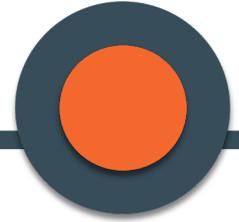


COMPASS

**Critical Thinking:
Professional Courtesy**

C.T.: Review

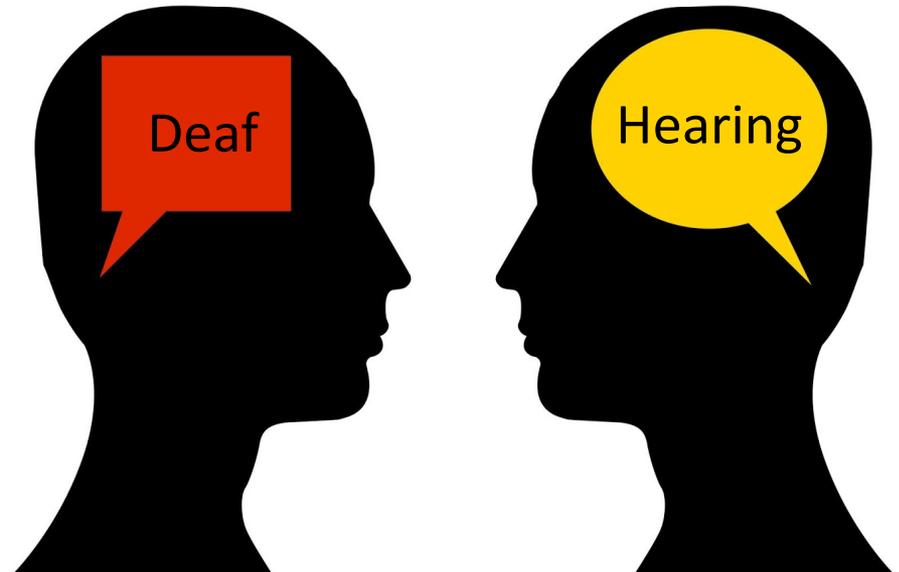


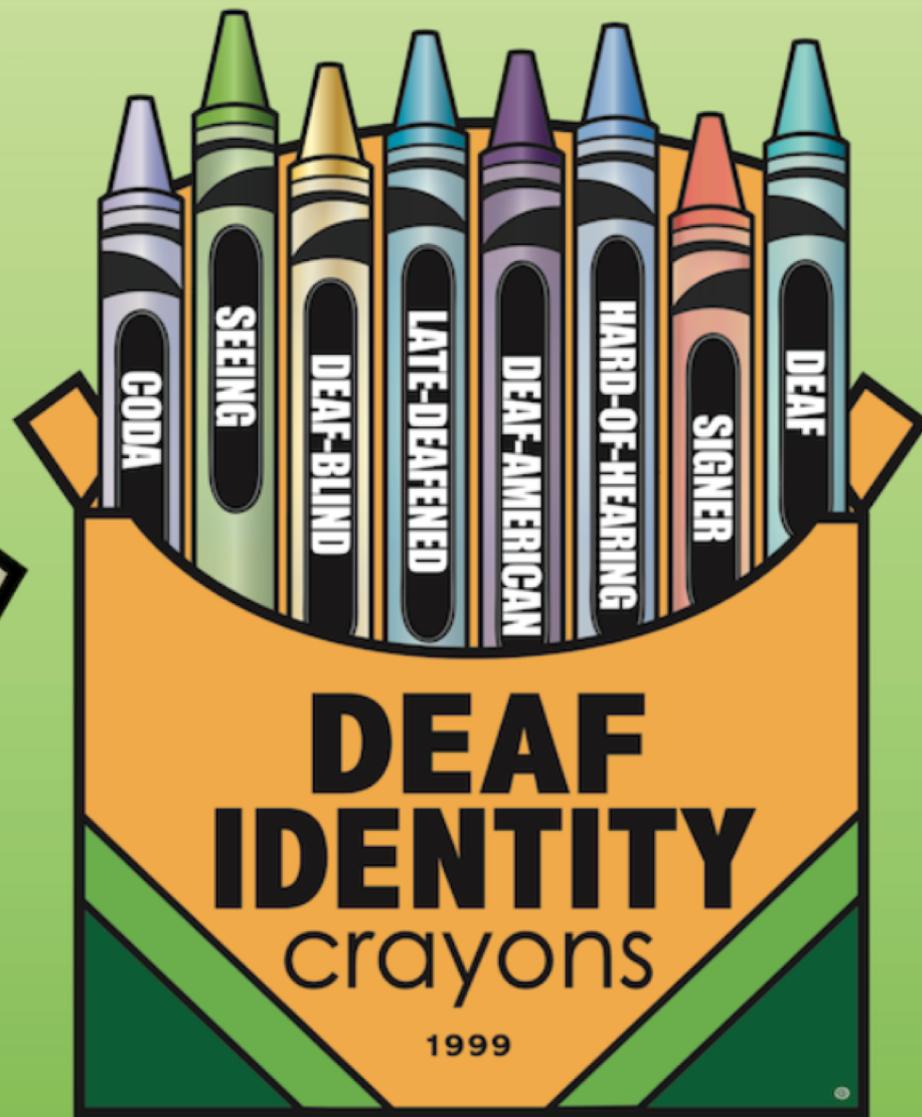
Who are Codas?

