

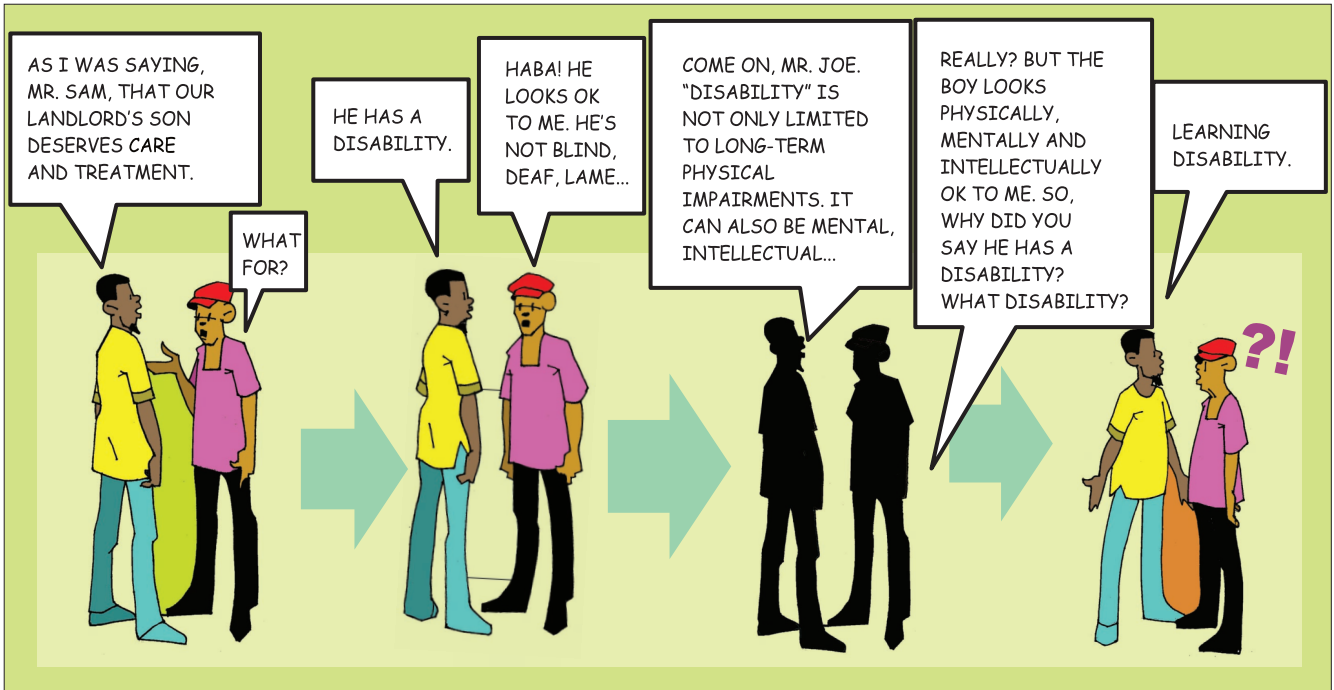
# CREATING A MORE INCLUSIVE SOCIETY

For  
**PEOPLE WITH  
DISABILITIES**



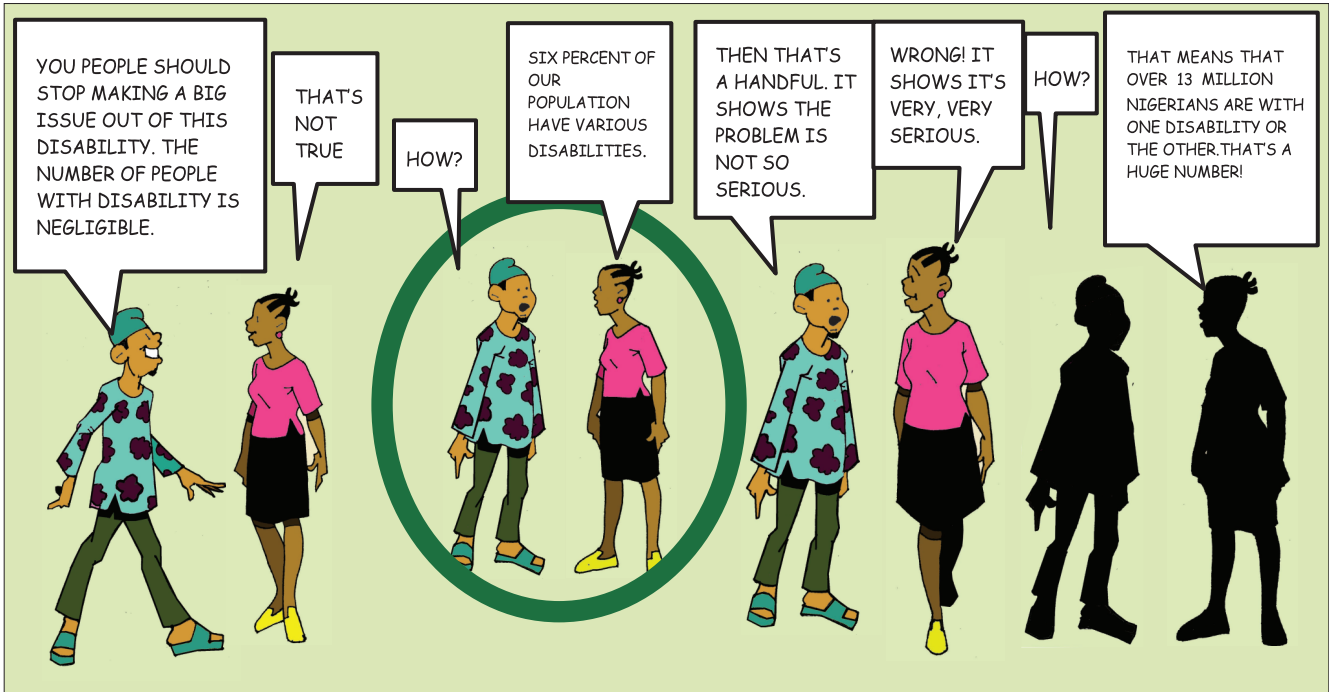
**Action  
Health Incorporated**  
RESPONDING TO THE NEEDS OF NIGERIA'S YOUNG PEOPLE

**YEAR  
2024**



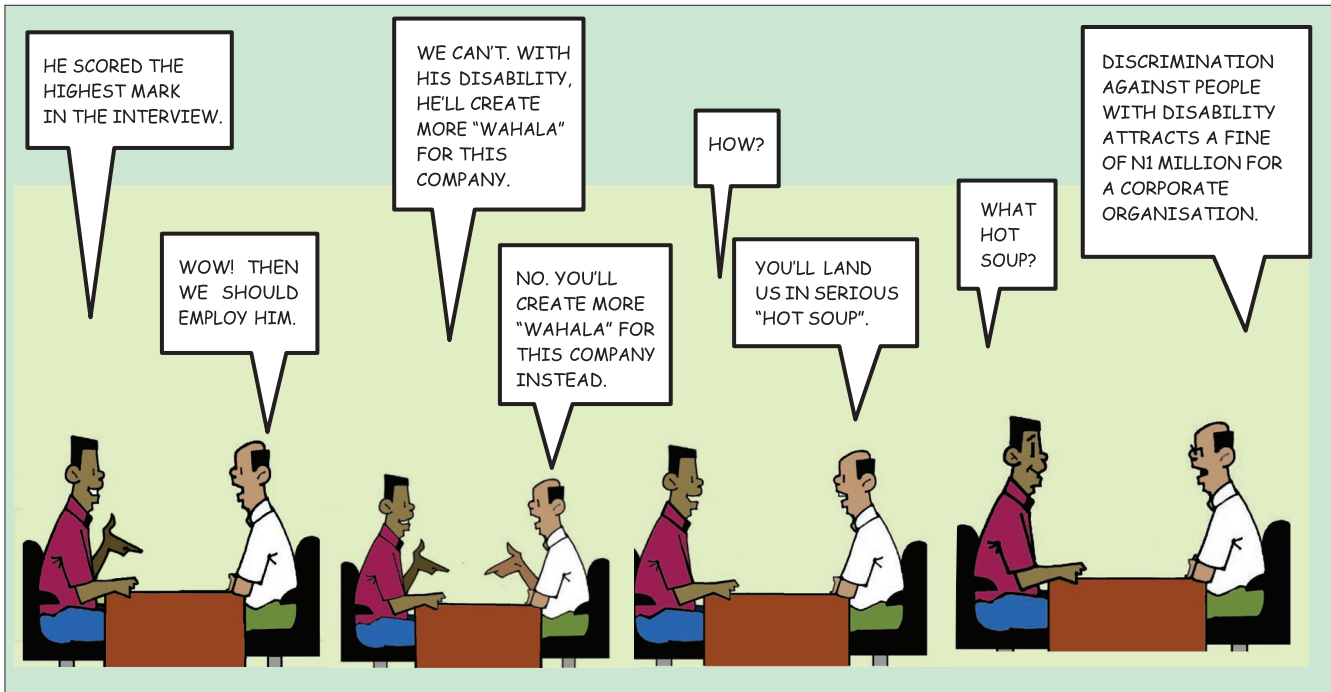
**Defining Disability:** According to the United Nations' Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD), persons with disabilities include those who have long-term physical, mental, intellectual, or sensory impairments which in interaction with various barriers may hinder their full and effective participation in society on an equal basis with others.

