## Medicine Lesson Plan: Eugenics Worksheet

**Objective:** Students will be able to analyze the treatments for people with disabilities.

**Materials:** Eugenics Worksheet

Website pages





Vocabulary: almshouse harmony natural selection

Caucasians heredity quotas curable idiot racism defectives imbeciles seizures

demons infanticide selective breeding deranged insane sterilization

epileptics lunatics straitjackets euthanasia Mongoloids subsistence

genetic nativism

## **New York State Learning Standards:**

ELA Standard 1: Language for Information and Understanding

ELA Standard 2: Language for Literary Response and Expression

ELA Standard 4: Language for Social Interaction

SS Standard 1: History of the United States and New York

## **Procedure:**

- 1. The teacher should view the Medical Timeline section of the Medicine wing and the Eugenics section of the Society wing the website for background information. \*Due to the sensitive nature of this topic, this lesson should be directed and closely monitored by the teacher.\*
- 2. Selections from the website can be viewed by the students online or copies of those pages can be printed for student use.
- 3. With a partner, read through this section of the website or the copies given by the teacher to find ways people with disabilities have been treated historically.
- 4. The teacher will generate a list on the board or overhead.
- 5. The teacher will ask class why people with disabilities have been treated in this manner.
- 6. The teacher will ask class if people with disabilities are treated like this today. Ask students if any of them have an example to share with the class.
- 7. Write the word EUGENICS on board. Ask students what comes to mind they hear this word.
- 8. What does it mean? Look at a dictionary definition together. Students will record the definition on the Eugenics worksheet.
- 9. Have students go back to website or their copies of the website pages to find examples of eugenics. Record on Eugenics Worksheet.
- 10. Share with the class.

**Closure/Ticket out the door:** Why did some feel that eugenics was a viable solution for the care of people of disabilities?



Name:	Museum of disABILITY History
<b>Eugenics Worksheet</b>	
Define eugenics:	
What do you think of when you hear the word "eugenics?"	
Examples of eugenics:	
Historically, why did some feel that eugenics was a viable solution for	or the care of
people with disabilities?	

What is your opinion?