREE
TIMES A MINUTE...
IT'S A PROBLEM"
NOT "AUTISM"

INTEGRATION MEANS TO
BE A PART OF A
COMMUNITY... NOT APART
FROM IT!



PEOPLE ARE SAYING
"INTEGRATION IS O.K...
BUT NOT FOR SOMEONE
LIKE YOUR CHILD!"

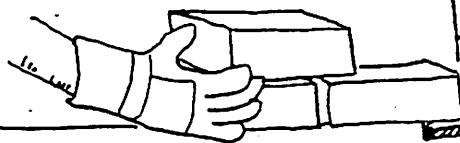
WOULDN'T IT BE GREAT IF
"SPECIAL ED" TEACHERS
COULD JUST BE CALLED
TEACHERS... WHO HAVE
STUDENTS WHOSE NEEDS
CHALLENGE THE SYSTEM!

 I'M A
TEACHER!

THE TERM "GIFTED" IS AN
INSULT TO THE KIDS I'M
INTERESTED IN... IT IMPLIES
THAT THEY ARE NOT, WHICH
IS UNTRUE! ALL PEOPLE
ARE GIFTED... PEOPLE WHO
HAVE VERY CHALLENGING
HANDICAPS OFTEN HAVE SOME
OF THE GREATEST GIFTS!

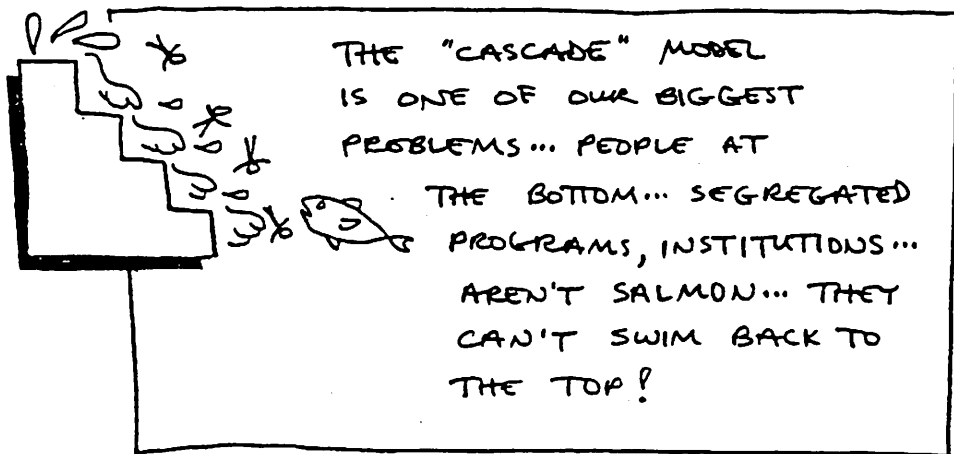


WHAT I'M TALKING ABOUT
IS BUILDING COMMUNITY!

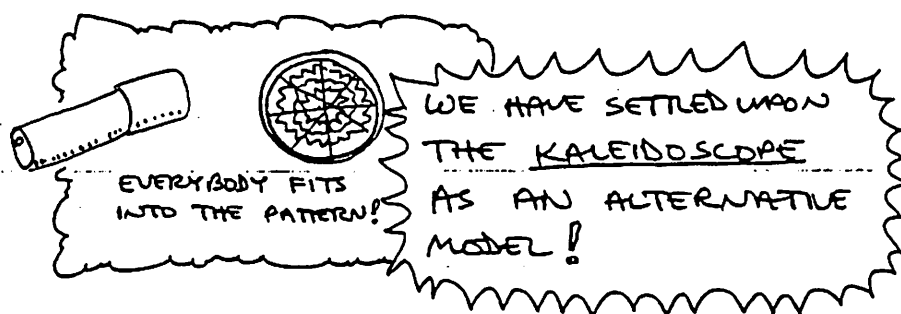
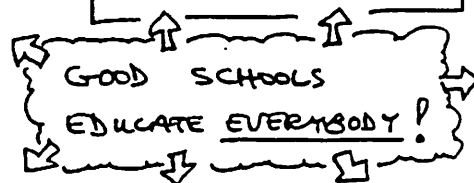