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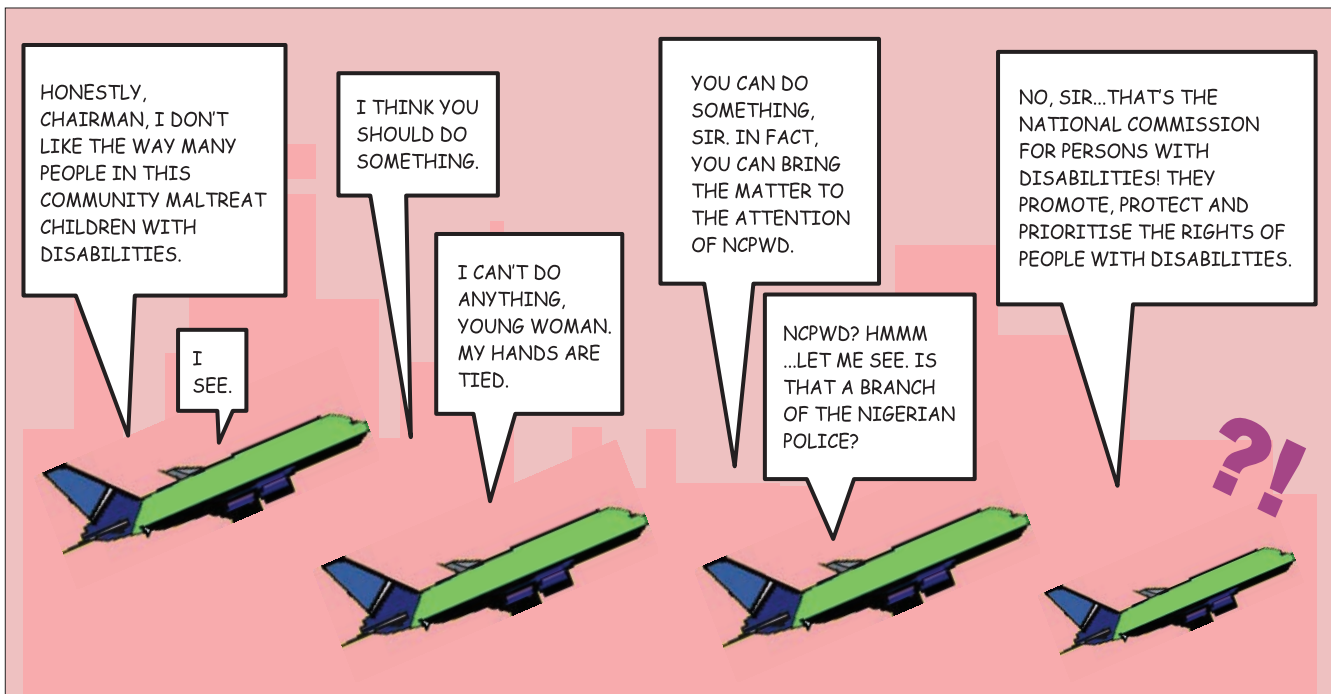
**Population of Persons with Disabilities in Nigeria:** The National Bureau of Statistics estimates that the proportion of Nigerians with disabilities is 6%. This means that about 13.4 million people in Nigeria are with one disability or the other.

