

Lecture on Modern Deaf Culture
February 24, 2007
Outline

Objective

1. Introduction to modern Deaf culture
2. Current Events
3. Vlogs/Blogs
4. Audism
5. Diversity
6. Conclusion

Introduction to Modern Deaf Culture

1. I'm on the debate squad at my high school. In debate rounds, some debaters would stand up and present evidences that are dated three years ago. I would right away debate against their evidences with more updated evidences.
 - a. Some would say that three-year-old evidences are not "outdated".
 - b. I would still debate against that with three-month-old evidences.
 - c. Indeed, even with one-day-old evidences
 - d. Anything can happen everyday
2. We must consider this same thing with the Deaf culture
 - a. Deaf culture today is not exactly like what your teachers you in your interpreting classes.
 - b. Deaf culture is not exactly like what you have read in some deaf-related magazines five year ago.
 - c. Deaf culture today is not exactly like three years ago.
 - d. Deaf culture today is not exactly like three month ago.
Deaf culture today is not exactly like yesterday.
3. Today, we will discuss on four important topics in order to understand the modern Deaf culture in America.
 - a. Outline of current events
 - b. Vlogs/Blogs
 - c. Audism
 - d. Diversity

Current Events

1. When the subject of uniformed citizens is brought up in my American government class, my government teacher would spend whole class hour passionately lecturing about it.
 - a. She nags the class that we as the United States citizens should keep ourselves informed of what is going on in our country everyday.
 - b. She argues that as informed citizens we would be able to elect right people, make right decisions on voting, and so on. As a result, we would significantly improve our society.
2. You see, in the terms of the Deaf culture, we need to be informed of what is going on in the deaf community everyday in order to be an effective interpreter.

- a. It is imperative to understand that once you become an interpreter, you become a part of the deaf community.
 - b. As informed citizen of the deaf community you would be able to mediate the communicate between deaf and hearing more effectively, understand the backgrounds of both deaf and hearing, and recognize the diversity of the Deaf culture.
3. Outline of Current Events
- a. May 2006
 - i. Jane Fernandes is named president-designate and protests begin
 - ii. Fernandes' refusal and "not deaf enough" issue (May 4th)
 - iii. The school year ends/protests on the break (May 12th)
 - iv. More vlogs/blogs
 - b. July 2006
 - i. NAD Conference
 - 1. Deaf/Colonialism
 - 2. Crab Theory Revisited
 - c. October 2006
 - i. Protests resume (Oct. 3)
 - ii. Vlogs/Blogs substantially emerged
 - iii. Jane K. is terminated (Oct. 29)
 - d. January 2007
 - i. Carl Schroeder's appeal
 - ii. Vlogs/Blogs largely emerged
 - e. February 2007
 - i. Explore and find out on your own!

Vlogs/Blogs

- 1. Blog
 - a. Several deaf blogs were developed before 2006 Gallaudet protests
 - b. During 2006 Gallaudet protests numerous deaf blogs appeared
- 2. Vlog
 - a. Genuine ASL form of bloggin—videotaping
 - b. Significantly emerged during 2006 Gallaudet protests
- 3. Why during 2006 Gallaudet Protest?
 - a. Vlog/Blog allowed the protestors to communicate with each other on the campus
 - b. Update FSSA—a replacement of Gallaudet's official newsletters/announcements/etc.
 - c. Call people to come to Gallaudet and help
 - d. Encourage people to donate money to support the protests.
 - e. Enabled vloggers/bloggers to reach out to the nation and world
- 4. JKF is out...now what?
 - a. Preserve Deaf culture/ASL
 - b. Educate hearing people
 - c. Help hearing parents with deaf children
 - d. Elevating deaf discourse (show short clip of Joey Baer's vlog on elevating deaf discourse)

- e. ASL Documentations (show the video of Carl Schroeder's appeal)
 - f. Hobby
 - g. Community
5. Strongly Suggested Links to Start With
- a. www.deafread.com !!!!
 - b. www.joeybaer.com
 - c. www.carl-schroeder.blogspot.com

Audism

1. Definition
 - a. The notion that one is superior based on one's ability to hear or behave in the manner of one who hears. (Tom Humphrey 1977, quoted in Zak 1996)
 - b. Like racism, sexism, ageism, etc.
 - c. Audism can be either be hearing or deaf. Audism occurs when a deaf person is judged as incapable of a given behavior, occupation, etc. simply because he or she cannot hear. Audism is often coupled with a "hearing" superiority: an attitude of thinking one person is superior to another person because he or she can hear better than him or her. Audism takes another form concerning interactions between the deaf: deaf people who will not use sign language and who will not identify with the Deaf community may consider themselves to be "better" than others who use sign language and are part of Deaf culture. (<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Audism>)
2. History
 - a. Show the video clip from www.joeybaer.com
3. What can we do?
 - a. Spread about it.
 - b. Educate *both* hearing and deaf people about it
 - c. Use it

Diversity

1. The deaf community today is more diverse than ever
2. Diversity:
 - a. Bi-lingual/Bi-cultural
 - b. ASL users
 - c. CODA
 - d. Cued speech users/ASL
 - e. PSE
 - f. Oral/ASL
 - g. Cochlear Implant users