

# 1960 to 1969

Parents began, in greater numbers, to collectively fight for legislative changes, initiated critical court challenges, worked with the media on exposés about poor living conditions for people with disabilities, pressed for their children's educational rights, and sought access to vocational training for them.

School enrollment expectations were low and centered on practicing fine motor skills and recognizing basic words. Limited day programs and sheltered workshops were the only employment opportunities available to those with disabilities.

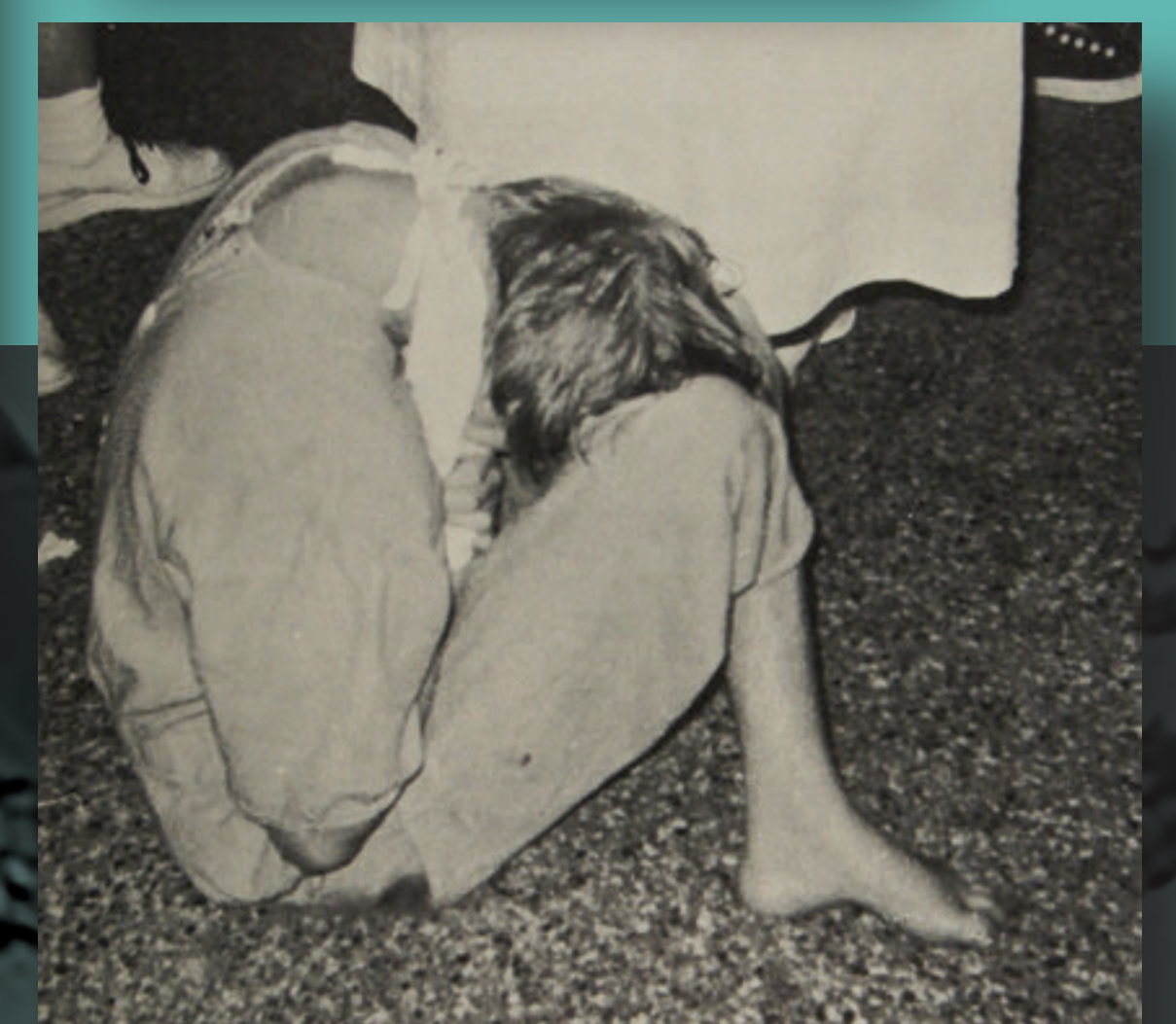
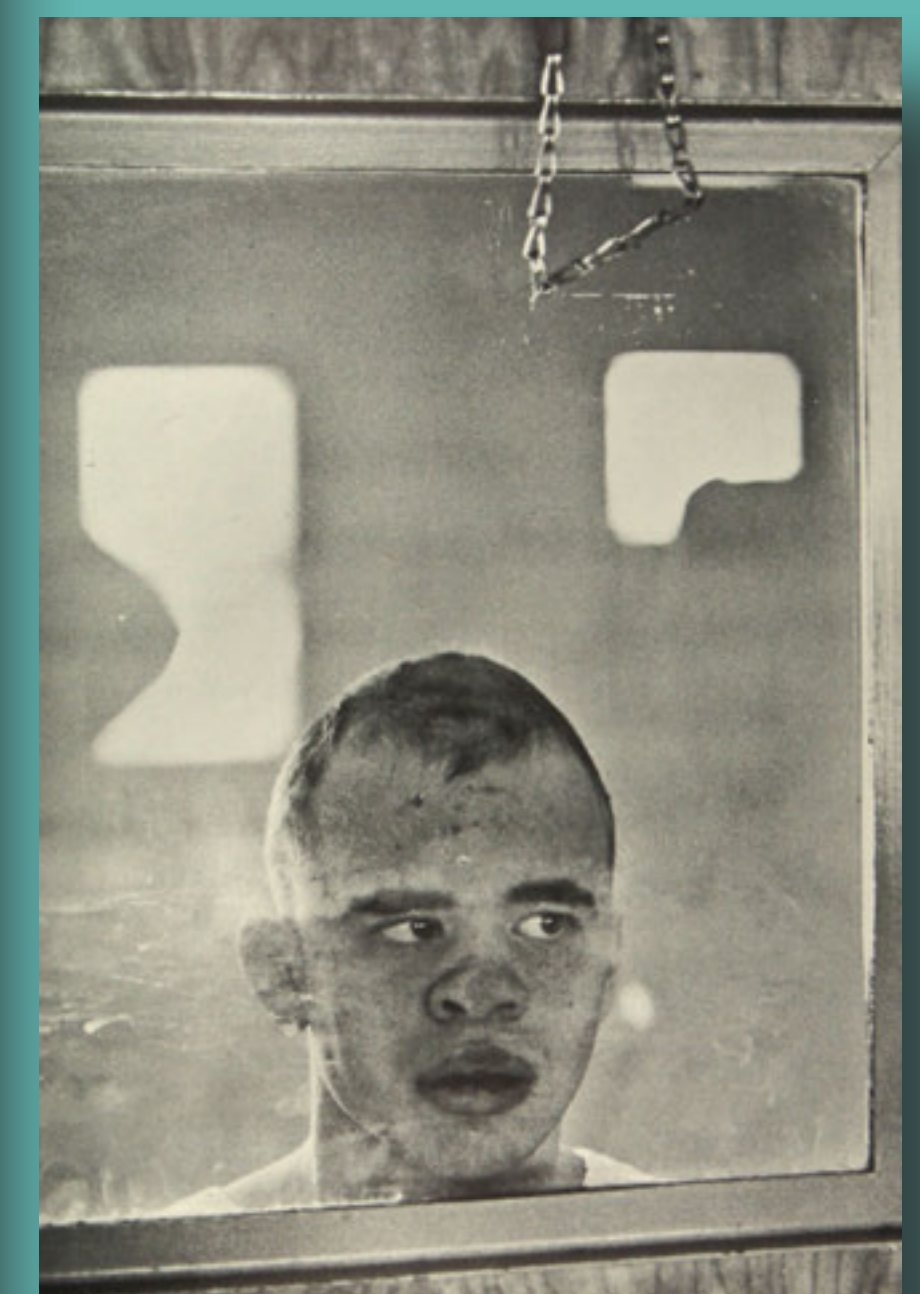
Below top: Aide Sue Becker talks about sizes of clothes, how to put them on and fold them neatly, 1958. Photo from the Minnesota Historical Society.



Below and below right: Balloon and string craft, basketry, and rug hooking at Metro Work Center, 1960s.



Left and below: From *A Major Minnesota Problem*, 1965. Photos by Earl Seubert, *Minneapolis Tribune*. Young boys with nothing to do, lolling in chairs; confined in isolation for months; the unhappy figure of a girl in soiled clothing sitting on a bare floor.



Background: The Opportunity Workshop, in a Richfield, MN home. People with developmental disabilities are given the opportunity to learn piecework, yard care, and woodworking, "and be helped to step out into the world of industry if they are capable," as reported in the *Minneapolis Star* article, "New Life for Individuals with Developmental Disabilities—They'll learn work like this at Opportunity Workshop," June 3, 1953.