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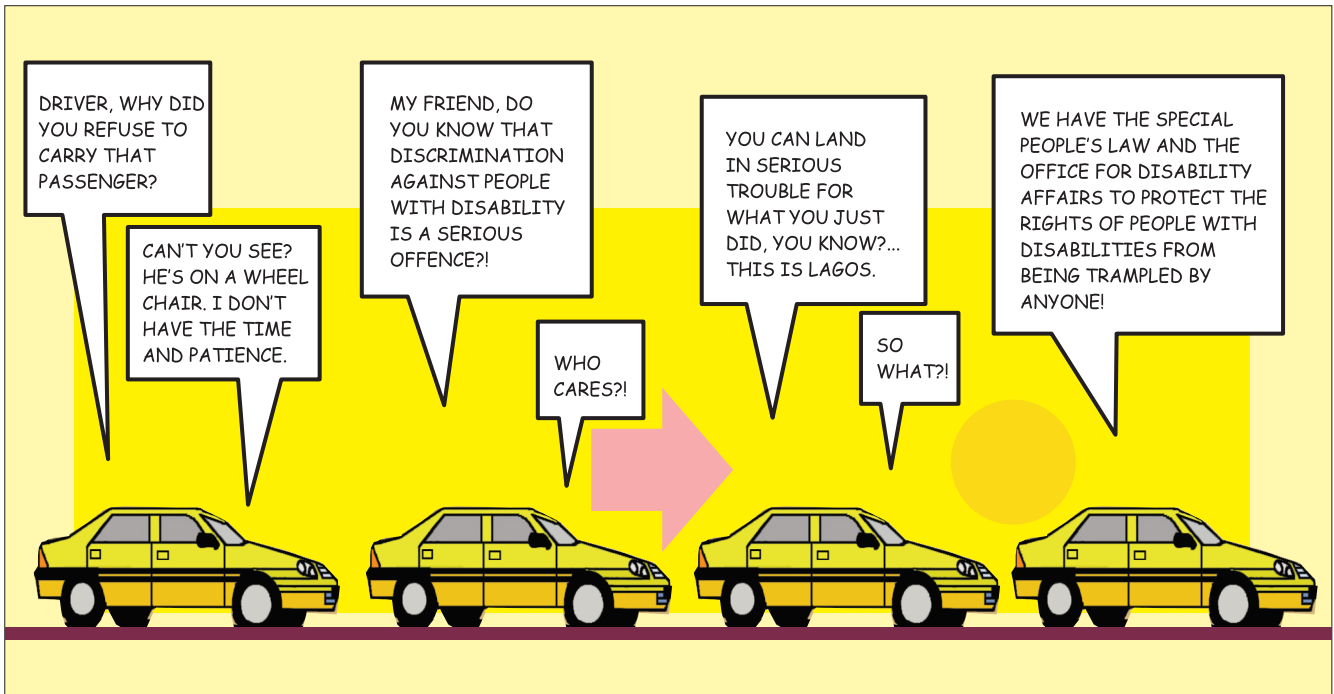
**Discrimination Against Persons with Disabilities (Prohibition) Act, 2018:** A person with disability shall not be discriminated against on the ground of his disability by any person or institution by any manner or circumstance. A person who contravenes this law commits an offence and is liable on conviction to, if the person is a corporate body, a fine of N1,000,000 and an individual, a fine of N100,000 or six months' imprisonment or both.

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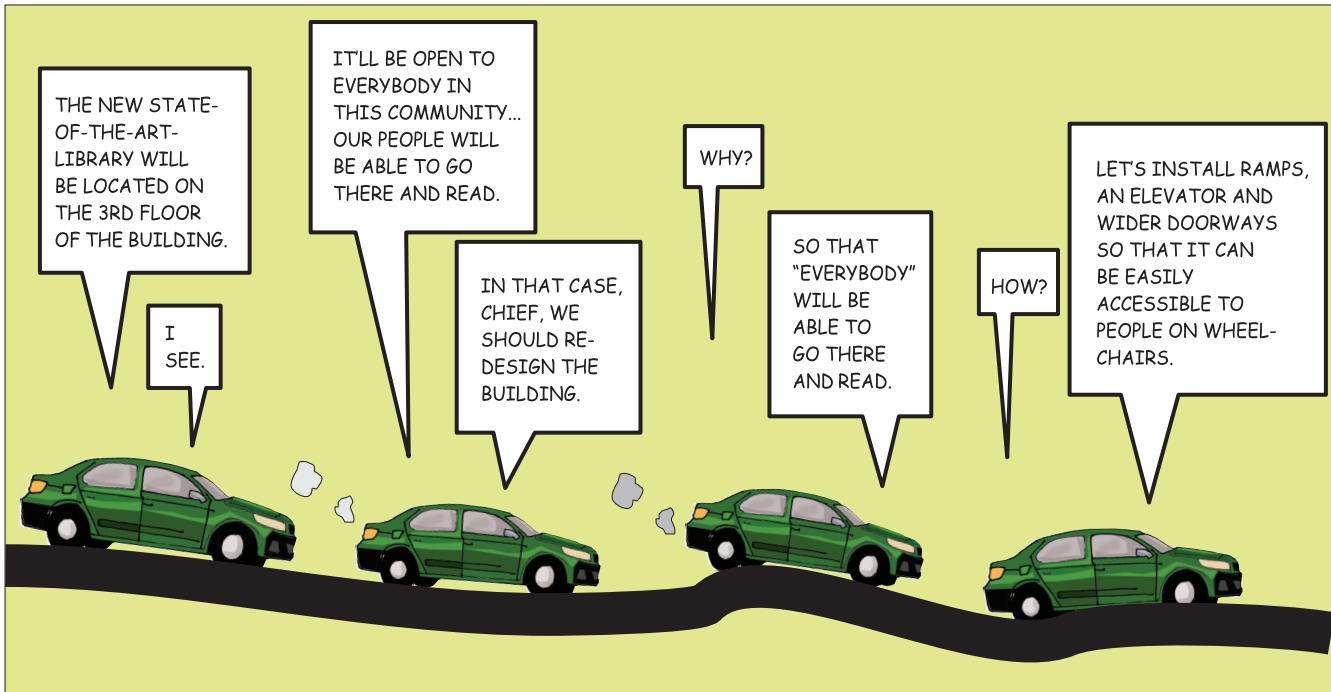
**National Commission for Persons with Disabilities(NCPWD):** The National Commission for Persons with Disabilities (NCPWD) is the establishment of the Federal Government of Nigeria pursuant to section (31) of the Discrimination Against Persons with Disability (Prohibition) Act 2018. The Act among other things, empowers the Commission to promote, protect and prioritise the rights of persons with disabilities, and to further enhance their productivity through education, health and other socio-economic activities of the state.

