Objective: Students will be able to discuss the treatments for people with disabilities. Students will be able to evaluate the changing attitudes toward people with disabilities. Students will record changes in attitudes toward people with disabilities.

Materials: Then and Now Worksheet
Index Card
Website pages

Vocabulary: almshouse idiot natural selection
Caucasians imbeciles racism
epileptics infanticide seizures
euthanasia insane selective breeding
evolution lunatics sterilization
genetic Mongoloids straitjackets
heredity nativism subsistence

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 State
SS Standard 5: Civics, Citizenship, and Government

Procedure:

1. The teacher should view the Introduction section of the Medicine wing of the website to gain background information.
2. Selections from the website may be viewed by students online or copies of those pages may be printed for student use.
3. Students will break into pairs. Each pair will view this section of the website together.
4. The teacher will hand out the Then and Now Worksheet and the students will complete together.
5. After completing the worksheet, students will share their findings with the class.
6. Together, as a class, a group generalization about the changes in the treatment of people with disabilities will be developed.

Closure/Ticket out the door: Did medicine and society’s viewpoint toward people with disabilities change positively or negatively? How?

For historical accuracy and to illustrate changing views of society, words and language used in different eras are part of the website and lessons. No offense is intended toward people with disabilities, their families or advocates.
Directions: After viewing the website, you will notice that both society and the medical community began to change their attitude toward people with disabilities. On the chart below, demonstrate how people with disabilities were treated in the past and how this has changed. In the last column, hypothesize why this change may have occurred.

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<th>HYPOTHESIS</th>
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LP: Society’s Viewpoint