

Download The Ugly Laws The History Of Disability

The Ugly Laws: Disability In Public. In the ensuing years, cities across the country, and even some U.S. territories abroad, passed almost identically worded ordinances. Schweik discusses in detail several factors which combined to create the perfect storm for the emergence of ugly law in America at this time. Illustrating how the laws join the history of the disabled and the poor, Schweik not only gives the reader a deeper understanding of the ugly laws and the cities where they were generated, she locates the laws at a crucial intersection of evolving and unstable concepts of race, nation, sex, class, and gender. In the late-nineteenth and early-twentieth centuries, municipal laws targeting "unsightly beggars" sprang up in cities across America. Seeming to criminalize disability and thus offering a visceral example of discrimination, these "ugly laws" have become a sort of shorthand for oppression in disability studies, law, and the arts. In *The Ugly Laws: Disability in Public*, Susan M. Schweik, Professor of English and co-director of the Disability Studies Program at the University of California, Berkeley, provides a thorough history of these ugly laws and offers the context that allowed for their creation and sustainment, including a discussion of other relevant social movements, mendicant literature, and concepts of society and class.