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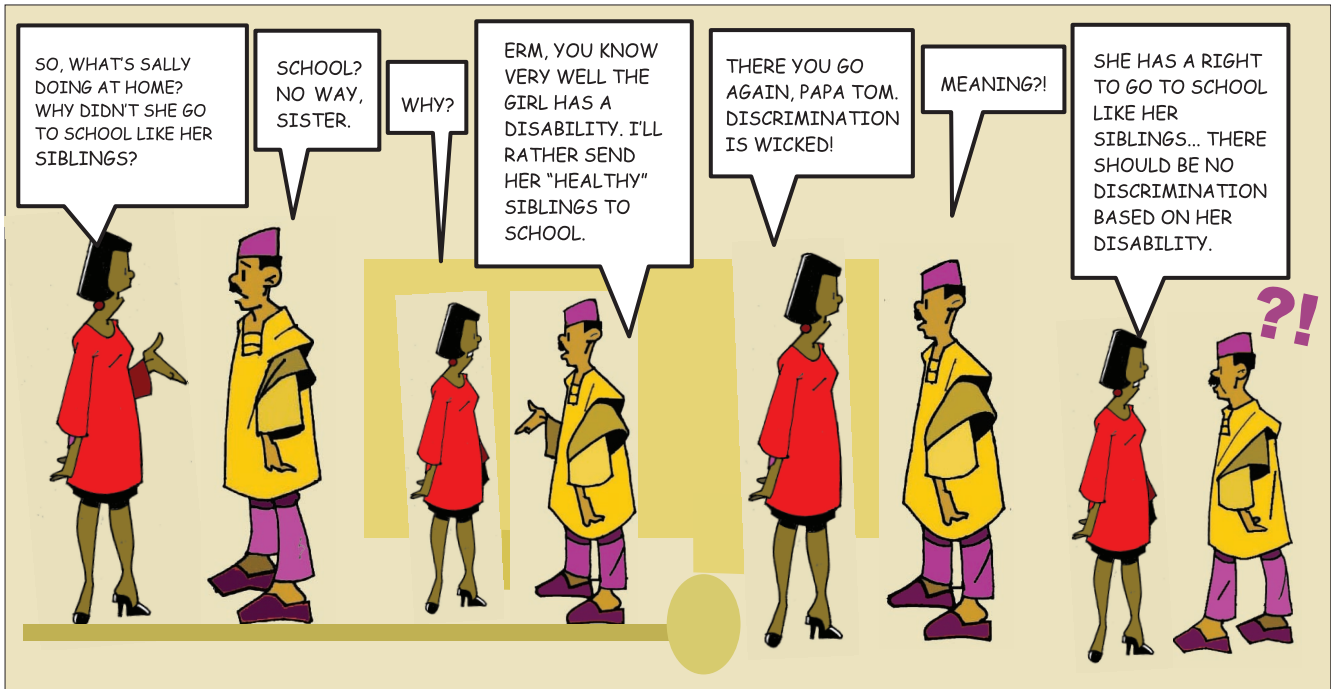
**Lagos State Special People's Law:** The Lagos State Office for Disability Affairs (LASODA) was established by the Lagos State Special People's Law (LSSPL) of June 2011. The Law seeks to uphold the rights of all persons with any form of disability (PWDs) in Lagos State by safeguarding them against all forms of discrimination and giving them equal rights and opportunities.

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**Making Life Easy for Children with Disabilities: Realising their Rights:** According to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD), in all actions concerning children with disabilities, the best interest of the child shall be a primary consideration. States parties should ensure that children with disabilities have the right to express their views freely on all matters affecting them, their views being given due weight in accordance with their age and maturity, on an equal basis with other children and to be provided with disability and age-appropriate assistance to realise that right.

