

Accessibility Five Transcript

For example, one Thanksgiving I went to go skating at a local rink that offered open skating for anyone and I went with my adaptive sled which is a lightweight sled that you use to skate if you can't stand up and I went with my family and we went to the rink and we paid our money and I went to get on and the person at the rink said "you can't put that on there, you can't go on with that, it's too dangerous" and I explained that it's not dangerous, I am very good at it, I know how to use it, I've been playing sled hockey for a couple of years and I have played with US National team and I am not going to hurt anyone and you know I showed him the equipment but he just flatly refused and so I asked to see the manager and showed the manager the US National Team just won gold medal online, the web has been such a benefit for people with disabilities because it spreads information in ways that just, we didn't have access to before. When he looked at that, he looked at the equipment and he asked me a few questions and he judged that I would be safe and he said "yeah sure go ahead" but we found that is an example of the kind of obstacles where usually if you provide people with an awareness education, they understand they'll eventually say "oh okay it's safe, it's good!" but it's just odd that here you know in the 21st century we are still having to explain these things to people.