Preston (1994), “We are neither Deaf or hearing. We are both Deaf and hearing” (p. 236).

Binary Framework:
Deaf OR hearing...

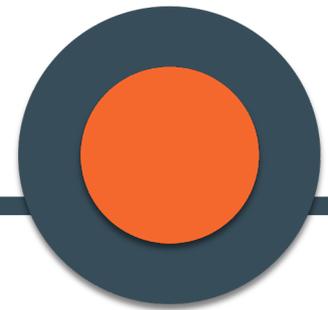
Is it possible to be both???





Ann Silver, 1999

C.T.: Perceptions



“Codas live in an in-between space within the sign language interpreting profession. We are not hearing. We are not deaf. As such, we are often not seen nor valued. **We are; however, both vilified and worshiped in good measure.**”

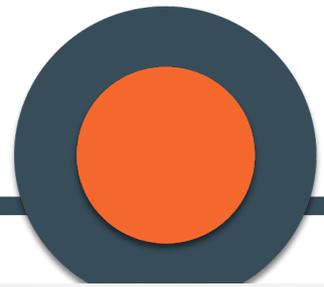
- Amy Willamson, 2012

what are other
words for
put on a pedestal?

venerate, exalt, idolize,
worship, revere, adore, glorify,
reverence, cherish, look up to



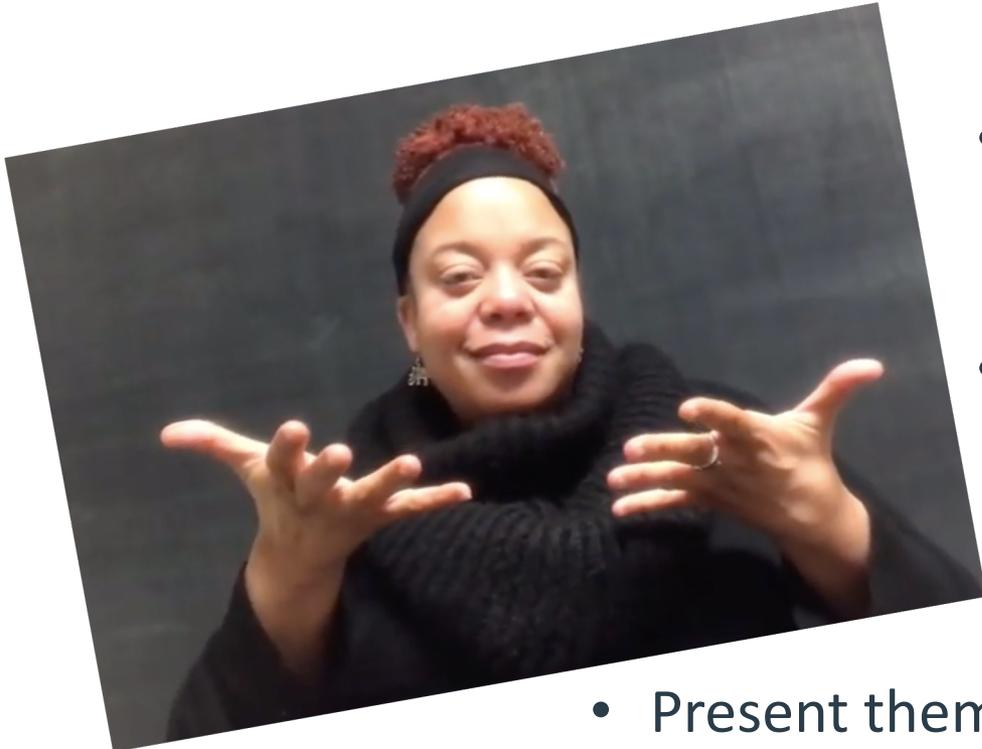
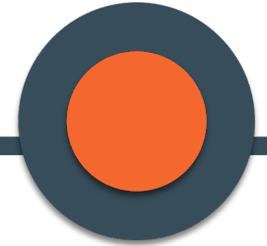
C.T.: Week 7 Objectives



