

**Tinig ng Kamay: Communication Patterns of Selected Deaf
Respondents on Building and Maintaining Relationships: A Case
Study**

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by

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ABSTRACT

This study shows the different communication patterns used by selected deaf respondents in building and maintaining relationships through socialization. Deaf use communication in their daily lives in order to be understood and be able to build and maintain relationship with other people even though with a different degree of difficulty. The researchers chose five (5) deaf respondents to represent different aspects such as family, church, work, school and community. The researchers are after the deaf participants' interactions and this study is not limited to romantic relationship. The researchers' objective is to let the deaf community here in the Philippines and even around the world to be heard.

The study presents that sign language is the main communication tool that almost all of the deaf participants are using. But even though they have knowledge on ASL, their way of communicating adjusts on the environment and people they socialize with. Another way a deaf communicates with other people is through writing. It has found out that deaf use different communication patterns depending to the people they socialize with and their knowledge about sign language. The researchers conclude that these deaf participants use manual communication such as ASL (American Sign Language) and FSL (Filipino Sign Language),

except for the deaf participant from the family aspect where she uses expressive communication aids because her family does not know how to use sign language. Deaf disclose themselves more to other people when they are comfortable communicating with them using sign language as their communication tool, that is why they are limited in communicating with other people especially the hearing ones.

The researchers recommend for the future researchers to look into and focus on one of these concepts: Filipino Sign Language, English Sign Language, Deaf in a Family, Oppression of Deaf, and Difference in Communication Pattern of Filipino Deaf with a Specific Country. It is also recommended that they can expand their research locale for the present study is limited at Cavite and Manila. Semiotics Theory is also one of the suggested theory to apply in studying deaf people. Other methods are also suggested such as survey, ethnography, experiment, and theory construction.