95 Theses at AAC-Congress Dortmund 95 Theses at AAC-Congress Dortmund 95 Theses at AAC-Congress Dortmund Kathrin Lemler, Britta Godow, Adelheid Horneber

AAC and Autonomy

- 15. AAC creates a personal opinion. Let's make sure AAC users can decide for themselves!
- 16. AAC users can represent themselves. Let's acknowledge the maturity of AAC users!
- 17. AAC gives control. Let's enable AAC users to control their lives!
- 18. AAC is personal. Let's allow AAC users to be unique!
- 19. AAC is about more than just basic human needs. Let's allow AAC users to ask, comment and discuss!
- 20. AAC grants independence. Let's not think and speak for AAC users!
- 21. AAC makes responsible. Let's allow AAC users to learn from mistakes!
- 22. AAC gives autonomy. Let's make AAC users be responsible from childhood on!
- 23. AAC goes beyond the welfare approach. Let's revolt!
- 24. AAC requires advice on an eye-to-eye level. Let's establish peer counselling!
- 25. AAC is Empowerment. Let's enable AAC users to support themselves!

AAC and Development

- 26. AAC means development. Let's support lifelong development!
- 27. AAC works sustainably. Let's start early!
- 28. AAC is never too late. Let's never give up!

Who we are and what we hope for ...

The authors of these theses, like Luther 500 years ago, hope for change.

As an AAC using educational scientist (Kathrin Lemler), mother of an AAC using teenager (Britta Godow) and teacher (Adelheid Horneber), we have set up and formulated these theses in mutual exchange.

- We want to shake up and encourage thought
- We would like to draw attention to the opportunities and challenges that AAC gives us.
- As AAC using people, family members and professionals, we would like to give food for thought.
- We want AAC to be self-evident and society to take the appropriate action.
- We want everyone to know on a small scale what they can do to improve the situation of AAC using people.
- We want to reach the general public with these theses.

Agree with the theses ...

then add in your personal environment for further dissemination.

Thank you for your support.

Contact: 95-thesen@gesellschaft-uk.de



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500 Years after Luther

95 Theses at the AAC-Congress Dortmund

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AAC and Politics

- 1. AAC is a human right. Let's insist on it!
- 2. AAC requires equality. Let's treat AAC users as equals!
- 3. AAC means learning. Let's grant AAC users their right for education!
- 4. AAC enables meaningful occupation. Let's create fair working conditions for AAC users!
- 5. AAC enables autonomous living. Let's give AAC users free choice of accommodation!
- 6. AAC takes time. Let's request a reasonable allocation of staff!
- 7. AAC costs money. Let's finance long term consultation and intervention!
- 8. AAC needs experts in their own cause. Let's make AAC users competent!
- 9. AAC needs family. Let's include relatives!
- 10. AAC requires teachers. Let's incorporate AAC into teacher training!
- 11. AAC requires contributors in living and working spaces. Let's offer advanced education!
- 12. AAC needs science and research. Let's research!
- 13. AAC irritates. Let's ensure that there is sympathy for AAC in society!
- 14. AAC is intriguing. Let's bring AAC to public attention!

- 29. AAC grows. Let's nurture it with enthusiasm, expertise, and real interest!
- 30. AAC shows character. Let's respect people in all their facets!
- 31. AAC encourages individuality. Let's support personality development!

AAC and Pedagogy

- 32. AAC requires diagnosis. Let's evaluate correctly!
- 33. AAC requires confidence. Let's have faith: AAC users want to communicate!
- 34. AAC is an educational principle. Let's allow AAC users to actively contribute!
- 35. AAC implies written language. Let's teach AAC users to read and write!
- 36. AAC means written language as well. Let's enable AAC users to express themselves freely!
- 37. AAC isn't a sheltered environment. Let's challenge AAC users!
- 38. AAC demands a culture of conversation. Let's support culture!
- 39. AAC isn't "cuddle pedagogy". Let's give AAC users constructive criticism!
- 40. AAC requires effort. Let's encourage active participation from AAC users!
- 41. AAC isn't a disciplinary measure. Let's never take away communication aids!
- 42. AAC signifies independence. Let's let go!

AAC and Conversations

- 43. AAC requires assistance. Let's act as beneficial communication partners!
- 44. AAC is open to interpretation. Let's practice co-construction!
- 45. AAC doesn't demand pity. Let's meet AAC users with empathy!
- 46. AAC requires patience. Let's take some time!
- 47. AAC is exhausting. Let's appreciate the effort!
- 48. AAC is part of everyday life. Let's create opportunities for communication!
- 49. AAC is multimodal. Let's increase the effectiveness through various AAC-channels!
- 50. AAC provides exiting content. Let's create a desire for communication!
- 51. AAC is high-tech. Let's integrate new technologies!
- 52. AAC is versatile. Let's use the full spectrum of communication aids!
- 53. AAC is more than technology. Let's recognize the smallest signs!
- 54. AAC makes you opinionated Let's equip communication aids with curse words!
- 55. AAC requires creativity. Let's craft AAC-materials!

AAC and opportunities

- 56. AAC offers opportunities. Let's discover the diversity!
- 57. AAC is participation. Let's not exclude anyone!
- 58. AAC makes you talk. Let's listen!

- 59. AAC builds self-confidence. Let's empower people!
- 60. AAC overcomes borders. Let's break down walls!
- 61. AAC needs explorers. Let's enter uncharted territory!
- 62. AAC makes you feel optimistic. Let's shape the future!
- 63. AAC has energy. Let's use its power!
- 64. AAC builds friendships. Let's get closer to each other!
- 65. AAC is networking. Let's sit at the same table!
- 66. AAC unites worldwide. Let's learn from each other!
- 67. AAC shows skill. Let's wait and see!
- 68. AAC is an asset. Let's profit from being different!
- 69. AAC is ready for school. Let's live AAC everywhere, not just in school!
- 70. AAC is changing. Let's keep an open mind!
- 71. AAC intervenes. Let's take every remark seriously!
- 72. AAC speaks many languages. Let's learn foreign languages!
- 73. AAC means solidarity. Let's experience interaction and connection!
- 74. AAC is more than just a fad. Let's set the long-term trend!
- 75. AAC is infectious. Let's publicise AAC!
- 76. AAC doesn't need a pope. Let's profit from the knowledge and ideas of many bright minds!
- 77. AAC is a creed. Let's preach respect and confidence!
- 78. AAC utilises experience. Let's share it among each other!

- 79. AAC is fun. Let's laugh together!
- 80. AAC makes you creative. Let's create works of art!
- 81. AAC encourages. Let's emphasise the best, instead of the worst!

AAC and Challenges

- 82. AAC means teamwork. Let's get things done together!
- 83. AAC gives courage. Let's try new things!
- 84. AAC is comprehensible. Let's stop guessing!
- 85. AAC demands persistence. Let's be tenacious!
- 86. AAC requires structure. Let's choose a systematic approach!
- 87. AAC accepts differences Let's avoid standardising too much!
- 88. AAC is limited. Let's support reasoning and language in the mind!
- 89. AAC is different. Let's avoid a one size fits all approach!
- 90. AAC means to doubt. Let's learn something new!
- 91. AAC is a marathon, not a sprint. Let's persevere!
- 92. AAC requires compromises. Let's argue!
- 93. AAC changes you. Let's go off the beaten path!
- 94. AAC is rebellious. Let's embrace resistance!
- 95. AAC creates jobs. Let's never get bored again!

Theses by Lemler, Horneber und Godow Translation by Falk Fabri