

Parents with Disabilities and the ADA

From the National Research Center for Parents with Disabilities



Americans with Disabilities Act
1990-2020

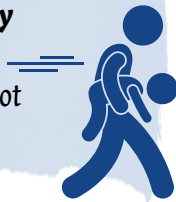
What does the National Research Center for Parents with Disabilities do?

The National Research Center for Parents with Disabilities conducts research about the needs, challenges, and experiences of parents with disabilities, including access to health care, laws affecting parents' rights, parents' experiences with service providers, and more. Our work prioritizes the voices and experiences of parents with disabilities.

In a study of 206 child custody evaluators, **over 85% had no training on performing parenting evaluations on parents with disabilities** (Breedon, Olin, & Taube, 2008)



Among children in foster care in 2012, **19% were removed from their homes at least partly due to a parent's disability, and 5% were removed from their homes solely due to a parent's disability** (DeZelar & Lightfoot, 2018; Lightfoot & DeZelar, 2016).



What is the relationship between disability, parenting, and the ADA?

Widespread discrimination against parents with disabilities places them at higher risk of losing custody or visitation rights. Attorneys working with parents with disabilities can use the ADA when arguing for the rights of parents with disabilities to raise their children. For example, an attorney can use the ADA mandate about accessible public spaces to ensure that parents have the right to attend a hearing in an accessible courthouse.



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