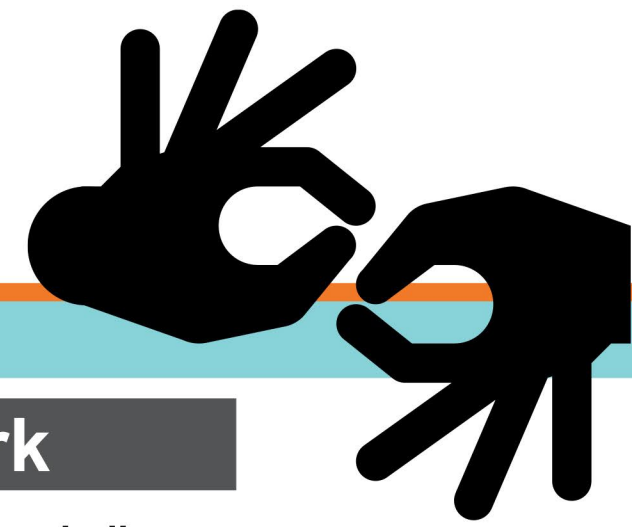


Interpreting the Emotional Toll on ASL Interpreters

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Background

Problem Statement:

ASL interpreters face compounded trauma due to inadequate policies, outdated training methods, and conflicting cultural expectations.

Research Question:

How do the current Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf policies, Interpreter Training Program, and professional culture contribute to the vicarious trauma experienced by ASL interpreters?

Relevance of Research:

This research is vital for reforming interpreter practices and policies, thereby enhancing the well-being of interpreters and the Deaf community they support.

Survey QR Code

SCAN ME



Project Overview

This study examines the impact of current interpreter training, Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf policies, and cultural norms on ASL interpreters. It aims to identify systemic flaws and propose changes for improved support, resilience, and fostering better community engagement and cohesion with the Deaf community.

Hypothesis

It is hypothesized that addressing gaps in the Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf policies, modernizing Interpreter Training Programs, and reshaping professional culture will significantly reduce vicarious trauma among ASL interpreters and improve their collaboration and rapport with the Deaf community.

Methodology

Interpreter Interviews: In-depth interviews were conducted, including key focus areas like Interpreter Training Programs, Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf policies, and cultural experiences to develop the survey.

Survey: Conducted through Qualtrics to gather insights from ASL interpreters about the impact of current practices and policies on their work and well-being.

Future Work

Future research will explore how similar factors – policies, training, and cultural dynamics – contribute to traumatization in the Deaf community, aiming to develop comprehensive strategies that enhance the well-being of both interpreters and Deaf individuals.

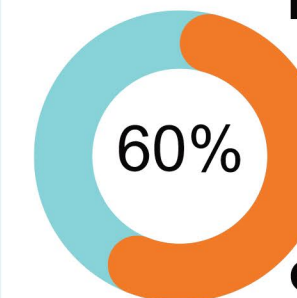
Acknowledgments

Special thanks to Dr. Aldersley from SOIS for invaluable guidance and support. Deep gratitude to the Deaf community and interpreters who contributed to the development of this study. Immense appreciation to all research participants for their essential insights and participation.

Results



90% of Interpreters said that trauma is inflicted on them as interpreters.



60% of Interpreters said they did not feel they could address frustrations formally without negative impacts on their Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf membership, and 33 % were unsure.