FINAL PAPER

Student’s name

Professor’s name

Class

Date

**Final Paper**

**7. Explain why many Deaf people are opposed to the use of Cochlear Implants.**

Cochlear plants are medical plants implanted on deaf people to help them in hearing, and through them, they can quickly be involved in oral communication with other persons. Although to some deaf people, cochlear plants have been beneficial to them, many of them oppose their use due to their adverse effects. Some of the potential benefits include increasing the hearing potential of deaf persons. However, deaf people have been against cochlear plants because they seem like a form of discrimination and racism to them. According to deaf people, they should accept their condition and look for alternative and unharmful measures to improve their situation.

In most cases, cochlear plants enhance the easy identification of deaf people in society, which is likely to result in discrimination (Dilley et al. 2020). There have been many reported cases of neglect of people with disabilities like those with hearing impairments. Hence, with such implants, deaf people get known easily in the community, increasing the potential of their stigmatization.

Furthermore, specific adverse medical effects arise from the use of the cochlear plants on deaf persons, which leads to them opposing their use. For instance, the use of cochlear plants on deaf people is likely to destroy any potential hearing ability (Muzaffar, Monksfield & Bance, 2020). This is because it eliminates the hearing structures in the ears, which offer a little hearing ability to the deaf person. According to medical professionals, once such structures are destroyed, deaf persons lose their hearing ability permanently. Consequently, the person cannot 'convert back' to the initial hearing state in the future, which is an excellent health condition. This means that if a deaf person begins using cochlear implants, he has to use them for the rest of his life which is very expensive. Also, cochlear implants may cause meningitis to the deaf person since the bacteria causing meningitis moves to the brain through the inner ear. Therefore, cochlear implants adversely affect deaf persons; hence they hugely oppose them.

**11. Discuss the topic of employment and/or the lack of it among deaf people**

Lack of employment and inadequate employment opportunities are some of the problems faced by deaf people. In most cases, deaf people face discrimination during the job recruitment process in that the management may seek to hire only physically fit workers. For instance, a deaf person might apply for a job, get shortlisted for interviews but, on presenting himself, fail to get the job due to his physical disability. Most of these deaf persons are well-educated and have adequate job skills making them fit for employment. However, they get discriminated against while trying to get jobs since only a few organizations accept deaf workers in their workplaces. Also, the already employed deaf people face a lot of discrimination from their workmates and the higher authority at the workplace. In most cases, deaf people face unequal treatment from their employers and managers (Belknap, Korwin & Long, 2021). For instance, they can be paid lower salaries compared to the other workers and also, they are not considered in case of promotions.

Based on this, the deaf workers face discrimination, hence losing their positive self-esteem and morale towards work. Such people also require empathy and help from the other workers, which they are less likely to get. The deaf workers get a lot of disappointments at the workplace, which discourages them from working; the other workers can also neglect them by lacking friends to talk to and a social group to belong to. In other cases, many deaf persons lose their chance of employment during the recruitment if they lack an American Sign Language Interpreter (Young, Oram & Napier, 2019). Deaf people, therefore, require support and empowerment to access jobs; otherwise, based on the current discrimination, many will suffer due to unemployment and discriminative work practices.

**13. In what ways has technology been a benefit and detriment for Deaf and Hard Hearing people?**

Technological advancements have been of significant impact on the deaf and hard-of-hearing people. At first, with the introduction of the telephone, deaf people got neglected in society because it only favored people without hearing impairments. Deaf persons could not make phone calls, and therefore, it became hard for them to communicate. Also, while the other people would make a phone call and pass the message within a short period, the deaf people would travel to distant places to directly communicate with the other party. In this case, the invention of the telephone did not benefit deaf persons unless they used other people to make phone calls on their behalf. Also, if the ability to make phone cases was one of the requirements for a job, deaf people could not fit it.

Consequently, many deaf persons could not access such jobs; they remained unemployed hence inability to meet their daily needs. The deaf people also could not fit for the promotions for their jobs since they could not make phone calls, therefore discrimination (Kafle, Yeung & Huenerfauth, 2019). However, with time the 'telecommunications device for the deaf' was invented by Robert Weitbrecht in 1964, which helped deaf persons make phone calls. Based on this device, deaf people could easily share information with other parties such as friends; hence it eased their communication. Cochlear plants on the deaf to enhance their hearing ability is also much debated based on their benefit and disadvantages. Although the implants help deaf people hear, they also harm their health by destroying their hearing ability. Through technology also, deaf people get to access education, gain skills, and get employed. Therefore, technology has both beneficial and harmful effects on the deaf, which is still debatable.

**15. Give a brief biography of an American Deaf artist who is/was well-known among the general art-loving public.**

  Chuck Baird is one of the American Deaf Artists who was well-known among the public arts loving public. He was born deaf in 1947 in Kansas City and had three older sisters who were also deaf, but the parents had no hearing problems. Analysis indicates that Chuck Baird's father was a mechanic, with his mother being a housewife who also served as a red-cross nurse in the military. Chuck Baird went to school at the Kansas School of the Deaf, where he graduated in 1967 with education arts. He then got enrolled at Gallaudet University, but he later transferred to the Rochester Institute of Technology. In this university, Chuck graduated with a BFA in painting back in 1974 and after joined the National Theatre of the Deaf with him playing four games.

However, Baird left the team and focused on his passion for the arts. He also joined the NTID drama club, where he was awarded as the best actor in 1974. Baird further joined the National Theatre of the Deaf in 1980, where he served for ten years, and he is remembered as the 'King of hearts' for painting most of the sets while serving as a designer and painter in the theatre. Mr. Baird is also remembered for creating Deaf View Image Arts (De’VIA) among the other seven artists (Naturale, 2016). In this case, the artists shared their experiences as deaf people and shaped their artworks by their condition. Baird has his artworks recognized in *Deaf Artists in America: Colonial to Contemporary* by Deborah M. Sonnenstrahl. He is also remembered as one of the artists in the first deaf world to play a significant role in fighting for the rights of deaf people. Chuck Baird later died in 2012 after serving 35 years in arts and being a painter, storyteller, and teacher. Therefore, Baird is one of the known American deaf artists who is celebrated for his works.

**References**

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