**Response Form # 10**

**Disability**

Social model of disability designates disability as a part of social construct, and distinguishes it from physiological impairment which is regarded as a completely biological thing. However this model has been not revised and rethought for a long time. While dichotomization, this model forgets that disability has a biological essence as well. Disability is not fixed and it transcends the disablement/impairment division. Impairment is actually a product of social construction, and therefore, makes the “disability trouble”. Diagnosis of impairment is a multi-factorial phenomenon in which political negotiation, financial incentives, social judgment and norms have very constitutional roles. Similarly, act of diagnosis has a social influence on it as well. So, impairment having a binary concept, itself exists as a part of a continuum. We cannot deny the biology but its interaction is refracted by the social interest as well. On the other hand, learning disability is considered as an ability to achieve certain standards for literacy. Escalation of literacy standards in society raised the expectations from students in school to perform better. This major escalation was seen after the Soviet Union launched Sputnik which made America to toughen their education system to remain internationally superior. But this change increased the number of failures among student, and they were blamed for it rather than blaming the standards. White middle class failing students were put in the learning disabled category because they performed relatively better than other failure categories, and were considered to be able to get improved. These optimistic perceptions saved LD students from teachers’ negative attitudes. Later, in 1960s, standards were dropped but failures remains high due to other social development.

**Question No. 1**

Why not we put disablement and impairment into one single category because both have overlapping biological and social constructs?

**Question No. 2**

Why failures persisted despite of lowering the standards during the late 1960s and early 1970s?