

Deaf Interpreters: Shaping the Future of the Sign Language Interpreting Profession

Eileen Forestal, PhD, RSC



Street Leverage

#iamleverage

Historical perspectives

- Earliest documentation of Deaf persons working as interpreters
- Beginnings
- Evolution and emergence of a profession as Deaf interpreters



Street Leverage

#iamleverage

“Historically, hearing interpreters have been making decisions about interpreting by themselves” (Forestal, 2014, p. 35).



Street Leverage

#iamleverage

- A demanding presence of Deaf perspective
- Emergence of Deaf interpreters
- Socio-cognitive lenses
- A shifting postionality (Cokely, 2005)



Street Leverage

#iamleverage

“Community-based” interpreting model

(Bartley & Stone, 2008)

VS.

“Mainstream” Interpreting model



Street Leverage

#iamleverage

Reclaiming the

“Deaf Interpreter norm”



Street Leverage

#iamleverage