

The principles (main beliefs) of this Convention are:

(a) Respect for everyone's inherent dignity, freedom to make their own choices and independence.

(b) Non-discrimination (treating everyone fairly).

(c) Full participation and inclusion in society (being included in your community).

(d) Respect for differences and accepting people with disabilities as part of human diversity.

(e) Equal opportunity.

(f) Accessibility (having access to transportation, places and information, and not being refused access because you have a disability).

(g) Equality between men and women (having the same opportunities whether you are a girl or a boy).

(h) Respect for the evolving capacity of children with disabilities and their right to preserve their identity (being respected for your abilities and proud of who you are).

*[From "It's About Ability, an explanation of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities," published by the Victor Pineda Foundation and UNICEF (April 2008).]*