

# Sign Language Interpreters: Practicing with a Socially Conscious Approach

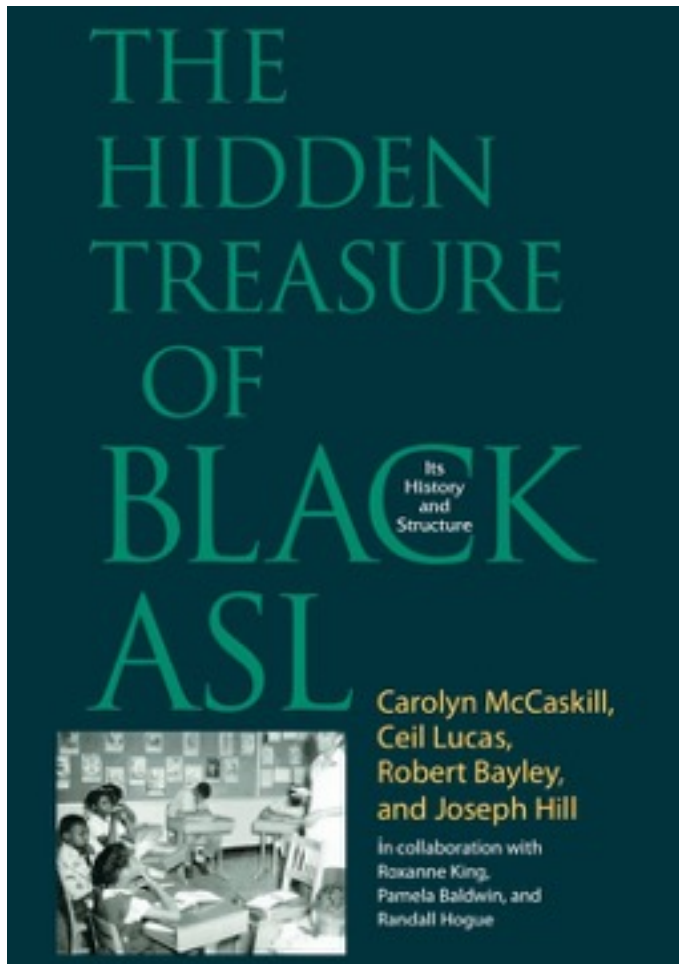
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# The History Structure of Black ASL

