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## **INCLUSION OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITY IN THE CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY IN ACCRA**

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**Background:** Disability is defined based on the social model as an impaired interaction between one's body impairment and his or her environment. Evidence shows that most persons with disability have limited participation in all spheres of their life including education, employment and religiosity. Though most persons with disability have indicated the importance of religion in their life, less effort have been shown by the Christian community to establish an inclusive frame work to integrate them.

**Aim:** To determine the Christian community's efforts towards inclusion of persons with disability.

**Method:** The study employed a cross sectional survey research design. Study was conducted in selected church premises in the Ablekuma south sub metropolis of Accra. Participants enrolled for the study were randomly selected from the churches. A modified and piloted self-administered questionnaire was given to participants to complete. Questionnaire consist of demographic data, data on barriers, attitudes, accessibility and doctrinal beliefs. Data was analyzed with SPSS.

**Result:** study provided evidence on the current status of the christian community's efforts towards inclusion of persons with disabilities. Research result will help build an inclusive frame work to include persons with disability in church activities and other spheres of life.

**Conclusion:** There was very minimal effort by the christian community towards inclusion of persons with disability in Accra. Some churches were more engaged in segregation than inclusion. Moreover, few of them had distorted views and erroneous perception for persons with disability. occupational therapists need to establish an inclusive frame work to enhance inclusion in the church community.