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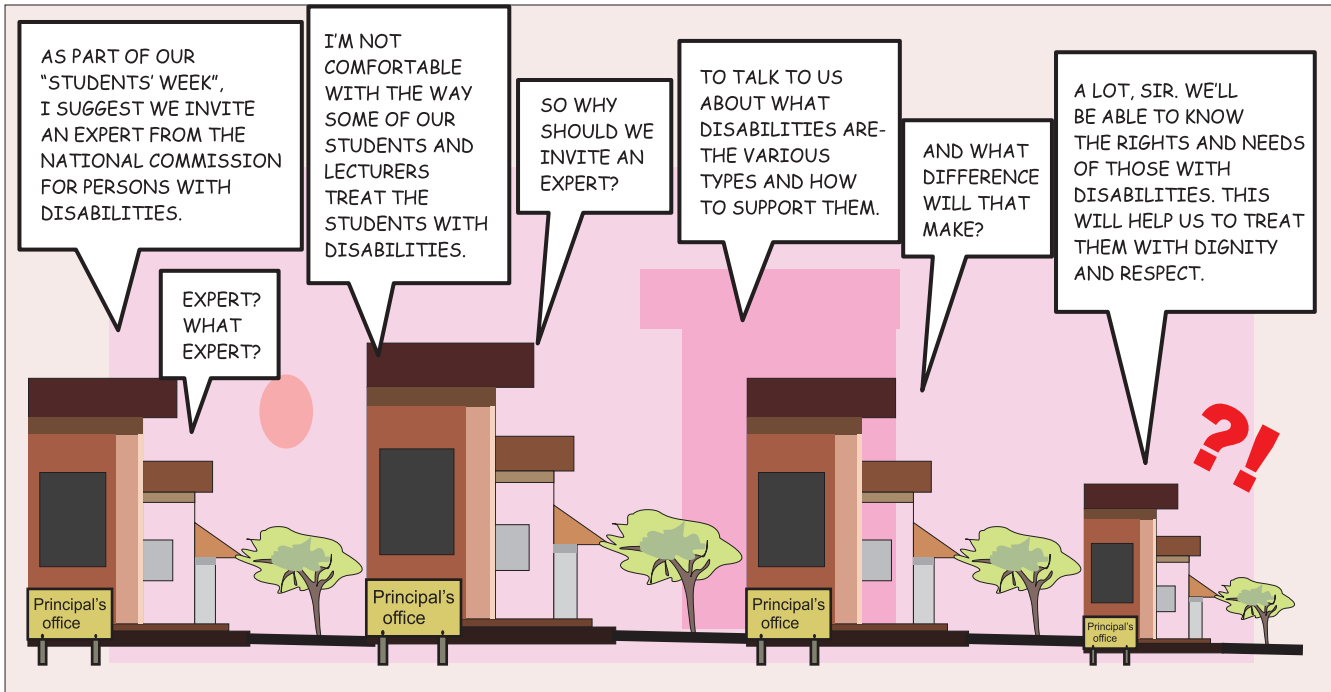
**Building a More Inclusive Society: Prioritising Education and Encouraging Inclusion in Schools:** Recognising that the United Nations, in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and in International Covenants on Human Rights has proclaimed and agreed that everyone is entitled to all the rights and freedom set forth therein without distinction of any kind. Parents and teachers should make sure all children with disabilities feel included, because when everyone works together, it can make a big difference in the lives of children with disabilities. Education should not be biased as every child has the right to education, whether the child has a disability or not.