- Review Coda Identity & Intersectionality
- Introduce professional courtesy, respect for the consumer, and considerations for interpreting
- Explore how professional courtesy affects decision-making in the role of a sign language interpreter

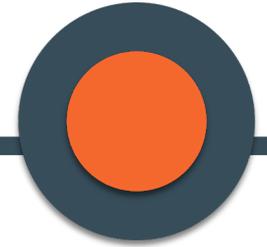


Successful Interpreters



- Have a strong command of both ASL and English
- Understand the interpreting process and their role in it
- Present themselves in a professional manner
 - Dress
 - Appearance
 - Mannerisms
 - Behaviors

Successful Interpreters

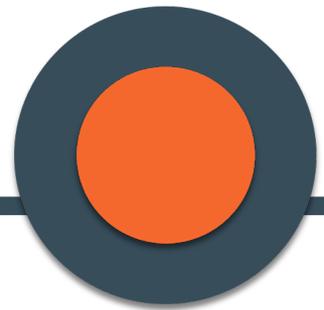


- Body Language
- Demeanor
- Mannerisms

inform people's
opinions...

Most people form an opinion
within the first 20 seconds to 4
minutes of meeting you for the
first time!

C.T.: Case Study

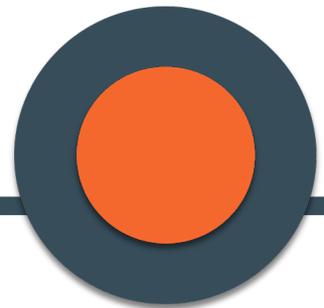


For the "Professional" Interpreter who decided to show up at my son's doctor appointment dressed unprofessionally- wearing a plain black T-shirt with your heavy gold name tag dragging your shirt down, with your grey sweat pants and pink and white tennis shoes:

Look- I really hate going to the doctors office for my kids. Especially when it's a new doctor seeing them because their regular doctor is not available. I am not only stressed and worried about my child, but I have to deal with so much anxiety before I even get to the doctor's office.

I have to worry about whether or not the doctors office will provide me with an ASL interpreter. If they do, I have to worry about if the interpreter is qualified/certified to interpret. Then I have to worry about if the interpreter is actually skilled, because I can't count how many times I've met an interpreter who has the certifications but doesn't have the skill to back it. Then I have to think about my back up plan if the doctor's office doesn't provide me with an interpreter, or forgets to schedule one, or if the interpreter doesn't show up.

C.T.: Case Study



And then there's the many stories we know of Deaf Moms taking their children to the doctor's office, only to have a doctor call the police or CPS and take their child away due to miscommunication or misunderstandings. Because a lot of these hearing doctors don't believe Deaf adults can raise children. And these things happen A LOT to black and brown Deaf mothers. So I have THAT to worry about too!

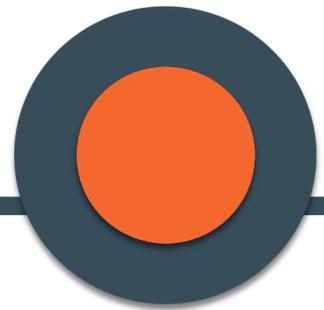
See I have all these things on my shoulders before I even meet you in the lobby.

So when I see you dressed the way you are dressed- looking all sloppy- I'm even MORE worried now. I don't trust you to care about your work today. I'm feeling like you're not going to do a good job conveying my messages.

