

(Shakespeare 2006 cited in Goodley 2012:634). The reality of impairment is an important knowledge base and as the social model of disability ignores this, it can only be so useful. As well as ignoring the knowledge that impairment gives, the social model does not cover a 'disabled' person's experience of impairment (Rieser 2006). It is also argued that the social model fails to take into account female experiences of the effects of their impairment (Shakespeare et al 1997 cited in Liasidou 2012:117). This is why "The social model needs to be clarified and extended if it is ever to provide an ideological framework" (Terzi 2004 cited in Hodkinson and Vickerman 2009:25).

It can be argued, therefore, that the medical model of disability focuses on the personal, whereas the social model focuses on the structural levels of disability. Although, "the social model of disability does not deny the reality of physical impairments" (Fredrickson and Cline 2009:528) and the medical model of disability does not deny the reality of social influences on disability, the two models both focus exclusively on their sections of Thomson's (2006) PCS model. This argument demonstrates a similarity between the two models and, although "the differences in the ideological standpoints between the medical and social models are substantial" (Hodkinson and Vickerman 2009:25), both models are theoretically weak.

Structuration theory takes into account the personal (agency) and the structural levels of disability. This theory attempts to understand the relationship between the two levels (Giddens 1984 cited in Thompson 2003). Although this theory combines what can be seen as key elements from the social model and the medical model of disability, it does, however, also fail to take into account the cultural level of disability. It can be argued that this is because the roles of agency and structure are understood as being direct and influencing each other, but without taking into account the influence of culture in this direct relationship (Thompson 2003). One of the main things about structuration theory is that "It seeks to locate such freedom in the wider social context of the structure of society, in terms of social constraints and influences" (Thompson 2003: 34). This means that people with