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Conference or Workshop Item

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1st May 2014 (Sydney, Australia) Reflect - Shift – Transform

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ABSTRACT

We have scarcely tapped our human potential to re-shape and reconfigure the world, whether for better or worse. The same is true of that recent small, enterprise which we know of as 'special and inclusive education'. Typically, and in a relatively short time, we have demonstrated a capacity to invoke both fast and slow responses to the challenges we have faced. As a result we have created inertia and resistance to change. This presentation *reflects* the historical and current implications of this situation for children and young people with special education needs and disabilities (SENDs) in our education systems. It challenges the oppressive policy preoccupation with dogma and superficial routines and its *shift* to victim-blame. And ultimately its negative impact on real lives. To use more overt, non-academic language, the presentation is about why we are unwilling or are incapable of doing (or *transforming*) what needs to be done in our schools to best support learners who are differently able.