IN COMMUNITIES...
PEOPLE "CONNECT"
WITH ONE ANOTHER





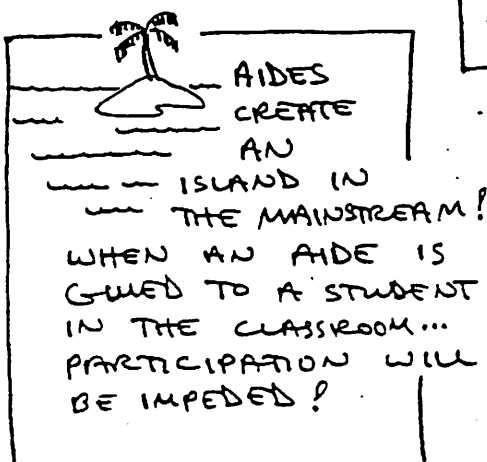
I AM TIRED OF PROTECTING PROFESSIONALS AT THE EXPENSE OF KIDS!



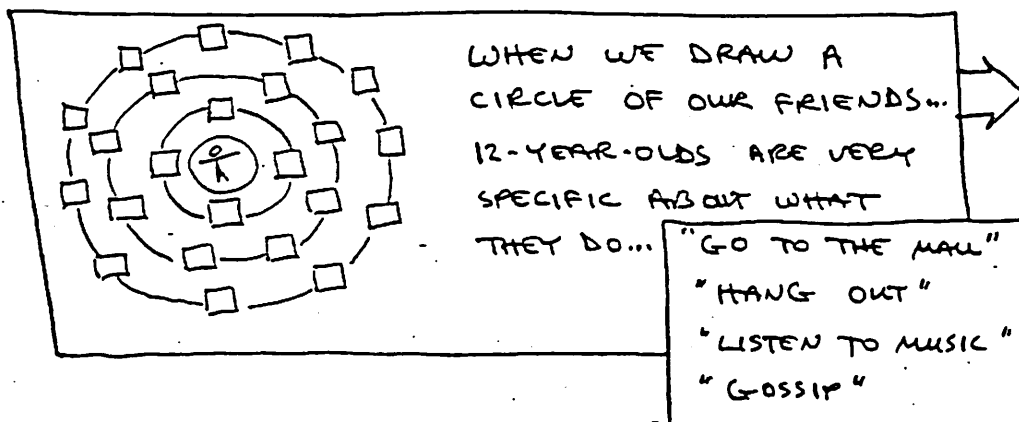
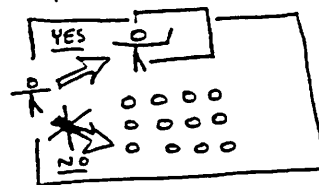
IN OUR MODEL... PLACEMENT IS NOT BASED ON THE CHARACTERISTICS OF THE CHILD... BUT ON WHERE THE CHILD LIVES!

IT IS A MYTH THAT SPECIAL EDUCATION TEACHERS ARE SPECIAL...

IN MY SYSTEM, I HIRE ARTS AND HISTORY STUDENTS... PEOPLE WHO'VE NEVER SEEN A CHILD WITH A HANDICAP BEFORE!



AIDES SHOULD BE ASSIGNED TO TEACHERS... NOT KIDS!



"GO TO THE MALL"
"HANG OUT"
"LISTEN TO MUSIC"
"GOSSIP"

KIDS WHO HAVE HANDICAPS OFTEN CAN'T FILL THE BOXES IN... AND OTHER KIDS SAY THAT IF THEY COULDN'T FILL THE BOXES IN... THEY

WHEN YOU FEEL LIKE THAT... YOU CAN'T LEARN!

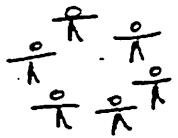
WOULD FEEL "TERRIBLE" "LOVELY" "REJECTED" "TIRED"

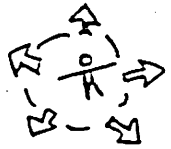
♀ LISA WAS A 12-YEAR-OLD WHO WAS HITTING, HURTING & BITING OTHER KIDS ... HER PRINCIPAL ASKED ME TO COME IN TO WORK WITH THE OTHER KIDS ... I ASKED THEM TO WRITE OUT ... "WHO IS LISA" ... THEY GAVE VERY SPECIFIC, MOSTLY NEGATIVE INFORMATION ... THEN I ASKED THEM TO WRITE OUT THE POSITIVE THINGS ... HER UNIQUE GIFTS

THE KIDS GAVE ME ALL KINDS OF THINGS ... THEN I ASKED, WHAT DOES LISA NEED ?

