What is in the Headlines ?

Although, in 1988 and in 2007(Hacked Off), the National Union of Journalists issued guidance on how to write andnot write about disabled people as part of its Campaign for Real People, negative portrayal persists. The guidance argued that stereotypes of disabled people are insulting and identified the

most common stereotypes used to describe disabled people: courageous, brave, pitiable ,pathetic, helpless, tragic victim, recipient of charity, eternally grateful, abnormal, sufferer, searching for

a cure, asexual. Below are some headlines found in newspapers.

• What stereotypes can you identify in these headlines?

• Get your local paper and find examples.

• Write to the editor complaining about the use of stereotypes.

* How would you re write these in a non-stereotyped way?

1 THE BEST OF BRITISH

**Phil fights deafness to lead chess challenge**

*Haringey Weekly Herald*

*2.Test of Courage* **Mum with no legs has real drive**

*Manchester Evening News*

*3.* QUEEN’S COUSIN LOCKED IN MAD HOUSE

40 year nightmare for abandoned Kate *Sun 1987*

*4.* **Wheelchair Victim Robbed of Pension**

*Daily Mirror*

*5.* **Granny on air. She’s blind and deaf but buttonup ‘Em’ sure**

**ain’t dumb** *Woolwhich and**Charlton Mercury**September 1990*

*6.* **27 YEARS OF HELL – and he’s still SMILING Heartless idiots laughed at his knobbly face …and webbedfeet and hands** *Star Sunday Sport.*

7.YOU SPASTICS Shock taunt as Anne’s children face newsmen *The Sun 1987*

*8.* **MS victim gives incredible lead**

*Middleton Guardian 4th July 1996*

*9.* **THANKS TO THE POLICE DEPENDANTS’ TRUST IT DIDN’T**

**CRIPPLE THE FAMILY** *Solicitors Journal*

*10.* **Computer project aims to mobilise disabled in their thousands. ITopens up bright new future for Penny.** *Daily Mail*

*11.****Heart Break Story of mother’s 23 year struggle***

**“I loved my tragic sons so much I had to kill them”**

*The Sun*

*12.* Ban at club is lifted for deaf mute Andy

*Sheffield Star*

*13.* SCANDAL of how parents were forced to take tragic victim

elsewhere for operations. Top hospital refused to treat Down’s children

*Daily Mirror*

*14.* **“Why should I hide away?”**

**The story of Vicky Lucas (Facially Disfigured)** *The Guardian*