

SJDR

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Call for Papers

**CRIPPING TIME –
UNDERSTANDING THE LIFE
COURSE THROUGH THE LENS
OF ABLEISM:**
A SPECIAL SECTION OF
SCANDINAVIAN JOURNAL OF
DISABILITY RESEARCH

Special Section Editors:

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Crippling Time – Understanding the Life Course Through the Lens of
Ableism: *A Special Section of The Scandinavian Journal of Disability
Research*

Disability studies has repeatedly contended “all of us live with disability at some point in our lives [...], suggesting that becoming disabled is ‘only a matter of time’” (Kafer, 2013:26; cf. Oliver 1996). Depending on the nature of the impairment and when in one’s life it occurs, it is not necessarily understood by the person or others as a disability. The cultural understanding of what constitutes a disability is hence connected to understandings of time, ageing and the idea of a normative life course. However, research with a life course perspective within disability studies (cf. Barron 2004; Priestley 2003; Söder 2009) has often been focused on possibilities and/or obstacles for people with disabilities to achieve the goals of that normative life such as work, marriage and children. It has yet to focus on the construction of the normative life course itself.

Amongst others Alison Kafer (2013) and Fiona Kumari Campbell (2012) have scrutinized the concept of disabled people’s futures by positioning ableism, and not disability, as the obstacle to a life course enabling a future, both imagined and real. Studies in ableism, as Campbell suggests, “shift our gaze from a disability pre-occupied minoritisation towards ableist normativity [...]. The direction is to examine elements of what is presented as normal or aspirational” (215). Kafer argues that living with a disability implies “... a detour from the timeline of normative progress.../ recognizing how expectations of how ‘long it takes’ are based on very particular minds and bodies” (2013: 25, 27). Akin to the ideas of heteronormative time presented by, for example Halberstam (2005), Kafer argues that the idea of ableism and able-bodiedness as the desirable normal permeates our understanding of time. Rendering crip embodiments and their challenges to normative time creates an understanding of time that differs from the able-bodied one - as well as presenting a challenge to the construct of time and life courses in a normative ableist sense.

This special section aims to advance knowledge and discussion of the ascribed disabled life course by employing perspectives on disability and time that draws from the understanding of ableist normalcy and crip time following Alison Kafer (2013) and Fiona Kumari Campbell (2012). Thus, this special section will contribute to the recent and growing field of ableism studies by attracting papers on how ableist cultural norms and ideas shape both perceived and lived lives of people with disabilities. The overall objective is to develop and examine disability and ableism in relation to the notion of normative time and temporality.

We welcome papers addressing one or more of the following themes:

- The embodiment of crip time/ableist time
- Cultural representations of crip/ableist time
- Notions of ableism in transitions throughout the life course (e.g. education, work, marriage/cohabitation, parenting)
- Understanding ageing or old age through a disability studies-/crip perspective

We welcome abstracts of paper proposals drawing on empirical work or theoretical arguments. Submissions must be original and not under consideration for publication elsewhere. The authors abstracts selected by the Guest Editors will be invited to submit full papers. These will be sent for blind peer-review according to the SJDR standards. Manuscripts are accepted for publication only after the review process, and after subsequent revisions by the author(s). The special section will consist of 4-5 papers and an extended editorial introducing the theoretical framework and the situating the special section in relation to the field.

Abstract submission

To be considered for publication, please send an abstract of max 500 words via e-mail to the special section editors Karin Ljuslinder (Karin.ljuslinder@umu.se) and Lotta Vikström (lotta.vikstrom@umu.se). The abstract should outline the aim of the paper, the methods used for data collection and analysis and a brief description of the conclusion. You will receive a notice via e-mail from the Editors whether your proposal is accepted for full submission.

Full submission details

Visit www.sjdr.se for further instructions on how to format and submit your manuscript once your abstract is accepted. Papers should not be longer than 7,000 words, including references. Please, indicate in the cover letter that the contribution is to be considered for the special section. All articles in the journal are published with an Open Access license (CC BY) and authors retain their copyright.

This call is in collaboration with DISLIFE Liveable Disabilities: Life courses and opportunity structures across time, a project that has received funding from the European Research Council (ERC) under the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme (Grant Agreement No. 647125), ERC Consolidator Grant.

Important dates

- Deadline for abstracts is August 31, 2018.
- Authors of proposed abstracts will be notified whether they are invited to submit a full paper for review before September 30, 2018.
- Full manuscripts should be submitted to the journal before January 15, 2019
- Expected publication date of the issue is in September/October 2019.

If you have questions, please contact the special section Guest Editors: Karin Ljuslinder, Karin.ljuslinder@umu.se or Lotta Vikström, lotta.vikstrom@umu.se.

List of references

Barron, Karin. (Ed.). 2004. *Genus och funktionshinder* [Gender and disability]. Lund: Studentlitteratur.

Campbell, Fiona K. 2012. Stalking ableism: Using disability to expose 'abled' narcissism. In D. Goodley, B. Hughes, & L. J. Davis (Eds.), *Disability and social theory: New developments and directions* (pp. 17-43). Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan.

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Kafer, Alison. 2013. *Feminist, queer, crip*. Bloomington: Indiana University Press.

Oliver, Mike. 1996. *Understanding disability. From theory to practice*. London: Macmillan.

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