

DEAF CULTURE—Etiquette and Customs

- Eye Contact
- Hugs
- Eavesdropping, walking in between a conversation
- Getting Attention – wave, tap on the shoulder, smacking table, stomps and lights
- Animated discussions, body and facial expressions
- Personal space – near for attention and far to communicate—turn taking
- Directness: Deaf are upfront about appearances
- Many Deaf enjoy time to use ASL with others who are fluent, share experiences and struggles in the hearing world—“Group Consensus”
- Late: “Long Goodbye” due to detailed conversation, “Round Meetings”
- Visiting unannounced

DEAF CULTURE—Values

People who are Deaf value:

ASL
Eyes (rely on vision)
Hands/Signs
Videophone (VP)
Visual/vibrating alerting systems
Video mail
Interpreters
Captioning
Deaf Social Activities

VS

People who can hear value:

Spoken Language
Ears (rely on sound)
Mouth/speech
Telephone
Sound alerting system
Voicemail
Speakers
Dialogue
Social organizations