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## European Journal of Special Needs Education >

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# From the voice of a 'socratic gadfly': a call for more academic activism in the researching of disability in postsecondary education



# **Abstract**

In this article, I use the lens of voices and silences to frame my review of research in the field of disability and postsecondary education. I argue that we need to view research in this field as a necessarily political act that seeks to turn voices of silence into voices of change. Researchers therefore need to rethink their role in order to understand how they can use and direct their political voices. In order to persuade researchers to heed my call for more academic activism, adopt the role of a 'socratic gadfly' to identify six political areas of research where I argue that voices and silences need more critical examination. In discussing these six areas, I hope to illuminate the implications for 'genuinely investigative' research in the future.

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