# **If You Live in a Wheelchair Than Segregation Lives Summary and Response**

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**Introduction**

There are about 3.5 million black women that are disabled in the United States (Buckles,2022). In the story *If You’re in a Wheelchair Segregation Lives,* Lutitcha Doucette talks about how being black you get overlooked but when you have a disability you get overlooked even more. People that have a disability and are African American can be hard on some humans because other people don’t respect them just based on what stereotypes there are. If you have read this story you will learn that it's not just about being Disabled or being African American. While reading this story I found that there are many things that influenced Luticha and how people handled her disability. In this paper you will learn about how being Black and disabled is hard for black women, finding places that are accessible and how people look towards you.

**Summarize of Main Points**

**First Main Point**

In the summary there were three main points that stood out the most. When you look back at this story there are a lot of things that stuck out in this story and one of the first things that will be talked about is that having a disability and being African American you tend to get judged on what you look like on the outside. In the story that Lutitucha wrote about Her experience and what it was like to be disabled and black. She talks about how being a woman might be harder because there are other layers to what she struggles with daily. One example is Luticha was getting a M.R.I. done and a white woman touched her hair because she was “curious about its softness. (Graff et al., 2024, 377). She describes in her story that her blackness was singled out and disability was used against her. She also says that “ she took a moment where I was vulnerable and exploited that. The next main point is while some places are accessible to people with disabilities they may not have what they need in certain places or spots.

**Second main point**

The second main point is while some places are accessible to people with disabilities they may not have what they need in certain places or spots. Some examples that Lutitucha mentions are that “people will push my chair without asking and often push me in the wrong direction, and shove me in the back as a way of “helping” me propel my chair (Graff et al., 2024, 377). Being a black woman and having a disability in the world is tough because people focus on one thing and not the other so it is hard. Luticha mentions that “ the intersection of race, poverty and disabled is often ignored (Graff et al., 2024, 376). While the Black lives matter is an important movement in the world, having a disability on top of that should be recognized. The third main point is being an African American can be hard because of the stereotypes that are made toward them and being disabled also has stereotypes that affect people in many ways.

**Final Main Point**

For the last main point it is that being an African American can be hard because of the stereotypes that are made toward them and being disabled also has stereotypes that affect people in many ways. Both of these things should not be how they are presented to the world. African Americans have so many stereotypes against what people think are true like some people assume that black people always have a certain type of feeling to their hair and always ask to touch out. Some stereotypes of disabled people are that they are dumb or they can not do anything themselves. While these are not true people learn these things for family and automatically think that they are true and will say it to a person. All these summarized points really bring an understanding to the story.

**Response to summarized points**

For the first main point I think that having a disability and being black should not make people weird or uncomfortable because they are everyday people just like us who don’t have a disability and are black. They deserve the same type of treatment they normal people get in their everyday lives and they should not be belittled just because they have had a minor setback in their life. However I do think that some people will be super respectful toward people that have a disability and they might not realize that some things they do or say have an affect on people with a disability. Now being black has its pros and cons depending how you look at it. I know because I am an African American that there are certain things that people will say that have an affect on me. The next main point that was summarized was while some places are accessible to people with disabilities they may not have what they need in certain places or spots.

**Second Main Point Response**

When you go somewhere whether it is the store or a restaurant there is a spot for handicapped people. Every place should be accable to any type of person with a disability because they should not have to find spots that are accessible to them; it should automatically be there. While there are those handicapped spots there might be like a large ledge on a sidewalk where disabled people can’t get to or depending on what the disability is they might not like to be in loud places like in restaurants. There is a place for everyone no matter who they are and I think that for black people it depends on where they are and what is happening. Finally the last main point that was summarized is For the last main point it is that being an African American can be hard because of the stereotypes that are made toward them and being disabled also has stereotypes that affect people in many ways.

**Final Main Point Response**

The final main point that was summarized was that being an African American can be hard because of the stereotypes that are made toward them and being disabled also has stereotypes that affect people in many ways. I think that the misconception of African Americans is that people will just assume certain things about them because they might have read them in a book or heard it from someone else. In the story luticha tells us about someone who came up to her and touched her hair without asking which is not ok, especially if one you didn’t ask and two it might be uncomfortable for that person who already had a disability.

**Conclusion**

Luticha’s story *If you live in a wheelchair than segregation lives* is empowering because you read this story and you see the struggles that she had to go through just because she was black and was disabled. You also will read about what she went through with random strangers who used that to their advantage even without realizing. I think that this story gives a good message because it teaches you more about what people with disabilities go through probably on a daily basis. People who have a disability should not be looked down on and it goes the same with whatever race you are and also their needs. While this story had lots of main points the main focus was on how being Black and disabled affected how some might see you, finding places accessible for the disabled, and how Being Black and disabled you are often segregated into different stereotypes.

**References**

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[to be a place accessible for people with disabilities.](https://jimcrowmuseum.ferris.edu/links/essays/vcu.htm)

Luticha Doucette - “If You’re in a Wheelchair, Segregation Lives” (pp. 373-378)