- * LOVE * FRIENDS * CARING
- * * SHARING * A BEST BUDDY
- * TO BE ONE OF THE KIDS ...

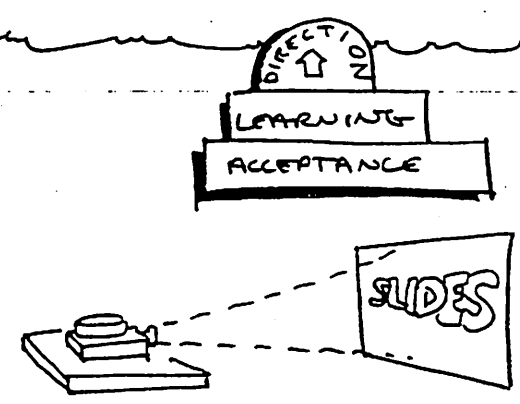
☞ THESE WERE NOT "SPECIAL" NEEDS THAT THE KIDS SAW AS MOST IMPORTANT...

 WE THEN BUILT A "WELCOMING COMMITTEE" OF THE KIDS ... THERE WERE AT LEAST 3 KIDS WITH HER EACH PERIOD OF THE DAY!

 WE ALSO HIRED A "COMMUNITY FACILITATOR" ... THEN WE BROUGHT IN THE PROFESSIONALS ... WE DIDN'T FIX HER, BUT NOW SHE'S A MUCH MORE SECURE KID!

IN A SYSTEM WHERE YOU HAVE HATRED AND PROBLEMS... IT'S BECAUSE OF THE ♀ ADULTS ... NOT THE ♀ KIDS !

THESE ○○○ CIRCLES ARE NOT AN ALTERNATIVE TO LEARNING ... THEY ARE A PRE-CONDITION !



* ONE WAY TO GET RELATIONSHIPS STARTED IS THROUGH PEER TUTORING!



- * KATHERINE
 - HAS A CIRCLE OF FRIENDS AT HER HIGH SCHOOL ... SHE NEVER GOES TO "LIFE SKILLS" ROOM
 - NICOLENA INVITED KATHERINE TO HER HOUSE FOR A WEEK WHEN HER PARENTS WERE AWAY
 - SHE WORKED AS A COUNSELLOR-IN-TRAINING LAST SUMMER
 - THIS SUMMER, SHE MAY JOIN HER FRIENDS AS A "SMURF" AT CANADA'S WONDERLAND...

FATHERS ARE GETTING INVOLVED AS ADVOCATES NOW ...

* NOBODY TALKS ABOUT FATHERS GETTING TOO EMOTIONAL!

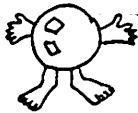
THE GOOD NEWS IS THAT EVERY PARENT WHO'S MADE DEMANDS ON THE SYSTEM HAS GOTTEN SOMETHING!

I HATE PEOPLE WHO SAY "I AGREE WITH YOU" AND THEN WON'T DO ANYTHING!

BUT... WE NEVER LET PARENTS GO ALONE... A STRONG ADVOCATE NEEDS TO BE THERE!



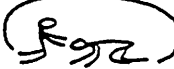
* KATHERINE STOPPED GRINDING HER TEETH WHEN A FRIEND TAUGHT HER TO CHEW GUM



* WE USED A PHYSIOTHERAPIST TO TEACH KIDS HOW TO TRANSFER A FRIEND TO & FROM A WHEELCHAIR ...



* A PUBLIC HEALTH NURSE TAUGHT STUDENTS HOW TO MANAGE THEIR FRIEND'S SEIZURES...



NO WONDER STAFF  BURN OUT ... THEY'RE STANDING IN FOR THE MISSING   IN A PERSON'S CIRCLE...

I QUESTION PEOPLE WHO GO OUT & PLACE PEOPLE IN JOBS WITHOUT KNOWING WHO THE PERSON IS...

