

# Being outside the norm: self-perception and self-determination



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Erin is seen to be traumatized by the pain she is causing to her husband and regrets that it is only for a short while and her husband will get tired. She is wounded psychologically as she keeps questioning herself about her disability. She is seen as a hopeful woman whose identity is not overcome by her disability.

Joseph Merrick accepts his disability to an extent that he allows doctors to perform an exhibition on him. He takes strong decisions and does not hide from people despite been rejected by his father. After dropping from school and finding it difficult to get employment, character joins a workhouse, which indicates that he does not allow his disability to overcome his identity (Incrediblepeople. com). From the two experiences above, it is clear that having a disability is not a guarantee to inability and self-acceptance is vital just the way Erin and Merrick accept themselves.