



# THE DISABILITY DIALOGUE

## Open Dialogue event summary

Let's talk about ableism



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## About the event



The Disability Dialogue had an event on Wednesday 29 April 2026.



The event was about **ableism**.



Ableism is when people with disability are treated badly or unfairly because of their disability.



You can watch the recording of the event  
here

[www.youtube.com/watch?v=93PmSjxt5zY](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=93PmSjxt5zY)

## What happened at the event



Skye Cusack was a co-host at the event.

Skye is a writer and comedian with lived experience of disability.



James Parr was a co-host at the event.

James is a model and disability advocate with lived experience of disability.



Skye and James shared what they learned from the survey that some people filled out before the event.



Rosemary Kayess was a speaker at the event.

Rosemary is the **Disability Discrimination Commissioner**.

Her job is to help protect the rights of people with disability.



Rosemary talked about changes to the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS).



Rosemary said people with disability are worried about the changes.



Rosemary said the NDIS needs to focus more on supporting people to be part of their communities.



Rosemary also talked about how ableism hurts people.



Rosemary said people with disability are hurt when

- They are separated the rest of the community
- Their disability is seen as something that is wrong or bad.



Laura Naing spoke at the event.

Laura has an intellectual disability and works at the NSW Council for Intellectual Disability (CID).



Laura talked about how doctors have treated her unfairly because of her intellectual disability.



Laura said doctors judged her without asking her questions.



Barnaby Lund spoke at the event.

Barnaby is deaf and helps organisations be more inclusive.



Barnaby talked about how he started a club called Deaf Movie Club Brisbane.



He said cinemas should have **captions** on screen to make movies more accessible.



Captions are words on the screen to show what is being said and heard.



All the speakers answered questions from the audience at the end.



You can fill in an Easy Read survey to tell us what you thought about the event if you want.

You can fill in the survey at

[www.rixeasysurvey.org/kiosk/JBYq](http://www.rixeasysurvey.org/kiosk/JBYq)

## Our next event



The next Disability Dialogue event will be on Wednesday 27 May 2026.



The event will be about disability arts.



You can register for the next event at [www.disabilitydialogue.com.au/events/may-open-dialogue/](http://www.disabilitydialogue.com.au/events/may-open-dialogue/)



If you have any questions you can email us at [info@disabilitydialogue.com.au](mailto:info@disabilitydialogue.com.au)