

**List of Terms:
Deaf Community Labels**

deaf- a medical term used to describe a person with a hearing loss

Deaf- the label given to a person with a hearing loss who is a member of the Deaf community (meaning uses ASL to communicate and regularly interacts with other Deaf people)

Hard-of-hearing (HOH) - a label given to a person with a mild to moderate hearing loss; can be both a medical or cultural label

Late-deaf- someone who becomes deaf later in life; can be considered a member of the Deaf community

Hearing/Hearie- a hearing person

Audism- an attitude based on pathological thinking which results in a negative stigma toward anyone who does not hear; like racism or sexism, audism judges, labels, and limits individuals on the basis of whether a person hears and speaks. See examples of audist behavior:

- Asking a Deaf person to lipread you or write when he/she has indicated this isn't preferred
- Refusing to call an interpreter
- Asking a Deaf person to "tone down" their facial expressions because they are making others uncomfortable
- Refusing to explain to a Deaf person why everyone around him is laughing – "never mind, I'll tell you later, it doesn't matter."

Deaf community- the collection of Deaf and hearing people that use American Sign Language to communicate with each other and have the knowledge of the culture of the Deaf World

Deaf World- the label used to describe the "cultural environment" of the Deaf community; often used to describe the behavioral norms that are followed when Deaf people gather together

Deaf House- a home that has been set up with various technological assistance devices to make the home visually rather than auditorily-friendly

Deaf "institute"- a residential school where Deaf students live and go to school; considered by many to be the heart of the Deaf community

Interpreter- a hearing person that facilitates communication between a Deaf person and a hearing person, or a Deaf person that facilitates communication between two Deaf people