Quotas so those with a disability can get work Don't ignore us, says Christopher Burns of Torpoint, Cornwall, UK Daily Mail, UK – June 11, 2012

There's a great deal of talk about setting company quotas for the number of women they employ and sit on boards, but I'd like to suggest this could also work for people with a disability.

Many people with a disability, especially those with intellectual disabilities and autism, face truly serious problems trying to find work.

I am 35, have autism and have been a carer for my dad since he suffered a stroke several years ago.

If you are autistic, the disability is not obvious, so most people don't understand that you are disabled. That is why many autistic people have to stay at home even though they want to be independent and work.

The problem is that neither the care system nor employers are willing to accept that people with a disability can work just as well as the ablebodied. I can work as well as anyone, Christopher says

I've experienced this kind of attitude when I've applied for jobs —when you're turned down it's like someone sticking a knife into you. The current economic climate is making the problem even harder.

Such injustices can impact significantly on families already facing a lifetime of caring and receiving almost no recognition from the care system for the caring they provide.

As there are so many people with intellectual disabilities and autism, there is no reason for these kinds of attitudes to continue. I'm one of these people, and just want to be employed and part of society. Why is that such a big ask?

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