

Disability and Shame Special Issue Forum: Creative Works

Courage to Write Out my LD ShAMe

David Isaac Hernández-Saca, PhD
University of Northern Iowa
Iowa, United States

Abstract: The poem, *Courage to Write Out my LD shAMe*, is the second of five Learning Disability poems about my Learning Disability shame at my intersections of power and identity in educational contexts as critical autoethnographic texts.

Courage to Write Out my LD ShAMe

Courage to write out my LD shAMe
How can I just write?
How can I just write, when fear holds my throat tight from the shAMe
Courage?
Words
Society
Language
Social interactions
All felt through an ableist lens and I am triggered

No more attachment to LD shAMe
We are not what culture, history, policy, literature, schools, teachers, students or even our
demons, fear says we are
How do I transform? Where is my LDis/ability Pride?

What is LD pride?
What does it feel like?
What does it sound like?
What does it look like?
Where is my LD pride?

David I. Hernández-Saca, PhD, is an assistant professor at the University of Northern Iowa and the nucleus of his research agenda is problematizing the common sense assumptions of what learning disabilities are as it relates to the following lines of research: 1) the emotional impact of learning disability labeling on conceptions of self; 2) the role of emotions and affect in teacher learning about social justice issues, and 3) transition plans and programming for historically marginalized youth with disabilities at their intersections and their families. Lastly, Dr. Hernández-Saca examines violence within the academy against historically multiply marginalized and non-hegemonic scholars at their intersections of power and identities for their wellbeing and healing.



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