

10 examples of people first language

10 Examples of People-First Language: A Guide to Inclusive Communication

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Abstract: This report provides an in-depth exploration of 10 examples of people-first language, a crucial communication style promoting inclusivity and respect for individuals with disabilities. We examine the linguistic shift from person-first language to identity-first language, considering the nuances and preferences of diverse groups. Research findings highlight the positive impact of people-first language on self-esteem, social inclusion, and reducing stigmatization. The report concludes by emphasizing the importance of ongoing education and consistent application of people-first language to create a more equitable and just society.

Introduction:

The language we use shapes our perceptions and attitudes. When discussing individuals with disabilities, the choice of language holds significant power. People-first language prioritizes the individual before their disability, emphasizing their personhood and capabilities. This report delves into 10 examples of people-first language, backed by research and highlighting the vital role it plays in fostering a more inclusive society. The use of 10 examples of people-first language is crucial for effective communication and dismantling harmful stereotypes. This is particularly important as research consistently demonstrates that language can significantly impact attitudes and perceptions toward marginalized groups.

10 Examples of People-First Language and their Impact:

The following 10 examples illustrate the core principles of people-first language. Each example is supported by relevant research demonstrating its positive impact:

1. **Person with a Disability:** Instead of "disabled person," use "person with a disability." This simple shift emphasizes the individual's identity as a person first, not solely defined by their disability. Research by Barnes et al. (2006) found that people-first

language was preferred by many individuals with disabilities, fostering a sense of greater respect and dignity.

1. Person with Autism: Preferable to "autistic person" for many. While the shift towards identity-first language ("autistic person") is gaining traction within the Autistic community, it's vital to respect individual preferences. Always try to use language consistent with the individual's self-identification. A 2018 study in the Journal of Autism and Developmental Disorders indicated that language preferences varied considerably.
1. Person who uses a wheelchair: This replaces "wheelchair-bound" or "confined to a wheelchair," which are dehumanizing terms. It acknowledges the person's agency and their use of a wheelchair as a tool for mobility. Studies consistently show that framing disability as a functional limitation rather than a personal failing leads to more positive societal attitudes.
1. Person with Cerebral Palsy: The emphasis on "person" before "cerebral palsy" is crucial. This contrasts with terms like "CP victim" or "CP sufferer," which reduce individuals to their condition. Research shows that the use of stigmatizing language correlates with lower self-esteem and social isolation among people with disabilities.
1. Person with Down syndrome: Again, "person" precedes the condition. This demonstrates respect for the individual's overall identity, not just their diagnosis. The choice of language can significantly impact social acceptance and inclusion opportunities.
1. Person with intellectual disability: This is a more respectful alternative to terms like "mentally retarded," which is offensive and outdated. The shift towards this terminology underscores the importance of using person-first language to avoid perpetuating harmful stereotypes and discriminatory language.
1. Person with a visual impairment: This is preferred over terms like "blind" or "sightless," which can be overly broad and dehumanizing. The preference for person-first language reflects a move toward understanding disability as a nuanced aspect of

an individual's identity, rather than a defining characteristic.

1. Person with a hearing impairment: This is preferred over "deaf and dumb" or other outdated and offensive terms. The use of "impairment" acknowledges the functional limitation while respecting the individual's identity and personhood.
1. Person with a mental health condition: This is a more appropriate way to refer to someone experiencing challenges such as depression or anxiety. It avoids stigmatizing language and focuses on the person, not solely on their condition. Research consistently shows that reducing stigma around mental health is crucial for encouraging individuals to seek help.
1. Person with epilepsy: This replaces stigmatizing terms and emphasizes the person as an individual, not just their medical condition. Using the person-first approach supports better understanding and helps reduce misconceptions associated with epilepsy.

Data and Research Findings:

Numerous studies support the positive effects of people-first language. Research consistently demonstrates a strong correlation between the use of respectful language and improved self-esteem among individuals with disabilities. Studies also indicate that people-first language promotes greater social inclusion and reduces the perpetuation of harmful stereotypes. For instance, research by the Disability Rights Education & Defense Fund (DREDF) has consistently shown the correlation between negative language and decreased opportunities for people with disabilities. The use of 10 examples of people-first language, as highlighted in this report, provides a practical framework for promoting inclusive communication.

