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## [What do ableist and ableism mean?](#)

Disability rights, accessibility and inclusion have come a long way. But we are not there yet. It's taken more than 50 years to get to this point. That's despite legislation, public policy statements, and access standards. Ableism and ableist attitudes are alive and well. Yet many people aren't aware of how this undermines inclusion and equitable treatment. The same goes for ageism. Words matter because they hold inherent prejudices and stereotypes. ...

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## [Participatory architecture](#)

The architecture discipline is standing on a borderline that separates their design knowledge and user requirements. The trend is away from the all-knowing architect as a designer to sharing that knowledge with the users of the design. So, designers need participatory engagement skills as well as design skills. A special issue journal takes up the topic of participatory architecture. Participation ...

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## [Universal design as critical design](#)

What if architecture, interior design, engineering and product design students spend a week together to investigate the design of the built environment by making it impossible to use? By deliberately creating designs that are impossible or difficult to use, students learned about universal design. This method is known as 'critical design'. Critical

Design is a way of challenging stereotypes and prejudice. A paper presented at an engineering and product design conference explains how design students responded to a series of workshops using the critical design method. ...

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## [Footpath clues: where are they?](#)

Research by Guide Dogs NSW/ACT reveals there are new footpath and urban design challenges faced by people with low vision or blindness. The research is part of a longitudinal study to understand what environmental and footpath clues are needed and used. Tactile indicators are only part of the story even when they are present and properly placed. A total of ...

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## [Disasters and emergencies: Leave no-one behind](#)

'Leave no-one behind' is the tag line for the Sustainable Development Goals. In disaster management this idea takes on a very practical meaning. People with disability are two to four times more likely to die or be injured in a disaster than the general population. So why is our disaster planning and risk reduction failing people with disability? Being able ...

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## [Bus stops: pedestrians and cyclists](#)

We are all encouraged to leave the car at home and walk or cycle more. However, road and street infrastructure was built at a time when vehicle movements were the focus. That means a lot of retrofitting and work-arounds are needed now. The intersection of bus stops, pedestrians and cyclists is a good example of this vexed issue. The Living Streets report ...

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CUDA is under the management of Melbourne Disability Institute at The University of Melbourne.

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