

**WORDS CAN  
HURT...OR  
WORDS CAN  
WELCOME**

**RESPECTFUL  
LANGUAGE  
MAKES A  
DIFFERENCE**

Language shapes our  
attitudes.

**Ask others to stop  
using the word  
"retard" to insult  
people**



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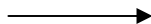
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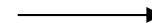
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✓ Language shapes our attitudes.

✓ Use the words "person with a disability" instead of "handicapped person"

✓ Disrespectful language is intentionally used by insecure and biased people

✓ "Handicapped" and "crippled" are outdated terms. Use words such as "has a disability" or "uses a wheelchair".

✓ Use the word "accessible" rather than "disabled" or "handicapped." i.e. "accessible" parking rather than "disabled" or "handicapped" parking.

✓ Words such as **client** and **consumer** create an image of passivity and should not be used to define a person with a disability. A person with a disability is a person first; not a client or consumer

✓ Disrespectful language excludes and sustains a negative perception of people with disabilities

✓ Think before you speak

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