

My name is Marjorie A. Brooks.

The basis of me being invited to speak here today is to address the issue surrounding state supplements programs that are governed by the Department of Social Services; Hartford. There are individuals like myself that carry a diagnosis of mental health concerns. For decades we were labeled with a negative connotation, locked away and disregarded. Its decades later and yet persons with chemical imbalances are still being treated unjustly because others see us as impaired.

Because we have a mental/cognitive/physical disability does not mean we should have to be exposed to others who consider themselves superior beings somehow.

Department of Social Services at Hartford, has been ridiculing/ laughing /and testing me. It all began in 2009 and has continued till now. Mary J. Sharos stated to me that she 'has a job and people like me is eating off her tax money'. After that incident I was sent a letter almost every other month reporting that one or all of my benefits are proposed in being cut. When I applied for supplement that there for the aged, blind and disabled I was often told I did not qualify without being given a reasonable explanation.

So now three years straight two new workers later I am suffering from ostracism to the point that I feel my Civil Rights has been violated, in that the department is attempting to surpass my way of survival in the world, where jobs are currently scarce, people are committing suicide or walking the streets aimlessly. They have pinned me against the wall to the point that I feel hopeless.