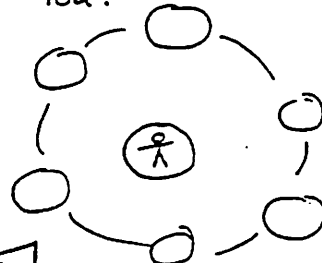
IF A PERSON LIKES HORSES, GO WITH THAT! 

JEFF STRULLY PLACED A PERSON WHO LIKED TO MOVE CONTINUOUSLY AT A JAZZ RADIO STATION... WHERE HE FIT RIGHT IN! 



THEY BOUGHT HIM A JAZZY JACKET TO GO ALONG WITH THE JOB...

WHO IN YOUR CIRCLE OF FRIENDS IS REALLY DIFFERENT THAN YOU?



BY: AGE?
ABILITY?
BEHAVIOUR?
INCOME?
ETHNICITY?
OCCUPATION?
ETC.?

DIVERSITY MAKES LIFE INTERESTING...

INVITE SOMEBODY WHO IS DIFFERENT INTO YOUR HOME...

OPEN UP YOUR HOME    AND PERSONALIZE TH.

"KIDS ON THE BLOCK" ARE PUPPETS:

- THEY DON'T SMELL
- THEY DON'T DROOL
- THEY AREN'T REAL



KIDS LEARN TO ACCEPT DIFFERENCES BY LIVING WITH THEM... 

WE CAN ANSWER **WHY?** TO EVERY HOUR OF THE DAY...

 SHE CAN'T REACH THE SINK IN THE WASHROOM... SO SHE USES WET-WIPES!

19 KIDS SHOWED UP AT CARLA'S BIRTHDAY PARTY ... BECAUSE THEY'RE INCLUDED! ... BECAUSE WE GIVE THEM INVITATIONS...



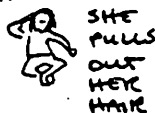
WE EXPECT & DEMAND NOTHING LESS THAN DECENT BEHAVIOUR FROM CARLA... WE HANDICAP KIDS BY BEING LIBERAL "WIMPS" WITH THEM...

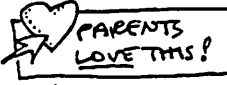
KATHERINE'S PEERS ARE TOUGH WITH HER... IF SHE DROPS SOMETHING, THEY MAKE HER PICK IT UP? WE GAVE THEM PERMISSION TO DO SO!

 CARLA IS 12-YEARS-OLD, BUT VERY TINY... SHE HAS BEEN KNOWN MOSTLY BY LABELS?

MCGILL
ACTION
PLANNING
SYSTEM

A PROBLEM...



- WHO IS CARLA? 
- EACH PERSON CHOOSE 3 MOST IMPORTANT...
- WHAT ARE HER GIFTS?
- WHAT CAN SHE DO?
- WHAT DOES SHE NEED?
... PARENTS / ADULTS
... PEERS
- WHAT DO WE DO EACH HOUR OF THE DAY?



* SUZIE & JANE ACCOMPANY HER FROM THE TAXI TO THE CLASSROOM

* OPENING EXERCISES... CARLA SITS IN 2ND ROW... MIDDLE OF CLASSROOM...

* LANGUAGE ARTS... SHE DOES HER OWN PROGRAM AT A COMPUTER CENTRE... DESIGNED BY TEACHER WITH AID OF SPECIAL EDUCATION CONSULTANTS...

* FRENCH... SHE LIKES IT! A FRIEND SUGGESTED SHE WOULD BE HAPPIEST WITH 20 MINUTES... THEN SHE DOES AN INDIVIDUALIZED PROGRAM ON A COMPUTER IN THE LIBRARY.

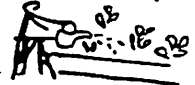
* RECESS... HER  FRIENDS  GO OUT WITH HER... MAKE SURE SHE DOESN'T GET TRAMPLED! 

*  WITH ASSISTANT... SHE LEARNS TO USE THE PHONE AT THE OFFICE...

*  SILENT READING... CARLA IS "IN" CLASS WITH REST OF KIDS

* ~~RECE~~ RELIGION... THE TEACHER ASKS HER 3 OR 4 QUESTIONS EACH CLASS THAT SHE CAN SAY "YES" OR "NO" TOO

* CARLA

- * LUNCH HOUR... WITH KIDS 
 - ⇒ ASSISTANT ON CALL...
- * MATH... FUNCTIONAL MATH PROGRAM
- * "ROTARY" PERIODS... SHE TAKES CARE OF THE PLANTS & FLOWERS IN THE SCHOOL... 
 - LEARNING TO USE A STEPLADDER
- * SHE HELPS A NEW STUDENT LEARN ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE
- * CLOSING EXERCISES... WITH CLASS!