The Nuances of Identity-First Language:

While people-first language is widely recommended, it's essential to acknowledge the growing preference for identity-first language among some disability communities, particularly within the autism community. The choice between people-first and identity-first language is ultimately a matter of personal preference, and respecting individual choices is paramount. Therefore, it is crucial to be mindful and flexible in our language choices.

Conclusion:

The consistent application of people-first language, as demonstrated through the 10 examples in this report, is vital for creating a more inclusive and equitable society. It's not simply about linguistic correctness; it's about recognizing the inherent dignity and worth of every individual. By actively choosing respectful language, we can challenge negative stereotypes, foster positive attitudes, and promote greater understanding and acceptance of individuals with disabilities. Further research and ongoing education are crucial to ensure that the principles of inclusive communication are fully integrated into all aspects of society.

FAQs:

1. What is the difference between people-first and identity-first language? People-first emphasizes the person before the disability (e.g., "person with autism"). Identity-first puts the disability first (e.g., "autistic person"). Preference varies among individuals and communities.
1. Why is people-first language important? It fosters respect, reduces stigma, and promotes inclusivity by centering the individual's personhood.
1. Are there exceptions to using people-first language? Yes, some individuals and communities prefer identity-first language. Always prioritize respecting individual preferences.
1. How can I learn more about inclusive language? Consult resources from disability rights organizations and academic journals specializing in disability studies.
1. What if I make a mistake and use the wrong language? Acknowledge the error, apologize, and correct yourself. Learning is an ongoing process.
1. Is people-first language universally accepted? While widely encouraged, preferences vary. Sensitivity and awareness are key.

1. How can people-first language improve social inclusion? By reducing stigma and fostering a sense of belonging, it helps create more inclusive environments.
1. Does the use of people-first language impact legislation and policy? While not directly impacting legislation, it informs policy discussions and promotes a more inclusive approach to disability rights.
1. How can I integrate people-first language into my daily communication? Be mindful of your language, actively choose respectful terms, and be open to feedback.

Related Articles:

1. "The Power of Language: How Words Shape Perceptions of Disability": This article explores the impact of language on societal attitudes towards disability.
1. "Identity-First Language: A Growing Movement in Disability Advocacy": This piece examines the rise of identity-first language and its significance within certain disability communities.
1. "Beyond People-First Language: A Deeper Dive into Inclusive Communication": This article offers a more nuanced perspective on inclusive language, considering cultural and individual variations.
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covers a wide range of research interests in the field, from linguistically oriented approaches to social and ethnography oriented approaches. The issue of the relationships between forms and structures of language and social interactions is examined in studies of both adult and child speech. It is a useful anthology for graduate students studying language and social interaction, as well as for researchers in this field.

10 examples of people first language: *Counseling Diversity in COntext* Jason Brown, 2017-01-01 Divided into two parts, the book provides a structural understanding of the context in which cross-cultural counseling takes place, and a model, informed by intersectional analysis, to support counselors in playing a more activist role in helping to change that context.

10 examples of people first language: *College Research Papers For Dummies* Joe Giampalmi, 2023-08-15 Get ready to take on your first college research paper like a pro Just got assigned your first college research paper? Don't sweat it! College Research Papers For Dummies has your back with the perfect companion to these not-as-hard-as-they-look assignments. Discover how to research, argue, problem-solve, analyze, and synthesize your way through even the densest material. Find out how to best revise and rework your paper until it's a polished gem. Plus, get some quick tips on higher-level research papers, such as literature reviews and white papers. Accurately cite references using APA, MLA, and Chicago styles Take advantage of all the resources available to you as you write your first research paper, from your university's library databases to your local college center's support services Develop common research paper writing techniques, including argumentation, research questions, and thesis statements Don't wait until the night before your paper is due! Grab a copy of College Research Papers For Dummies today and ace that first research paper like we all know you can.

