A World of Our Own?
Independent, but not alone

David Corner
49th Annual ASID Conference
Fremantle, Australia. November 2014
G’day Everyone

• I would gratefully like to acknowledge the Noongar People who are the traditional owners of this land.

• I would also like to acknowledge everyone who has come to this conference from around Australia and the world... not forgetting New Zealand of course
What am I going to talk about today

• Inclusion International – my role and our work
• The CRPD
• Article 12
• A bit of a call to arms...

First things first however!
I come from across the ditch
Differences between New Zealand and Australia
An unsound mind...
Different but the same
We all have our Gods...
Inclusion International

• Advocates for the rights of people with intellectual disability.
• Works at different levels to promote inclusion.
• Its work is recognised by the United Nations.
My involvement on the Council
Inclusion International Global Campaigns

2006
Hear Our Voices: Poverty and People with Intellectual Disabilities

2009
Inclusive Education: Better Education for All

2012
The Right to Live and Be Included in the Community
What is CPRD?

50 articles

Some are about the rights of people with disabilities

Some are about what governments must do
Latest Campaign
What is Article 12 about?

Equal recognition before the law:

... persons with disabilities enjoy legal capacity on an equal basis with others in all aspects of life.
Independent But Not Alone

• Two years
• Over 600 self-advocates, family members, disability advocates, and professionals
• Over 80 organizations from more than 40 countries worldwide
“We need help in supporting our family members with intellectual disabilities to have the right to decide”

“We want to be heard and we want to make decisions about how we live our lives”
Key Findings

• Invest in empowerment and self-advocacy

• Independence ≠ alone

• Importance of families and family based organisations

• Cannot be achieved without community inclusion

• About more than the removal of guardianship and substitute decision making
Independent but not alone
Is this any different for us?

“When I talk about great support, this doesn’t mean that people do things for me... it means that they support me to do things for myself, the best way that I can. Good and real support means that as self advocates, we have more control over our lives and more opportunities to be heard.”
The Right to Decide
Coming back to that unsound mind...

• Voting for people with disabilities
You’re the Voice?
Hats off to you!

- NDIS
- Input in to the CRPD
- Conferences like ASID and ‘Having a Say’
A World of Our Own?
Want more info?

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http://inclusion-international.org

www.ihc.org.nz

Resources