

## Pigeonhole Episode 29

[bright ambient music]

### Introduction

CHORUS OF VOICES: Pigeonholed, pigeonhole, pigeonhole, pigeonhole, pigeonhole, pigeonhole, pigeonhole, pigeonhole.

CHERYL: This episode, check out a brand new podcast, *Down to the Struts*, by Qudsiya Naqui. Find it on Apple Podcasts, Stitcher Radio, or wherever you get your podcasts. Transcript provided by Adriane Kong.

### Introduction to *Down to the Struts*

[jazzy piano chords, bass strumming with hip-hop beats]

QUDSIYA NAQUI: Have you ever thought about curb cuts, those gentle slopes in the sidewalk at street corners. You probably never paid them much mind as you were pushing a stroller or lugging a heavy suitcase down one to cross the street. Those curb cuts are the result of decades of advocacy by people in wheelchairs. Advocacy that ultimately resulted in passage of the Americans with Disabilities Act in 1990. This was watershed legislation that, for the first time, afforded civil rights protections for disabled people.

My name is Qudsiya Naqui and I am excited to announce the launch of my new podcast, “Down to the Struts.” We’ll explore why factoring disability can help us build a more inclusive society, and find intersectional solutions to address systemic inequality. We’ll talk about how something as simple as a curb cut, can make the world easier to get around for all of us. We’ll also tackle issues as complex as policing, and how it intersects with both race and disability.

For example, according to the [Ruderman Family Foundation](#) (a disability focused non-profit) between 2013 and 2015, fifty percent of police shootings involved a person with a disability. This number is likely much higher because of under-reporting and lack of media coverage. We could find better and more holistic solutions to the challenges of law enforcement in the U.S., if we look at the issue of policing from both a race and disability lens.

[nice jazzy piano and hip-hop beats break]

### Outro

QUDSIYA: If you’re interested in learning more about these issues, and how they touch on disability, and what that means for how you build community. Please stay tuned for our first episode, coming soon. In the meantime you can find us at [www.DownToTheStruts.com](http://www.DownToTheStruts.com) on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram. You can also subscribe to “Down to the Struts” on Apple Podcasts, Spotify or wherever you get your podcasts.

Thank you and be back soon, so we can get down to it!

[ends with the soothing jazz piano, hip-hop beat]

## Wrap-up

[upbeat theme music]

CHERYL: Every episode is transcribed. Links, guest info, and transcripts are all at [www.whoamitostopit.com](http://www.whoamitostopit.com), my disability arts blog. I'm Cheryl, and...

TWO VOICES: this is Pigeonhole.

CHERYL: Pigeonhole: Don't sit where society puts you.