10 examples of people first language: *Health Professional as Educator* Susan B. Bastable, Pamela Gramet, Karen Jacobs, Deborah Sopczyk, 2010-10-06 Health Professional as Educator: Principles of Teaching and Learning focuses on the role of the health professional as educator of patients/clients, staff, and students in the clinical arena and classroom settings. It covers key principles of teaching and learning in both scope and depth, providing information from research and practice on the educational process, the characteristics of the learner, and techniques and strategies of teaching and learning. This comprehensive text covers important topics including literacy; compliance and motivation; assessment of learning needs, learning styles, and readiness to learn; behavioral objectives; teaching methods; instructional materials; technology in education; gender, socioeconomic, and cultural influences on learning; and evaluation of teaching and learning. Case studies are provided in each chapter for application of the concepts, review questions at the end of each chapter assist the reader with review of the important material presented, and an instructor's manual provides numerous materials for presentation and testing of content. Unlike other textbooks on education, this text contains a comprehensive coverage of literacy in the adult client population, including guidelines on how to develop and/or critique printed education materials for effective patient/client teaching. It also includes a chapter on writing behavioral objectives and developing teaching plans and learning contracts. There are unique topics included in this text, such as the teaching and learning of motor skills, how to access motivation, the concept of the learning curve, the concept of the spacing effect (massed and distributive learning); gender, socioeconomic, and cultural attributes of the learner, working with a wide variety of diverse populations, and the ethics of student-teacher and client-teacher relationships. - Publisher.

10 examples of people first language: *Stein's Research in Occupational Therapy, 7th Edition* Martin S. Rice, George Tomlin, Franklin Stein, 2024-12-09 The seventh edition of this best-selling text continues to provide occupational therapy students and researchers with expert guidance on conducting research, from the formulation of a research hypothesis to collecting, analyzing, and interpreting data. Now updated in line with the latest ACOTE Standards, the new edition has been thoroughly revised. Of note is a new chapter on the capstone project and the integration of the hierarchical Research Pyramid to enhance the book's usability for researchers, instructors, and students. It also features a new chapter focused on using research literature to inform clinical

reasoning, highlighting the benefits of scoping reviews, systemic reviews, meta analyses and meta synthesis, as well as updated tests and evaluations which can be used as outcome instruments. There are also further contemporary examples of both quantitative and qualitative research, additions to the glossary of terms and statistics, and updated references throughout. Offering insightful guidance on conducting research from start to finish, this invaluable resource will be essential reading for any occupational therapy student or researcher.

10 examples of people first language: Language in America Charlton Laird, 1970 The author examines the evolution of language as ... the impact of man upon language, and of language upon man, as language has been used on this continent from prehistoric times to the present--Cover 1.

10 examples of people first language: The Listening Bilingual François Grosjean, Krista Byers-Heinlein, 2018-10-30 A vital resource on speech and language processing in bilingual adults and children The Listening Bilingual brings together in one volume the various components of spoken language processing in bilingual adults, infants and children. The book includes a review of speech perception and word recognition; syntactic, semantic, and pragmatic aspects of speech processing; the perception and comprehension of bilingual mixed speech (code-switches, borrowings and interferences); and the assessment of bilingual speech perception and comprehension in adults and children in the clinical context. The two main authors as well as selected guest authors, Mark Antoniou, Theres Grüter, Robert J. Hartsuiker, Elizabeth D. Peña and Lisa M. Bedore, and Lu-Feng Shi, introduce the various approaches used in the study of spoken language perception and comprehension in bilingual individuals. The authors focus on experimentation that involves both well-established tasks and newer tasks, as well as techniques used in brain imaging. This important resource: Is the first of its kind to concentrate specifically on spoken language processing in bilingual adults and children. Offers a unique text that covers both fundamental and applied research in bilinguals. Covers a range of topics including speech perception, spoken word recognition, higher level processing, code-switching, and assessment. Presents information on the assessment of bilingual children's language development Written for advanced undergraduate students in linguistics, cognitive science, psychology, and speech/language pathology as well as researchers, The Listening Bilingual offers a state-of-the-art review of the recent developments and approaches in speech and language processing in bilingual people of all ages.

10 examples of people first language: Integrated Research Methods In Public Health Muriel J. Harris, Muvuka Baraka, 2022-05-10 This book provides an integration of key concepts as a part of the organizing framework of each module and consistently references the use of the literature review, ethical and cultural considerations and stakeholder engagement in the course of research. Module 1 provides an overview of research principles and how to conduct a literature review as well as expands on the fundamental and guiding principles that are used throughout the book. Module 2 focuses on quantitative research; Module 3 on qualitative research; Module 4 describes mixed method approaches; and Module 5 provides an overview of writing the report and disseminating the findings from the research--

10 examples of people first language: The Psychology of Language Trevor A. Harley, 2001 This comprehensive study of the psychology of language explores how we speak, read, remember, learn and understand language. The author examines each of these aspects in detail.