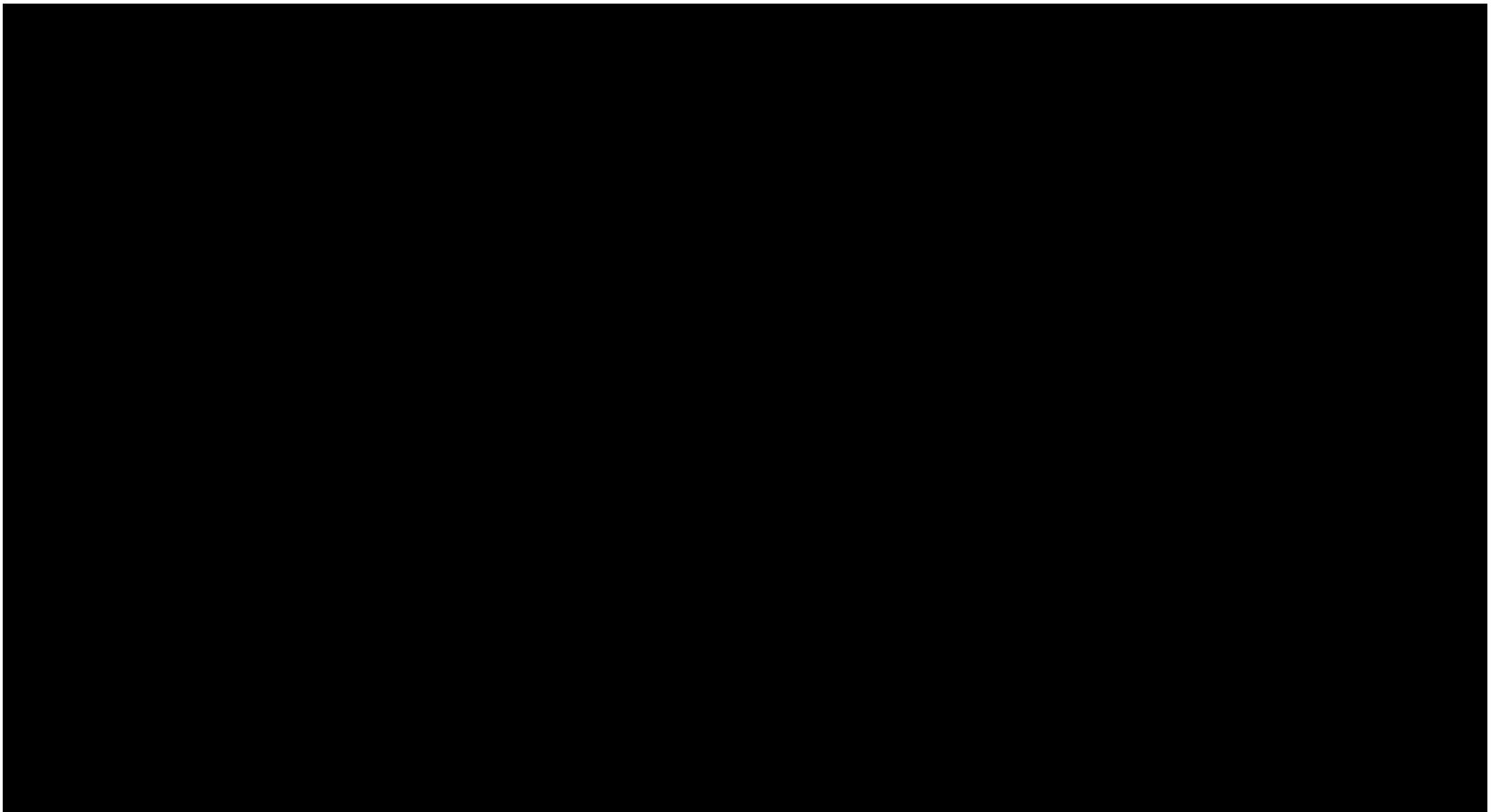


- Chronicle the **history** of the education of Black Deaf children during the segregation era.
- Create a filmed corpus of conversational (vernacular) Black ASL as it is used in **the South**.
- Provide a **description** of the linguistic features that make Black ASL recognizable as a distinct variety of ASL (e.g. greater use of 2-handed signs, larger signing space).
- Disseminate the findings in the form of **teaching materials and instruction resources**.

# RID Membership Demographics

Gender		Number of Members (those who reported)
Female		8,958
Male		1,294
Ethnic Origin	Number of Members (Reported to the survey)	Percentage
Euro-American/White	8,197	87.71%
African American/Black	443	4.7%
Hispanic/Latino(a)	374	4%
Asian American/Pacific Islander	171	1.82%
American Indian/Alaskan Native	81	0.86%
Other	79	0.84%
<i>Total: 9,354 (out of 16,004 members)</i>		

# Black Deaf Consumer's Perspective about Interpreters



Video from *NCIEC Social Justice Education Infusion Module* developed by  
Drs. Dave Coyne and Joseph Hill



# Social Consciousness

- A critical awareness of people's roles (including *ours*) in the reality of social, economic, political, and structural disparities.

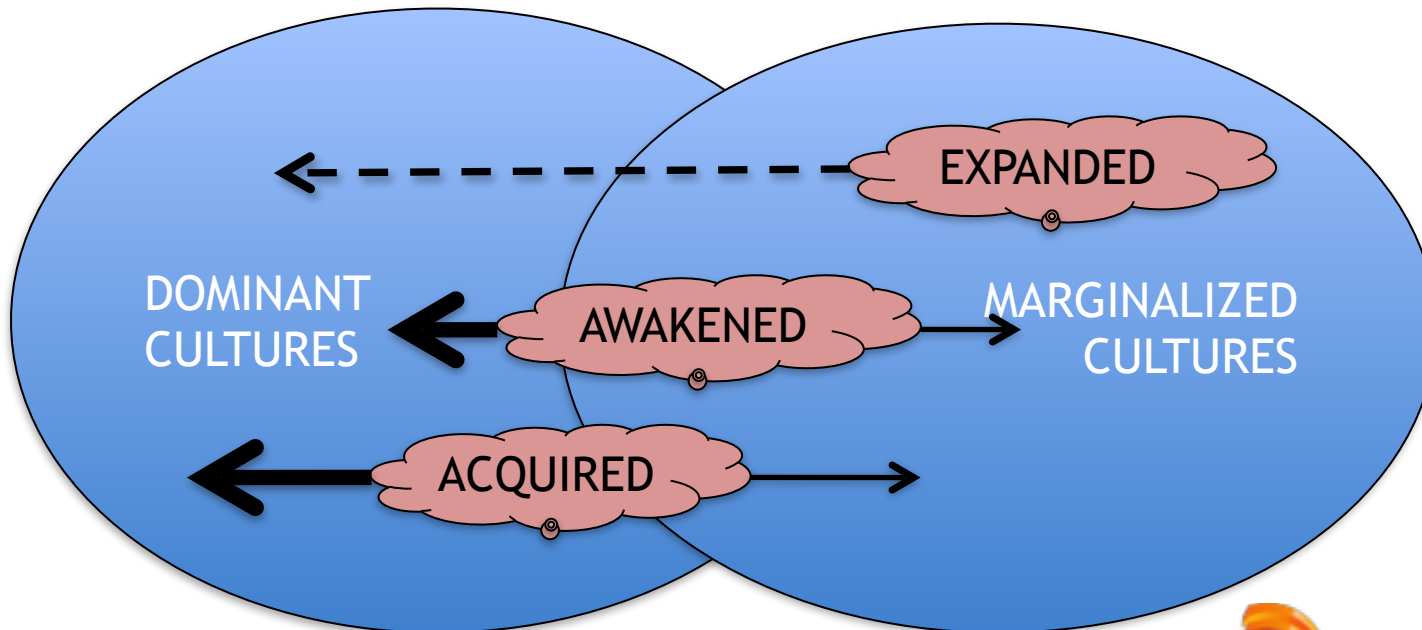


Image modified from Lynne S. Giddings, 2005. "A theoretical model of social consciousness." *Advances in Nursing Science*, 28(3), pp. 224-239.

# Comfortable being uncomfortable

Excerpts from Mellody Hobson (March 2014),  
“*Color blind or color brave?*”, TED talks

- “In my view, color blindness is very dangerous because it means we’re ignoring the problem.”
- “So I think it's time for us to be comfortable with the uncomfortable conversation about race: black, white, Asian, Hispanic, male, female, all of us, if we truly believe in equal rights and equal opportunity in America, I think we have to have *real conversations about this issue.*”

# Be Open, Lean In, Dig Deep.

- In order to change, we have to...
  - be willing to be vulnerable.
  - examine our relationships with stakeholders, professionals, and consumers.
  - recognize our roles in perpetuating the disparities.
  - witness the multiple realities and stories among us.
  - engage in a dialogue and accept it as an effective form of action.
- Real conversations can create changes.



Street Leverage

*We Are Change.*