

Opinion Alex Garcia Deafblind Person

Haptic Communication Vest For The Deafblind and Visually Impaired

I hereby highlight GABRIEL SCHÜTZ DE SOUZA's excellent initiative in elaborating the HAPTIC COMMUNICATION VEST FOR THE DEAFBLIND AND VISUALLY IMPAIRED. The haptic communication vest, which I had the pleasure to test, is a pioneer work, of fundamental importance to us, deafblind people, because it expands our accessibility through variable communicability. For us, deafblind people, accessibility is at first moment a tool for our social inclusion. If we talk about social inclusion it means to say that we long for equality in opportunities in all social fields. For us to have equality of opportunities, accessibility must promote our right to communicability or to communicate, which is different from the right to communication. Accessibility, through its mechanisms of acting and promotion, should enable us the access to communicability, through means, respecting and considering our plural, but at the same time singular, difficulties and characteristics we have in our communicability. Emerging from the right to communicability, accessibility will naturally guarantee or make accessible, the right to freedom of speech for us, deafblind people. Freedom of speech which is constantly denied to us. Denied freedom of speech means considering that our right to conviction will also be subtracted from us. By denying our right to conviction we will be neglecting a fundamental precept for humanity to deafblind people. In summary, the HAPTIC COMMUNICATION VEST FOR THE DEAFBLIND AND VISUALLY IMPAIRED comes to sum up to the grounding of rights. This initiative comes to support accessibility so that, if developed within legal, ethical and moral parameters, committing fundamental importance to full human development, it will be able to, in medium term, modify the current existing relation between all handicapped people and the surrounding social environment. Thus, we can go from conservative and excluding models to intelligent and including models. It's in this sense that we deafblind people consider the HAPTIC COMMUNICATION VEST FOR THE DEAFBLIND AND VISUALLY IMPAIRED and accessibility. Accessibility / Access / Rights / Duties, so that we all can grow in our identity and citizenship, basing in a potential way our participation and social-humanitarian consideration of the mean we're inserted in.

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