Pope John Paul II. “Mentally Ill People Are Also Made In God’s Image.” *ewtn,*

<https://www.ewtn.com/library/PAPALDOC/JP96N30.htm>*.* Accessed 8 December 2017.

**Summary:** Everyone, even those who have any form of mental illness, is still made in the image and likeness of God, and deserves to be treated as such. The Church looks on people with mental illness with special concern as She does with anyone with any other type of illness. It is the community’s duty to support and serve anyone who finds themselves with a mental illness, whether they are born with it or develop it over time. When God looks at man, he first sees his own image, and this cannot be affected by mental illness. We need to watch our behavior towards people with mental illness; we cannot treat them with neglect and indifference. Christ took all human suffering including mental illness on the Cross so that everyone could share in his redeeming passion.

**Assessment:** This is an objective source because it is from an outside perspective, but it is also biased because it is written by the Catholic Church about God’s take on mental illness. It was written by the *L'Osservatore Romano Newspaper* and translated by the Cathedral Foundation, which makes the facts well documented. The author is qualified to write this article because *L'Osservatore Romano Newspaper* reports stories in the Vatican City State about announcements of the Pope. The purpose of this source is to show that God views people’s mental illness as He would view any other disease, no differently than any of His other children.

**Reflection:** This article helps us to understand how people with mental illness are still made in the image and likeness of God and deserve to be treated as such. It helps us to explain why we are calling for social justice for all disabled people by showing that God does not discriminate against those who are not in perfect mental health. Pope John Paul II The article reminds us to treat all of those different than us like any other person, rather than neglecting  or treat them with indifference. They may act a little differently and not have quite the same capabilities as a “normal” person, but they are like us in spirit and soul. This article relates to our project because we are working with young adults who have different forms of developmental disabilities which is considered a mental illness.