



INSIDE DEAF CULTURE

By Carol PADDEN, Tom Humphries

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In this absorbing story of the changing life of a community, the authors of *Deaf in America* reveal historical events and forces that have shaped the ways that Deaf people define themselves today. *Inside Deaf Culture* relates Deaf people's search for a voice of their own, and their proud self-discovery and self-description as a flourishing culture.

Padden and Humphries show how the nineteenth-century schools for the deaf, with their denigration of sign language and their insistence on oralist teaching, shaped the lives of Deaf people for generations to come. They describe how Deaf culture and art thrived in mid-twentieth century Deaf clubs and Deaf theatre, and profile controversial contemporary technologies.

Most triumphant is the story of the survival of the rich and complex language American Sign Language, long misunderstood but finally recently recognized by a hearing world that could not conceive of language in a form other than speech. In a moving conclusion, the authors describe their own very different pathways into the Deaf community, and reveal the confidence and anxiety of the people of this tenuous community as it faces the future.

Inside Deaf Culture celebrates the experience of a minority culture--its common past, present debates, and promise for the future. From these pages emerge clear and bold voices, speaking out from inside this once silenced community.

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- Sales Rank: #431498 in eBooks
- Published on: 2009-06-30
- Released on: 2009-06-30
- Format: Kindle eBook

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Editorial Review

Review

This well-organized and clearly written book provides a fascinating inside look at the development of Deaf culture...Padden and Humphries's presentation of these marvelous insights into the history and development of the language and beliefs of the Deaf should be viewed as a welcome step in the quest to inform the hearing world of the rich and fertile culture of the authors' beloved community. (Susan Waltzman *New England Journal of Medicine* 2005-07-28)

Inside Deaf Culture is a fascinating account of the rise of group identity among deaf people...Padden and Humphries shed light on the rise of Deaf schools, social clubs and theaters from the mid-19th to the mid-20th centuries--a history that is unknown to many. (Jeremy Funk *Christian Century* 2006-01-24)

Carol Padden and Tom Humphries have done it again--and readers everywhere should be grateful. Almost twenty years ago, Padden and Humphries helped transform the nascent and promising field of deaf history with their path-breaking and still relevant book, *Deaf in America: Voices From a Culture*. In their current work, Padden and Humphries further explore formative "cultural moments" in the deaf community--what they describe as the generative ideas and influences that shape how deaf people identify themselves...This book is a valuable exploration of the deaf community. (Robert M. Buchanon *American Historical Review*)

Review

With writing remarkable for its grace, simplicity, and clarity, Padden and Humphries hold Deaf culture before our eyes for many faceted inspection. This book will be enormously important to ASL teachers, to teachers of Deaf studies, and to Deaf and hearing people who want to understand the Deaf World. (Harlan Lane, author of *A Journey into the Deaf-World*)

About the Author

Carol Padden is a Professor in the Department of Communication at the University of California, San Diego.

Tom Humphries is associate professor in the Department of Communication and the Teacher Education Program at the University of California, San Diego.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

John Morris:

Information is provisions for those to get better life, information currently can get by anyone at everywhere. The information can be a knowledge or any news even restricted. What people must be consider any time those information which is in the former life are hard to be find than now is taking seriously which one is acceptable to believe or which one the actual resource are convinced. If you have the unstable resource then you have it as your main information you will have huge disadvantage for you. All those possibilities will not happen in you if you take **INSIDE DEAF CULTURE** as the daily resource information.

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