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YOUR FACTS ON **THE ACT!**

WHY DO WE NEED IT?

To make sure that people with disabilities are treated fairly and equally.

- Everyone must obey the Act
- Persons with Disabilities must be able to fully participate and be included in society
- The passing of the Disabilities Act is in keeping with the United Nations Convention on the Rights of PWDs (CRPD) which Jamaica has signed and ratified (agreed to).

THE MAIN OBJECTIVES OF THE DISABILITIES ACT ARE TO:

- Encourage Jamaicans to recognize and accept that PWDs have the same fundamental rights as any other person
- Promote the individual dignity, freedom of choice and independence of PWDs
- Make sure that PWDs can effectively participate and are included on an equal basis with others in all aspects of national life
- Prevent or prohibit discrimination against PWDs
- Promote acceptance of PWDs and respect for their differences as human beings

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THE FOLLOWING KEY AREAS ARE HIGHLIGHTED IN THE DISABILITIES ACT 2014:

- The Provision of Disability Certification
- The Right to Education & Training
- The Right to Employment
- The Right to Adequate Healthcare and Accessible Facilities
- The Right to Housing and to Enter Premises
- The Work of the New Jamaica Council for PWDs and the Disabilities Rights Tribunal
- The Right to Access Public Passenger Vehicles
- The Right to Participate in Public Office and Political Life

LEARN THE LANGUAGE OF **THE DISABILITY ACT!**

DISCRIMINATION

If you prevent someone from carrying out an activity on an equal basis with other persons just because of her or his disability this is discrimination under the Act.

The activities would include any area of national life whether it be political, economic, social, cultural, civil, religious, educational or in any other field enjoyed by other citizens.

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