Medical vs Social Model of Disability

The two most commonly discussed models of disability are the medical and social models.

Medical	Social
Disability is the problem of the disabled person and they're disabled by their impairments.	People are disabled by barriers in society, including inaccessible environments, policies and attitudes.
Professionals are viewed as the experts and decision-makers. Disabled people are treated as passive recipients of care or treatment.	Disabled people are experts in their own lived experiences and should have choice, control and a say in decisions affecting their lives.
The emphasis is on changing or treating the individual, rather than removing barriers and inequalities in society.	Communities have the responsibility to identify their barriers and biases, and develop solutions.
Exclusion, segregation, lack of independence. Impairment becomes the focus of attention.	Disabled people should have equal rights, independence, and full access to society.
Society remains unchanged	**Society evolves**