So now I have to work harder to make sure I'm getting the right information from the doctor.

I have to work harder to make sure this white doctor knows that I AM a good mother capable of raising MY children- even though YOU are dressed like shit, and it's YOUR voice representing me, and YOUR face they keep looking at when they talk to me about MY child.

C.T.: Case Study



That's why I'm constantly looking at you, I'm signing super slow, and I'm repeating myself here and there, trying to make sure you are articulating everything accurately. All the while, I feel fear. Because one little mistake and shit could go so wrong.

After the appointment, I can feel the sweat soaking my arm pits, and the muscles in my neck, shoulder and back are all tense.

But I can't relax just yet. I still have MORE work to do.

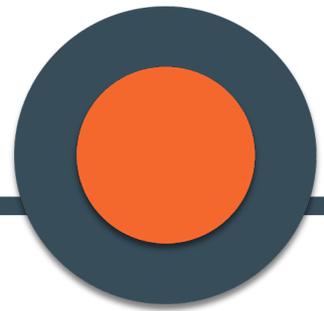
I now have to follow up with the doctor's office and provide feedback and request that you not interpret for me again. Then I have to call your agency and explain my experience to a receptionist, who I know, doesn't even care.

So the next time you show up to interpret, dress professionally (unless told otherwise by the client). And please remember- it's not about you, but everything you do impacts the Deaf client.

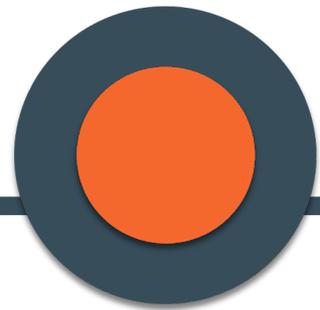
Now let us both hope we never cross paths again. Peace.

#BlackDeafMom
#hearingprivilege
#ASLInterpreters
#Endaudism
#Endphonocentrism

C.T.: Appearance

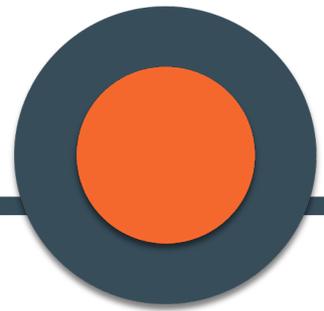


C.T.: Signing Space



- Color – solid color in contrast to your skin tone
- Cut – necklines and sleeve length
- Style – shiny buttons or zippers
- Size – well fitting that allows for movement

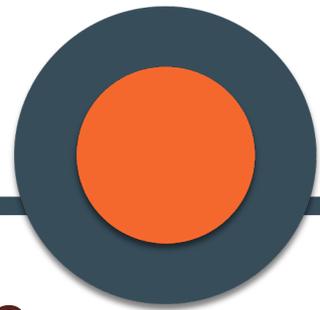
C.T.: Behaviors



- Itching/scratching
- Biting or licking lips
- Play with hair, mustache, or beard
- Adjust glasses, hair or clothing
- Drumming fingers or tapping feet
- Rocking, swaying or pacing
- Bouncing your leg
- Clearing your throat
- Chewing/popping gum



C.T.: Appearance



Hygiene

Well groomed

Hair out of your face

Be modest with scents and perfumes

Appropriate make up

Clean, pressed clothing

Personal Style

Hair styles and colors

Piercings

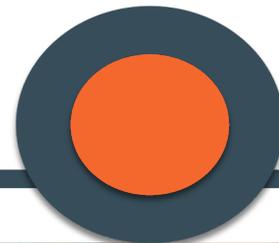
Accessories

Nails

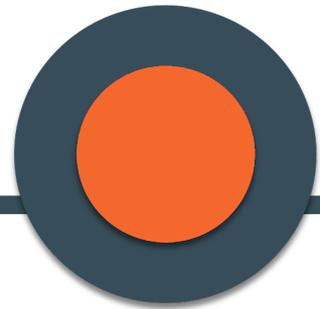
Jewelry



C.T.: Contrasting Colors



C.T.: TPO + 1



How do I decide?

“I am interpreting a(n) _____, what should I wear?”

