

Penrose, Jr., Walter D. (2015) “The Discourse of disability in Ancient Greece”, *Classical World* 108, 499-523.

In this widely cited article, Penrose establishes that, despite claims to the contrary, there was a conception of disability in ancient Greece. Unlike other modern conceptual categories, such as homosexuality, the Greeks had words for disability, *adunamia*, and the disabled, *adunatoi*. Penrose further argues that attitudes towards ability marked inter-Greek ethnicity. While the Athenians provided for the *adunatoi*, the Spartan extreme emphasis on ability in warfare as the defining characteristic of manhood resulted in a lack of recognition of disability, at least in the sources that we have.