

Deaf Culture Question of the Week - Sept. 14 - 18, 2009 Bill Newell, Principal Washington School for the Deaf

This week the Deaf Culture Question of the Week is not a question at all. But after watching this video you may have questions about what it means to be a Deaf person in America and how Deaf culture and American mainstream culture are integrated in the Deaf individual's identity.

Are Deaf people members of Deaf culture primarily, American mainstream culture primarily, both at the same time? Are there conflicts between Deaf cultural values and American mainstream culture? How do Deaf bilingual/bi-cultural individuals integrate these two cultural systems in their everyday lives?

Amy Cohen Efron (known as ABC), former school psychologist at the Washington School for the Deaf and frequent Vlogger on YouTube and other sites regarding issues in deaf education, Deaf culture etc. posts an interesting Vlog where she examines how Deaf culture and American mainstream culture co-exist in her own identity. Interesting and thought-provoking ASL essay. Hope you will enjoy watching it and if you are a d/Deaf reader of Deaf Culture Question of the Week, maybe it will stimulate your own thinking about living as a bi-cultural individual.

Discussion here or on Amy's Vlog at YouTube is certainly welcomed. This video would be excellent to show to older students especially in Deaf studies classes.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=07MlcjGH7os>

Note: Within this video Amy refers to DVTV (Deaf Video TV) <http://www.deafvideo.tv/> This is a website where there is lively discussion among Deaf people on a variety of issues.