Wedding

Awards ceremony

Fraternity meeting

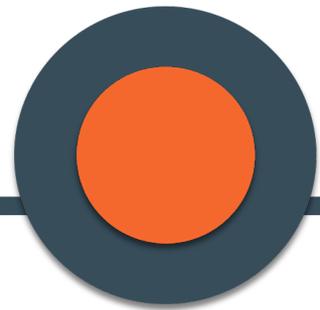
Scuba diving certification class

Nature hike

Birth

**Time, Place
Occasion ±1**

C.T.: TPO + 1



Time

What is the time of day?

What will the weather/room temperature be like?

What will the lighting be (sunlight/artificial/low lighting)?

Place

Will I be indoors or out?

Will I be at a hospital, university, office?

How close or far away from my consumer will I be?

Will I be in a swimming pool?

Will I be in the snow, or the desert?

Will I need to be on a stage?

Is it possible that I will need to get on the ground/get dirty/get wet?

Occasion

Is anyone receiving an award, giving a speech, or making a presentation?

How many consumers will there be?

Will I be sitting, standing, or constantly moving?

What is the gravity of the situation?

Is it possible that the consumer will be receiving bad news?

Is it possible that this may be a life-altering event for the consumer?

What is the expected level of seriousness of the consumers?

Will I be filmed or photographed?

Assignment

- Watch [Wink's video](#) on the CPC – only tenant 3 & 4- during this timeframe: 13:38 -22:27 (9 min)
- Read article below or watch ASL Translation of:

[Sign Language Interpreters: Attire Leaves a First & Lasting Impression](#)

For ASL Translation, [click here](#)
(24 minutes)

- Post your response to the RBS Discussion Prompt on Facebook
- Watch [Scenario # 5](#) (34 seconds) and complete C.T. Assignment in [GoReact](#)
- Read [RBS](#) Ch. 7 for next week's discussion

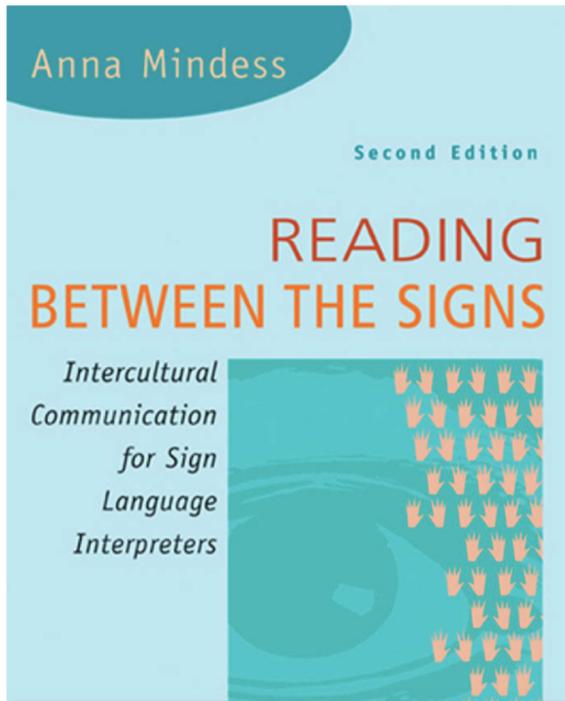
Critical Thinking -RBS

On Facebook, respond to the posted prompt with the hashtags #week7, #RBS

What cultural conventions from chapter 6 do you find appealing? What cultural features or conventions did you find in contrast (or different) from yours?

How might these thoughts or beliefs inform your actions as a sign language interpreter in a multi-cultural setting?

Optional: Have you experienced a multicultural conflict or misunderstanding? If so, what actions were taken to resolve the conflict or misunderstanding?



References:

Mindness, A. (2006). Reading between the signs: Intercultural communication for sign language interpreters. Intercultural Press: Boston, MA.

Preston, P. (1994). *Mother father deaf: Living between sound and silence*. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press.

Simms, L. (2019, May 21). The power of perception: DCARA. [Video file]. Retrieved from <https://youtu.be/gGIDKENVOFU>

Williamson, A. (2012, November 27). The cost of invisibility: Cudas and the sign language interpreting profession [Blog post]. Retrieved from <https://streetleverage.com/2012/11/the-cost-of-invisibility-cudas-and-the-sign-language-interpreting-profession>