10 examples of people first language: Pragmemes and Theories of Language Use Keith Allan, Alessandro Capone, Istvan Kecskes, 2017-01-10 This volume offers recent developments in pragmatics and adjacent territories of investigation, including important new concepts such as the pragmatic act and the pragmememe, and combines developments in neighboring disciplines in an integrative holistic pragmatic approach. The young science of pragmatics has, from its inception, differentiated itself from neighboring fields in the humanities, especially the disciplines dealing with language and those focusing on the social and anthropological aspects of human behavior, by focusing on the language user in his or her societal environment. This collection of papers continues that emphasis on language use, and pragmatic acts in their context. The editors and contributors

share a perspective that essentially considers language as a system for communication and wants to look at language from a societal perspective, and accept the view that acts of interpretation are essentially embedded in culture. In an interdisciplinary approach, some authors explore connections with social theory, in particular sociology or socio-linguistics, some offer a political stance (critical discourse analysis), others explore connections with philosophy and philosophy of language, and several papers address problems in theoretical pragmatics.

10 examples of people first language: Handbook of Social Justice in Education William Ayers, Therese M. Quinn, David Stovall, 2009-06-02 The Handbook of Social Justice in Education, a comprehensive and up-to-date review of the field, addresses, from multiple perspectives, education theory, research, and practice in historical and ideological context, with an emphasis on social movements for justice. Each of the nine sections explores a primary theme of social justice and education: Historical and Theoretical Perspectives International Perspectives on Social Justice in Education Race and Ethnicity, Language and Identity: Seeking Social Justice in Education Gender, Sexuality and Social Justice in Education Bodies, Disability and the Fight for Social Justice in Education Youth and Social Justice in Education Globalization: Local and World Issues in Education The Politics of Social Justice Meets Practice: Teacher Education and School Change Classrooms, Pedagogy, and Practicing Justice. Timely and essential, this is a must-have volume for researchers, professionals, and students across the fields of educational foundations, multicultural/diversity education, educational policy, and curriculum and instruction.

10 examples of people first language: Relationally Queer Silva Neves, Dominic Davies, 2023-04-10 Relationally Queer explores diverse intimate relationship styles and the connections with self for clinicians interested in gender, sex and relationship diversity. Offering readers a more inclusive and queer-friendly way of thinking about relationships, the book covers a range of topics that include intersectionality, consensual non-monogamy, working with shame, intimate partner violence, religious identities, and living with HIV. Exploring beyond a Eurocentric perspective, the book features a chapter on African-centred therapy and also includes the relationships of often erased populations such as bisexual people, sex workers, people with chronic health issues and trans people. The book will help psychosexual and relationship therapists, counsellors and psychologists who work with clients of diverse genders, sexualities and relationships.

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Besides culture, the first language (L1) of a learner might have an influence over foreign language learning, either by acting as a source for the learner to understand how the language works ...

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CHOOSE PEOPLE-FIRST LANGUAGE Words have power. Far too often, when talking about people living with health conditions or who engage in certain activities, we put the emphasis on ...

Put People First! Words Matter - Washington, D.C.

Put People First! – Words Matter ... (People First Respectful Language Modernization Amendment Act of 2012) iii S. 2781, 111th Cong. (2011) (enacted). iv U.S. President Barack ...

CLINICAL TIP - Center for Practice Transformation

Jan 9, 2019 · Person-centered language is language that puts people first. People are so much more than their substance use disorder, mental illness, or disability. Using person-centered ...

People First Language - State of Michigan

tired of being called retarded – we are people first.” The name People First was chosen. The development of People First Language grew out of that original statement, “We are people ...

Mental Health and Addiction Words Matter - The Official ...

Person First Language While some people may not use preferred terminology, it's important not to repeat negative terms that stereotype, devalue, or discriminate. Equally important, ask if the ...

Examples of people first language - iarugby.com

Examples of people first language by KathiE snow; visit www.disabilityisnatural.com to see the complete article Remember: a disability descriptor is simply a medical diagnosis.

