[Name of the Writer]

[Name of Instructor]

[Subject]

[Date]

Deaf culture and American Deaf

**Introduction**

Deaf culture is a culture that represents the culture of the people who are deaf. These people belong to the same classification of people in terms of "set of abilities to communicate through signs as well as disabilities" (Knoors). American deaf is a culture that comprises Americans who are deaf or hard to hear and they consider this difference as a culture or logistic identity. This culture is a representation of American Sign Language that is meant to meet the requirement of language that can help such people communicate (Knoors). In fact, American Sign Language is considered as a code to represent the people who are learning sign language to facilitate communication. Deaf culture and American Deaf is a world, a culture and an approach to language that negates the idea of disability with that of differently-abled.

**Discussion**

Deaf culture refers to the culture in which people look at each other while they are communicating. Deaf culture is called a separate culture because it refers to the group of people having alike impairments. Deaf culture is separated by the other people by using a capital “D”, representing significance and importance. There are different behaviors, values, and traditions that are associated with deaf culture. These features are, promoting an environment that can support vision as a prime source of communication. It helps to create value for the children who are deaf by teaching them the use of ASL, along with support for bilingual education for the children so that they can be competent in learning other languages (Center).

Deaf culture can be compared to the American Deaf, sharing the idea that there is a culture of different people, who may lack one ability (hearing) but they learn a lot of other abilities and skills that can help them address the needs of their fellow beings who are like them. However, Deaf culture is a cultural matrix in which different people are taught everything by keeping their difference in consideration. While American Deaf infers the idea that there are very fewer students who are able to learn about humanity as well as the sentiments of others who are like them by studying American Sign language (Knoors).

Deaf culture is compared to American Deaf because both the departments are meant to empower the impaired people in such a way that impaired people can think of themselves as different people rather than disabled people and they can play an equal role in the progress of their society (Center). Deaf Culture, like American deaf, is a motivation that mitigates the idea that the people who cannot hear are the still or useless beings on the Earth, in fact, such people are taught the skills of communication by using sign language and other training programs. The underlying aim of both the cultures is to strive for the significance of language as a source that can fulfill the needs of words. Deaf culture parallel to American deaf aims at breaking down stigmas related to culture. Cultural and identity stigmas are addressed by incorporating those training and sources of skills that can help impair people to achieve the status of a person with good hearing skills (Singer, pp. 98-115). According to one of the Deaf advocates, “When you are deaf, you see the world in an entirely different way. Even, you communicate in a different way and you look for others who are deaf because both of you can understand each other well. You don't agree with the idea that you have a disability and you don’t feel the need of changing it” (Center).

It would not be wrong to say that American Deaf and Deaf culture depicts testimony to the profound possibilities and needs of human beings. In order to help such people, sign language is formulated that is rich enough to let impaired people make a sense of this world by creating meaning out of the signs and symbols. These platforms are a vision to mitigate the idea of being “deaf or hard to hear” that is counted as a disability in today’s society (Singer, pp. 98-115). Under this cultural identity, people with hearing impairment are taught and trained to communicate with each other by using pictures and signs, adhering to the notion that they are better than other people because they consider the significance of eye-contact (Knoors). In a simplified form, this statement reflects the idea that people who are good at hearing do not bother looking at people where eyes are the best communicator, in contrast, deaf people communicate by looking at each other. It also determines that deaf give respect and worth to the people by looking at them and communication is facilitated by using signs and pictures (Singer, pp. 98-115).

**Conclusion**

American Deaf and Deaf culture present culture that defines people with specific impairments as people with some common traits making them representatives of another culture. Both the platforms or visions are meant for standardizing the people who are hard to hear by teaching them to communicate by using sign language. Moreover, deaf people are considered as another culture, because of the ability to communicate with others by using signs. In a nutshell, deaf culture, and American Deaf are empowered by making them realize that they are no less than normal people. In fact, they are better people because they can communicate in a far better way (eye contact and complete attention) as compared to other people.

Work Cited

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