

Inclusion is Not Exclusion

Marsha Forest (1994)

Inclusion is the future.

Inclusion is belonging
to one race, the human race. Inclusion
is a basic human right. Inclusion is
struggling to figure out
how to live with one another.

Inclusion is not
something you do
to someone or for someone
It is something we do
with one another.
Inclusion is not a person
"the inclusion kid."
Not a program
Not an adjective.
Not an add on
Inclusion is a noun.

Inclusion is
not something we do a little of
It either is or isn't.
It is not a fad. Not a bandwagon,
It is a trend, similar to democracy
"With liberty and justice for all." All
means all.
No but's about it!

Inclusion
is the opposite of exclusion. Inclusion
is not exclusion.
Inclusion is fair play,
common sense, common decency,
hard work,
Inclusion is elegant in its simplicity
and like love,
awesome in its complexity,

Inclusion is
a battle cry,
a parents cry,
a child's cry to be
welcomed, embraced,
cherished, prized,
loved as a gift,
as a wonder
a treasure,

Inclusion is not spending money on
building more prisons,
mental hospitals, nursing homes,
group homes,
but investing in real homes,
real life, real people
all people,

Inclusion is
pain, struggle, joy, tears
grief, mourning, celebration!

Inclusion is the ship that
isn't even built yet,
It is a new ship
, Once we will build together

Inclusion is
like a good jazz combo,
like an orchestra
disciplined to play melody
in harmony,
Inclusion is
a kaleidoscope of diversity,
bits of color, sounds, shapes, sizes,

Inclusion is The future,

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