ABOUT THE AUTHOR

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Dr. O’Brien teaches classes in community organizing, policy analysis, research and disability studies at both the undergraduate and the graduate level. His research focuses on disability history and policy, with particular emphasis on eugenics, as well as metaphor analysis in relation to social injustice and stigmatization. His articles have been published in Social Work, the Journal of Social Work Education, the Journal of Sociology and Social Welfare, Metaphor and Symbol, and other journals. This is his third book, following Framing the Moron: The Social Construction of Feeble-Mindedness in the American Eugenic Era (Manchester University Press, 2013) and Contagion and the National Body: The Organism Metaphor in American Thought (Routledge, 2018).