

A CASE STUDY OF A YOUNG DEAF MAN'S IDENTITY CONSTRUCTION IN A HEARING FAMILY

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A Research Report

Submitted to the

Faculty of Humanities of the University of the Witwatersrand

in Partial Fulfillment for the Degree of

Masters in Anthropology

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DECLARATION

I hereby declare that this work and ideas contained therein are wholly mine and original

I declare that full referencing and acknowledgements has been done on ideas and thoughts that do not belong to me.

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Abstract

This research report investigates the experience of identity construction of a young Deaf man born into a hearing family in the township of Bluegumbosch, QwaQwa in the Free State Province of South Africa. Through the science of ethnography and an intensive study of a single family unit, focus is given to personal narratives in understanding the impact a Deaf young man has on his hearing family members operating within wider socio-political frameworks.

This research report aims to bridge the gap in the paucity of family-oriented research in a Black township community, and with providing South African mainstream society with an understanding of Deaf children and the manner in which they contemporarily construct their identity, alongside the use and acknowledgement that SASL is a natural and complete language.

Acknowledgements

First and foremost, I want to thank God, the Father of my Lord Jesus Christ for planting a seed of passion in my heart.

I owe my deepest gratitude to my supervisors; *Ms. Caroline Taylor* from the School of Social Science: Department of Anthropology and *Dr. Ruth Morgan* from the School of Literature, Language and Media: Department of South African Sign Language, for their insight, patience, wisdom, and dedication.

To the members of the Anthropology Department: Dr. Gillespie; Prof. Worby; Dr. White and Trinity. Thank you for the various consultations and support.

Thank you to my interlocutors who welcomed me into their home with open arms. I can't thank you enough.

To my mother Violet Setai, thank you for your constant love, silent prayers and wise words of encouragement when I wanted to give up. My sister Palesa Setai, I love you!

A special thank you also to Njeri Tsotetsi. I recall watching you on DTV at a conference in Sweden, stressing the lack of understanding between the Deaf and the hearing world and how hearing parents of Deaf children in South African townships often do not take the initiative to learn South African Sign Language. We've come a long way.

Ms Tanya Granham. Without your specialty, level of professionalism and passion for your work, I would not have realized my potential. A thousand ‘thank-yous’ can’t reach the height of my gratitude.

To my family and friends, *ke lebohile lerato le nneileng*.

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List of Abbreviations

ASA- Association of Social Anthropologists

ASL- American Sign Language

ANC- African National Congress

BSL- British Sign Language

CAPS- Curriculum Applied Policy Statement

CMT- Curriculum Management Team

DEAFSA- Deaf Federation of South Africa

DBE- Department of Basic Education

JSL- Japanese Sign Language

LOLT- Language of Learning and Teaching

NAD- National Association of the Deaf

PGSS- Paget Gorman Signed Speech

SAPA- South African Police Academy

SAPS- South African Police Service

SASA- South African School Act

SASL- South African Sign Language

SGB- School Governing Body

SMG- School Management Group

UK- United Kingdom

USA- United States of America