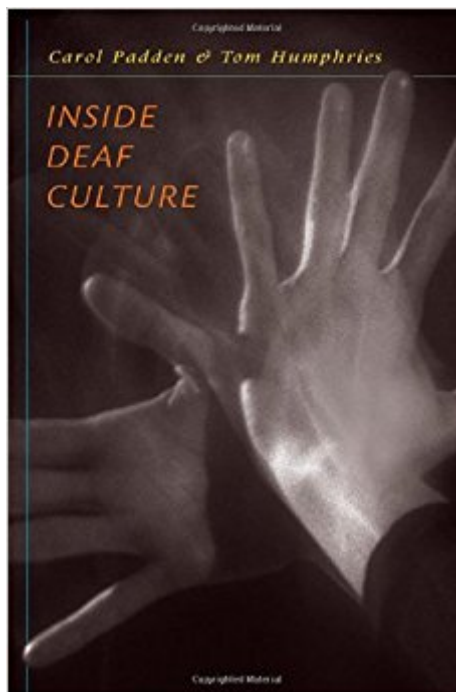


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# Inside Deaf Culture



## Synopsis

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.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

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*) What a bold and courageous book! Carol Padden and Tom Humphries shed light on significant moments in the history of the American Deaf community. They show how struggles for power and dominance have run through their experience for more than a century, from coercive methods of teaching language to efforts of modern science to "correct" and possibly even eliminate deafness--and with it, Deaf culture. (Glenn Anderson, Professor and Director of Training at the University of Arkansas Rehabilitation Research and Training Center for Persons who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing) Inside Deaf Culture is a valuable addition to the growing collection of historical material about the Deaf community in the United States of America. It will add much to a better understanding of who we Deaf people are. (Jack Gannon, author of *Deaf Heritage*) 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*)

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*) --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Very well written, insightful, and thorough. The book gives a very detailed and thoughtful insight of deaf individuals, Deaf Culture and its history in our society and among various classes of people. The book appears to be written with a lot of knowledge and research on the subject of Deaf Culture from two scholarly individuals who are themselves deaf and part of the Deaf Culture. The book is written in an easy flow and understandable manner for anyone who desires to know and learn about Deaf Culture.

One of the basic reads for anyone wanting to learn more about deaf culture. This is a more academically oriented volume by Padden and Humphries, than their earlier "Deaf in America". Covers the topic comprehensively. As good as it is, I am a bigger fan of the less academic and more personal earlier work.

Used as resource for research writing. Great resource! Highly recommended for understanding of the Deaf culture and community. Hearing people should read.

Excellent book to have an initial contact with the Deaf culture. This is an easy-to-read book that introduces us into the Deaf culture. Highly recommended for ASL students.

I loved reading this book. It was really easy to follow and had a lot of insights on the Deaf Clubs of the 1940's-1960's-why they flourished and what led to their demise. The details she gave about how the Deaf Clubs were divided by race was sad but interesting as well. I also found Chapter 2-'An Entirely Separate School' interesting. Many of us in the hearing world may know that there are deaf schools, but many were/are unaware that many deaf were separated from each other by race and all the issues that went along with that. If you are trying to understand Deaf Culture this is a good book to pick up.

An thoughtful and important update on their 1990 book "Inside Deaf Culture". Highly recommend this book.

It explains in depth to the hearing person what the needs of the deaf person are and how these needs are met by laws. The book holds the reader's attention, giving understanding of the deaf culture. It makes me want to find more authors who have researched the deaf culture.

Very educational and eye opening!

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