People First ...

People and Power: Person-First Language Usage and the ...

person-first language around the criminal justice system and those who interact with it. Person-First Language: A Tool for Agency . Person-first, or person-centered, language is relatively ...

Putting people first in communication about HIV - The Lancet

Person-first language puts people before their condition. Perhaps the simplest example of this is the . move away from the phrase "HIV-infected people" to terms such as "people living with ...

Guide to Inclusive Language: Race and Ethnicity

language for race and ethnicity are included below. Examples of inclusive language to use more broadly around groups of people can be found in . Table 2. • Focus on the person, not their ...

PEOPLE-FIRST LANGUAGE FOR OBESITY - Obesity Action ...

people-first language. Labeling individuals as "obese" creates negative feelings toward individuals with obesity and perpetuates weight bias. It is time to recognize the importance of people-first ...

PEOPLE FIRST LANGUAGE - AgrAbility PA

Examples to Use and to Share Labels NOT to use... People First Language... the handicapped or the disabled people with disabilities the mentally retarded or he's retarded person who has an ...

Language matters! The long-standing debate between...

Beginning in 1970, the "People First" movement sought to promote person-first language to empower individuals with disability by placing emphasis on their humanity rather than their ...

Monte Vista Advisory Topic: People First Language Grade(s): ...

-By using "People First Language" we put the person before the disability which can change the way we see them. Think-Pair-Share: (10 min.) *Give Handout, go over examples. SAY: "Fill in ...

Fostering Across Wisconsin

We are always here for additional information, resources, and support. You can contact us toll-free at 800-947-8074 or via email at info@wifostercareandadoption.org.

Stigma Addiction Language Guide - IN.gov

What is person-first language? Person-first language places emphasis on people rather than

their diagnosis or condition (e.g. “person with schizophrenia” vs. “schizophrenic”, “person with a ...

DRAFT - American Medical Association

encourage person-first language; 7,8,9,10,11,12. and 16 Wynia M and Matiassek J. Promising Practices for Patient-Centered Communication with Vulnerable Populations: Examples from ...

People First Language - gcdd.org

THE MISSING PAGES IN YOUR STYLE BOOK People First Language A GUIDE FOR WRITING AND SPEAKING ABOUT PEOPLE WHO LIVE WITH DISABILITIES People First Language is ...

The do's and don'ts when talking about obesity

Examples of language to adopt and words and phrases to avoid People First Language People First Language refers to putting an individual before the medical condition that is being ...

English as a Global Language and the Effects on Culture and ...

to establish one's cultural identity. Again, many people use English frequently when they communicate; however, as Ged (2013) explains, second language acquisition may lead to the ...

Communicating with People with Disabilities - handout

- Use “people-first language”: refer to “a person with a disability” rather than “the disabled person” or “the disabled”.
- When communicating with a person with a disability, it is important to take ...

Person First Planet: A Comprehensive Review of Person First ...

Person First Language has been around for thirty years yet remains confined to the borders of government agencies, special education classrooms, and professional psychology. ...

for people with disabilities, we must use PEOPLE FIRST ...

Using People First Language is Crucial! People first language puts the person before the disability, and it describes what a person has, not what a person is. Are you “myopic” or do you ...

Mental Health Language Guide - PBS LearningMedia

Twenty-two young people, 10 to 27 years of age, courageously speak to their lived experiences with mental illness, including anxiety, depression, body dysmorphia, anorexia, ... Person-first ...

updated - LANGUAGE MATTERS - NDHHS HNDT

PERSON FIRST LANGUAGE Use People First Language to tell what a person HAS, not what a person IS. • Emphasize abilities not limitations. • For example, say “a man walks with ...

Championing the use of people-first language in childhood ...

level, people-first-language is a sensitive discussion. Individuals living with obesity may have their own preferences about the terms or language they would prefer to use when discussing ...

Using Inclusive Language in Nursing Education: When Words ...

Mar 12, 2024 · a humanist approach to care. People-first language is a good example of inclusive language (Likis, 2021). Using inclusive language calls us to avoid biases and expressions that ...

Appropriate Language Guide - The Ability Center

identity-first language. If you are unable to ask, use person-first language or the terms provided in the chart below. Person-First Language Person first language situates the person before the ...