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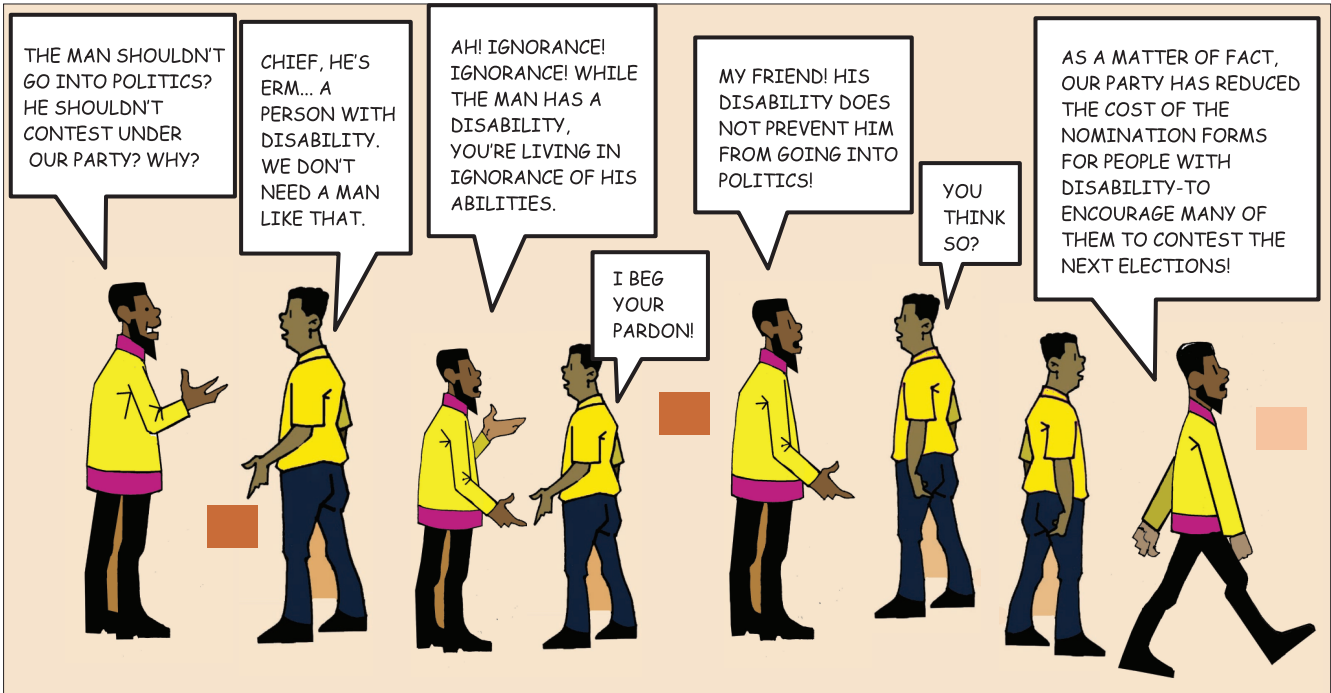
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**Building a More Inclusive Society: Educating Everyone about Disabilities:** Learning about various disabilities makes individuals aware of their abilities and what disabilities are, as well as the rights and needs of people with disabilities.

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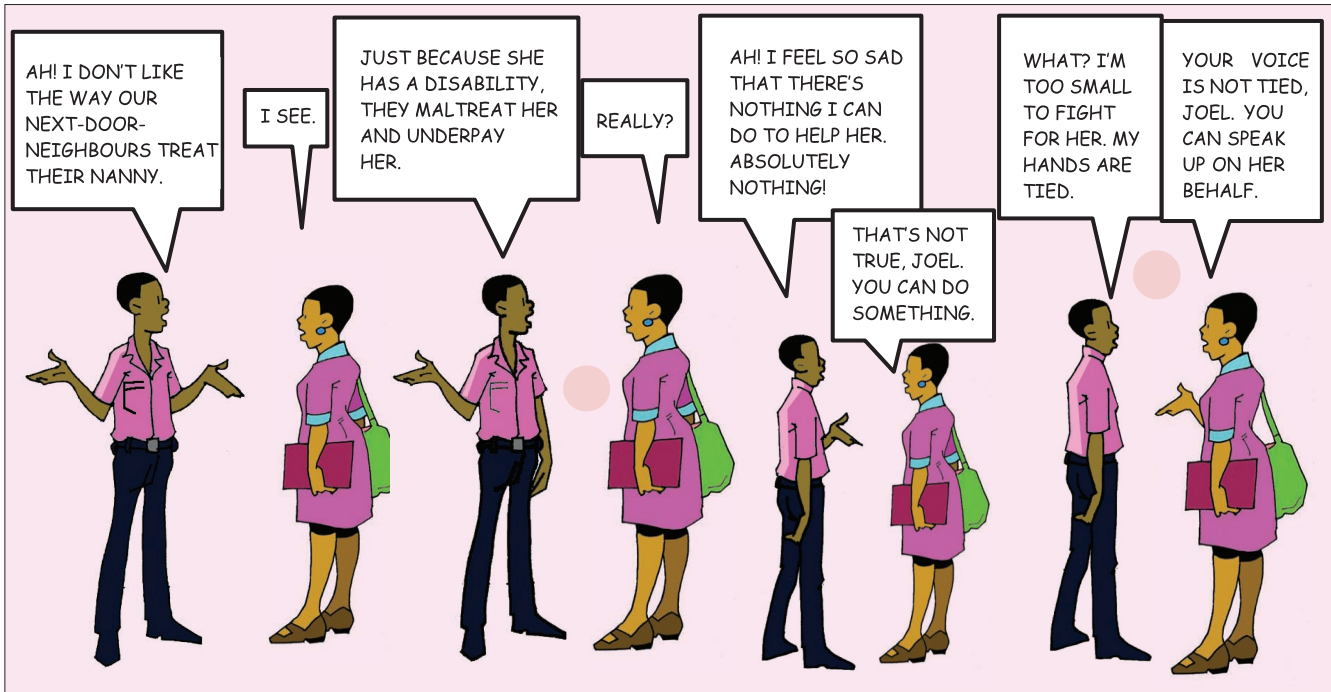
**Building a More Inclusive Society: Participating in Politics:** According to the Nigerian Discrimination Against Persons with Disabilities (Prohibition) Act, persons with disabilities shall be encouraged to fully participate in public life. They may have a disability but they definitely have the capacity.

