

Cultural Issues in Community Interpreting

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Introductions

- ☐ Denise
 - ☐ Students
 - ☐ My Experience with Community Interpreting
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Culture or Ethics?

- ☐ Can you separate 'Culture' from skills, ethics, or communication?
 - ☐ Using 'Culture' as an excuse
 - ☐ Playing the 'Deafness' card
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The Role of the Community Interpreter

- ☐ Why are you in this profession?
 - ☐ Are the deaf and interpreting communities too hard on each other?
 - ☐ Should interpreters mediate 'culture' as well as facilitate communication?
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Assumptions

□ Communication Style

- 'Big Picture' – vs- 'Small Picture'

□ Communication Preferences

- Not all deaf people prefer ASL
 - Not all deaf people have limited English skills
 - Not all deaf people need 'clarification' regarding idioms, slang, terminology
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Assumptions

☐ Visual Learners

- Are all deaf people really visual learners?

☐ Audism

- Buzzword
 - Using new words to define old concepts
 - 'Studying' deaf people
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Trends in Community Interpreting

- ❑ Impact of the ADA
 - ❑ Higher expectations of interpreters
 - ❑ Handling the feedback process
 - ❑ Going beyond the 'grateful' stage
 - ❑ 'Biting the hand that feeds you'?
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Working with the deaf professional

- Increase in # of deaf professionals brings new challenges to the interpreting community
 - Role Reversals
 - JADARA Article
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My Experience Stories!
