

THE RIGHTS OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

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Foreword

No individual would wish to find him or herself in a state of being disabled yet disability knows no race, age, gender or status. Disability may be congenital or may occur at any stage in a person's life without volition.

Persons with disabilities face a lot of challenges and are sometimes abused both in the developed and developing countries. It was in realization of this anomaly and the need to accord these individuals their full rights as human beings and also some special rights by reason of their circumstance that countries of the world through the instrumentality of the United Nations have developed several Instruments to affirm the rights of persons with disabilities. These rights are hinged on the universality, indivisibility, interdependence, and interrelatedness of all human rights and fundamental freedoms and the need for persons with disabilities to be guaranteed their full enjoyment without discrimination.

It is in recognition of the significance of the rights of persons with disabilities, that the book *Rights of Persons with Disabilities* draws its perspectives. The 15 chapters of the book cover a wide array of scintillating topics on the various laws on the treatment and protection of the rights of persons with disabilities. Topics covered include: Legal and Institutional Mechanisms for Protecting Persons with Disabilities in Nigeria; Legislating for the Disabled; Treatment of Disabled Persons: Equality and Non Discrimination; Criminal Justice and the Mentally Disabled Offender; Challenges of Accessing Information by Persons with Physical Disabilities in Educational Environments; Comparative Analysis of Disability Rights; Concepts in Disability: A Medical Perspective; Nigeria's Obligations Under the International Convention on the Rights of Persons With Disabilities; Protecting and Promoting the Rights of Disabled Children; The Right to Special Treatment for Disabled Persons; Road and Building Approvals: The Place of Disabled Persons In Nigeria; The Rights of the Disabled Worker in Nigeria; Disability and Reproductive Health in Nigeria and Global Best Practices in Treatment of Disable Persons.

These well researched essays contain very useful recommendations that will guide policy makers in fashioning out laws and policies that will better protect the rights of persons with disabilities. It is assured that lawyers, human rights practitioners, non-governmental organizations, disability groups and the public both within and outside Nigeria will find this book an invaluable resource.

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