WE THINK TOO MUCH OF THESE KIDS TO LET THEM SCREAM & DISRUPT A CLASSROOM... OR A MOVIE THEATRE...

85% OF OUR MESSAGE TO KIDS IS CONVEYED NON-VERBALLY

WE HAVE TO COMMUNICATE IN ALL WAYS THAT EVERYONE CAN LEARN... AND FOR WHO HAVE HANDICAPS ARE SENSITIVE... AS WE ARE... TO THE ENTIRE RANGE OF COMMUNICATION

THE EFFECTIVE SCHOOLS RESEARCH SHOWS THAT KIDS RECEIVE FAR LESS DIRECT INSTRUCTION THAN WE IMAGINE...

THE WELLINGTON COUNTY SEPARATE SCHOOL BOARD USES TRAINED TEACHERS TO PROVIDE TUTORING OR DIRECT INSTRUCTION... NOT TEACHER AIDES



DON'T THROW OUT THE BABY WITH THE BATHWATER...

USE PEOPLE WHO HAVE SKILLS... HOWEVER...

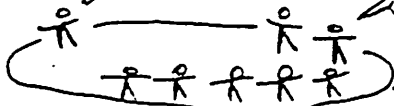
- OFTEN, JUST GOOD TEACHERS ARE ENOUGH,
- RESOURCE ROOMS CAN BE INTEGRATED... TUTORING IN LATIN & GREEK CAN HAPPEN AT THE SAME TIME AS INDIVIDUAL PROGRAMS FOR KIDS WHO HAVE HANDICAPS...

WE ASK THE KIDS...

IF KATHERINE COULD TALK, WHAT WOULD SHE SAY?

SHE WANTS A BOYFRIEND...

...TO GO TO THE WRESTLING MATCH!



WE DIDN'T FIND THE LIBRARY JOB FOR KATHERINE... THE KIDS DID! THEY NOTICED THAT SHE LIKED IT THERE!



COMMON SENSE ISN'T VERY COMMON...



IF A KID IS PRECOCIOUS WITH THE VIOLIN... SHE CAN PLAY WITH THE SYMPHONY AN HOUR A DAY?

I'M NOT SAYING KIDS WHO HAVE GIFTS SHOULD SIT IN CLASS & BE BORED ALL DAY... BUT NOBODY SHOULD BE BORED ALL DAY!..



KATHERINE'S DAY...

- * THE DAY STARTS BY HANGING OUT WITH HER FRIENDS AT THE LOCKERS...
- * THEN SHE DOES A WEIGHT-LIFTING ROUTINE WHILE LISTENING TO HER WALKMAN... WITH OTHER KIDS...

1/ THE NAUTILUS CIRCLE → 20-MINUTE WORKOUT IN PHYS. ED.

AND THE FAMILY HAS NOW JOINED THE FITNESS CLUB!

* SHE GETS A COKE

SHE DOESN'T HAVE TO KNOW WHAT A QUARTER IS!

* SHE'S AN ATTENDANCE MONITOR IN HER HOME ROOM...

* THEATRE ARTS... SHE JUST "PARTICIPATES" ... WE PULLED HER ASSISTANT OUT

* COMPUTER CLASS... SHE HAS HER OWN SOFTWARE

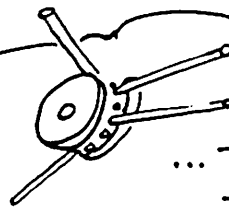
* JOB PLACEMENTS (WORK EXPERIENCE)...

- GROOMING HORSES

- XEROXING IN MY OFFICE

* BAND

* ART



BUILD MODELS...

... THEN, OTHERS HAVE TO DEMONSTRATE WHY THEY CAN'T DO IT!

STRATEGY...



WE'RE PUTTING BAND-AIDS ON DEEP WOUNDS...

LONG-TERM SYSTEMS CHANGES TAKE SOME PLANNING!

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