Assignment #2:
Disability Current Affairs: Justice for Isaias Cervantes

# Background:

Families around the world fear the day their loved ones will be in a position that leaves them vulnerable to misunderstanding and ultimately, injustice, injury, or death. One such case came to be in Los Angeles, California, in March of 2021, when Isaias Cervantes’ life, and his family’s life, was forever altered.

# Learning Objectives:

1. Students will research and summarize the story of Isaias Cervantes.
2. Students will research and compare Isaias’ story to one other current story (within the last 5 years) of the intersection between the disability experience and law enforcement.
3. Students will apply their knowledge of course concepts to the topic of justice for people with disabilities.
4. Students will explore alternatives to law enforcement intervention during behavioral crises.
5. Students will examine the controversies surrounding disability and conservatorship and evaluate their own perspectives on these issues.

# Assignment Content Requirements

You are required to complete the following prompts. For each prompt, please write 1-3 paragraphs.

1. Research and summarize the story of Isaias Cervantes. Make sure to cite your sources (include link to your source).
2. Compare and contrast Isaias Cervantes’ story with one other current story (within the last 5 years) that intersects the disability experience with law and enforcement. Describe the similarities and differences between the cases.
3. Research and summarize the movement for change in police intervention and community involvement in times of emergency or behavioral crisis for people with developmental and intellectual disabilities. Explain some of the issues, arguments, and solutions that you find. Be sure to cite any sources used.
4. Reflect on what you’ve learned in this course so far about ableism. How does the topic of ableism apply to what you have learned in this assignment?

# Assignment Format Requirements

* 12-point font
* Double-spaced
* 2-page minimum
* Question/Answer format is acceptable and preferred
* No formal MLA or APA formatting required, just be sure to include the information somewhere in your work

Assignment #2 Rubric

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Criteria** | **Meets Standard(10 pts)** | **Approaching Standard****(9-7 pts)** | **Below Standard(6-0)** |
| **Assignment Content** | Assignment includes 3 references and responses to all prompts.  | Assignment is missing one or two required parts.  | Assignment is missing more than two required parts.  |
| **Thoughtful Responses to****Each Section** | Responses demonstrate clear understanding of the questions/prompts. Responses are thoughtful, cohesive, descriptive, and complete.  | Responses demonstrate partial understanding of the questions/prompts, and/or responses are incomplete.  | Responses do not demonstrate understanding of the questions/prompts, and/or minimal effort is evident.  |
| **Written****Expression** | Writing flows and is easy to comprehend and grade. Uses appropriate grammar and punctuation to clearly express thoughts. | Writing includes some errors in grammar and/or punctuation, or is lacking in clear expression, but it is comprehensible enough that the reader can understand.  | Writing has many errors in grammar and/or punctuation and is confusing or difficult to understand.  |
| **Disability Related Language**  | Assignment utilizes appropriate disability related language. Uses person-first language unless the student is a person with a disability (PWD) and indicates identity-first language preference). Assignment avoids the use of inspiration porn or outdated, inappropriate disability-related euphemisms or terms. Wording affirms dignity. | Assignment mostly utilizes appropriate disability related language. Mostly uses person-first language (unless identity-first language preferred by PWD). Assignment includes minimal inspiration porn or outdated, inappropriate disability-related euphemisms or terms. Wording may not always affirm dignity. | Assignment uses inappropriate disability-related terminology, including inspiration porn, euphemisms, and terms that affronts the dignity of people with disabilities.  |