Using Inclusive and Plain Language for Communicating - NC ...

Feb 13, 2020 · People First Language People First Language is a way of communicating that reflects respect for people with disabilities by choosing words that are accurate, neutral and ...

Using Person-Centered Language - University of New Mexico

Person-first language means focusing on the individual as a whole human being first, not their disability, condition, or diagnosis.⁵ Using person-first language avoids the assumption that a ...

PeoPle First language

people live! And let's eliminate the "special needs" descriptor—it generates pity and low expectations! A person's self-image is tied to the words used about him. People First ...

Writing about People with Disabilities - adata.org

they are and prefer to be identified with their disability first – this is called Identity-First Language. Others prefer Person-First Language. Examples of Identity-First Language include identifying ...

2021.08.06 - updated slides 1 A LANGUAGE MATTERS ...

Dr. Kate Speck -Language Matters 8/3/2021 10 Stigma Negative stereotypes, labels, judgments and prejudice that can lead to discrimination. Stereotypes: Generalized belief; "People with ...

People First Language - NCCDD

Think People First • A PERSON is someone with autism or polio...one is not afflicted by it. • A PERSON uses a wheelchair or is someone with a disability...one is not crippled, confined to a ...

People First Language - Montgomery County Maryland

As the term implies, People First Language refers to the individual first and the disability second. It's saying "a child with autism" instead of "the aut istic" (see Examples of People First ...

Language Matters in Mental Health - Hogg Foundation

Identity-First Language An important exception to the rule of person-first language is identity-first language. Some people feel that their mental health challenges are central to their identity. ...

Language Matters - Mental Health Commission of Canada

living experience of substance use. Far fewer (e.g., people living with autism or deafness) use identity-first language.² When writing, person-first language is our recommended first

choice, ...

People First - NCCDD

You can see more examples of People First language and how to use it in the last two sections of this booklet. hand·i·cap (transitive verb): to put at a disadvantage Everyone is handicapped at ...

DISABILITY-INCLUSIVE LANGUAGE GUIDELINES - United ...

People-first language is the most widely accepted language for referring to persons with disabilities. It is also the language used in the Convention on the Rights of Persons with ...

Language People with Disabilities Guide - EngenderHealth

Identity-First Language versus Person-First Language Identity-first language leads with a descriptor or label, e.g., disabled person. Person-first language places the person before the ...

Disability Sensitivity Guide - National Disability Institute

The following are examples of People First Language. Affirmative Phrases. Negative Phrases; Person with an intellectual, cognitive, developmental disability; Retarded; mentally defective ...

PWDA Language Guide: A guide to language about disability

Person-first language (people with disability) and identity-first language (disabled people) are both used in Australia. People with disability often have strong preferences for one term or the ...

Disability Etiquette Guide - University of Pittsburgh

People with disabilities are the best judge of what they can or cannot do. Don't make decisions for them about participating in any activity. Terminology Tips o Use "People First" Language - ...

Language Matters When Discussing Substance Use

diagnosis, which helps remove stigma. Person-first language reframes the situation by removing stigmatizing language and not labeling an individual only by their condition. For example, ...

Inclusive Language Glossary for the Learning and Practice ...

Identity-First Language An alternative framework to person-first language is identity-first language. This framework, much like person-first language, is straightforward: to utilize identity-first ...

People First Language Person first language - archbalt.org

People First Language Person first language is considered the most courteous way to address someone with a disability because the person is recognized first before their disability. Refer to ...

People First Activity Book - West Virginia

People First Language or other disability issues, or if you would like additional copies of the activity book, please do not hesitate to contact us. WV Developmental Disabilities Council 110 ...

Here are examples of strength-based words and expressions ...

Person First: What are your suggestions for other terminology or words that can be reframed to be child and family friendly, and strength-based? People-first language emphasizes the ...

I Don't Want to Say the Wrong Thing! Perspectives on People ...

Scholarly journals now require person-first language. In 1992, the American Psychological Association supported the use of person-first language in scholarly writing.¹⁰ Referring to ...

Identity-First vs. Person-First Language: Preferences and ...

History of Person-First Language. The origins of person-first language (PFL; e.g., person with autism) in the United States can be traced back to People First, a self-advocacy group that ...

10 Examples Of People First Language

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