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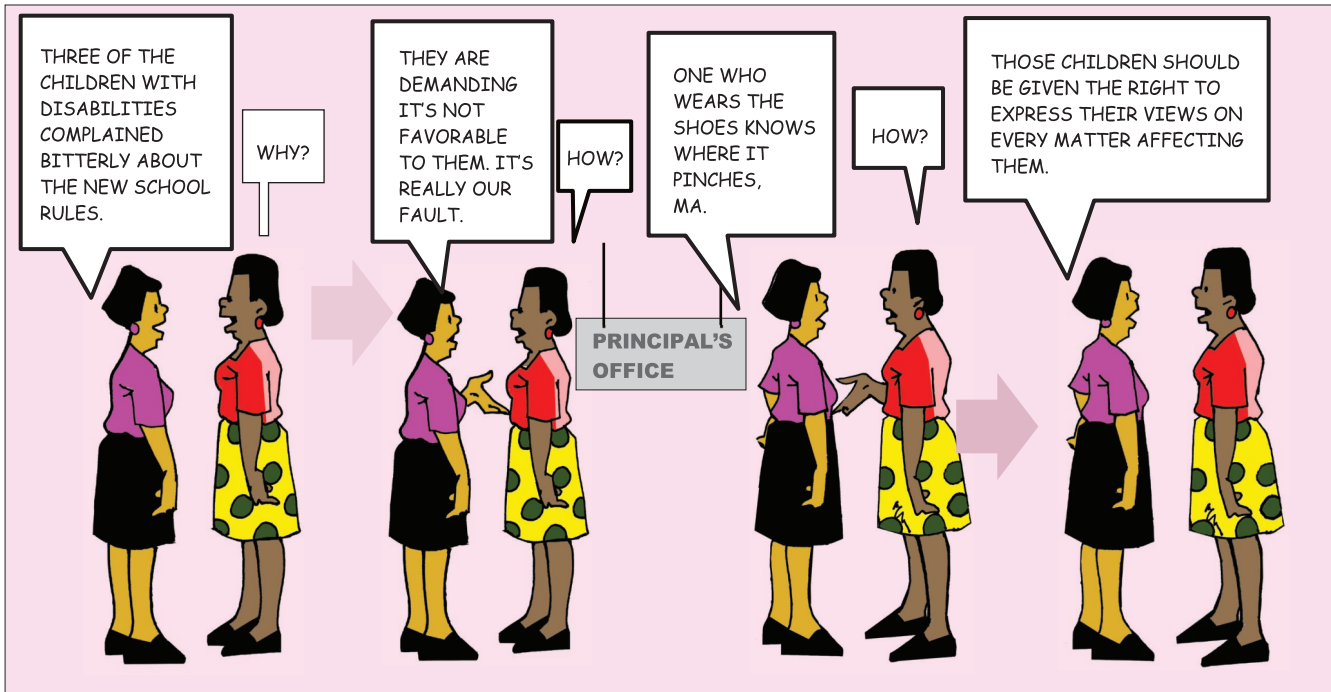
**Building a More Inclusive Society: Employing People with Disabilities:** According to studies by United Nations, 80-90% of people with disabilities are unemployed or outside the workforce. Employers need to see a person, including their disability as an asset and not a potential liability.

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**Making Life Easier for Women with Disability: Speak Up:** Women and girls with disabilities are subject to multiple forms of discrimination. Do not be afraid to speak up-your voice can shatter the stereotypes and misconceptions surrounding certain disabilities.

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**Individuals' Roles in Promoting Inclusiveness for Young People with Disabilities:** There are various ways we can promote inclusiveness for people with disabilities in our own capacity as individuals. We can speak clearly, listen well, be aware of space, ensure accessibility, include their welfare when making plans, advocate, educate people, etc.

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