**Transcription of Data collection**

**INTERVIEWS**

**Parents interviews**

**Parent A**

*1) .interviewer* *: How did you discover that the boy is Deaf?*

*2 )interviewee : OK he was not born Deaf at all, he was normally born , and when he was six*

*Months…*

*3) interviewer : Ok, so when he was born he was normal?*

*4) interviewee : Yes, everything hearing like everything was normal and when he was six months*

*He was diagnosed with nuemacoco menengitis.*

*5) interviewer :ok……… so when he was six months? And then…..ok*

*6) interviewee : yes, and because of the side effect of the nuemacoco menengitis.*

*7) interviewer : and then from then he just became completely Deaf?*

*8) interviewee : Yes*

*9) interviewer : so he couldn’t hear anything ?*

*10) interviewee : Yes*

*11) interviewer : and was it that time when he was taking treatment?*

*12) interviewee : NO! Ehh…. When he was in hospital, Ok… we were not here in Pretoria when it*

*Happened,we were on vacation. And so then he got sick and then he was in hospital*

*He was diagnosed with the menengitis. And when we came back home Pretoria he*

*Got sick again and was admitted to hospital while he still receives his treatment for*

*pneumococcal menengitis.*

*14) interviewer : Ok.. ohk*

*15) interviewee : And then what happened is that after he completed his treatment in hospital,*

*when He got out of hospital, hmhmh so they took some tests for the side effects for*

*the Menengitis, and with the tests they have done eye test, brain scans, CT scans,*

*an brain wave test as well like I said. And the last test they have done was for hearing*

*and it was then when they picked it up that there was a problem with hearing.*

*16) interviewer : And that time how old was He?*

*17) interviewee : He was seven months.*

*18) interviewer : Ok.*

*19) interviewee : He was seven months old.*

*20) interviewer : and then after you discovered that he is Deaf, a what was the next step that you*

*took as a parent?*

*21) interviewee : Well.. emotionally we were devastated umh… Because , first is that you are*

*Indenial, because how could this happen to me, and this can’t be, all these emotional*

*Fluctuation and uhhm I told my husband that let me take him for a second opinion.*

*And then I went to hospital with my son for the second opinion just to make sure. And*

*Then it was the same diagnose ‘’sorry your child is Deaf’’, so I said no way this can’t be*

*True at all, So I took him For the third opinion and then I have to start to accept now*

*22) interviewer : Ja ne! You really wanted to make sure*

*23) interviewee : Ja, because you going in denial I mean its like Wow!*

*24) interviewer : Ya, I understand the devastation you went through.*

*25) interviewee : So ya you become devastated like tjo! You never expect that.*

*26) interviewer : But is there any history maybe in the family on your side or of your hubby*

*27) interviewee : No!*

*28) interviewer : so it was the first one with the boy?*

*29) interviwee : Yes, he was the first one in the whole family that is Deaf.*

*30) interviewer : Because you find that to some it is genes maybe there was a granny years ago.*

*31) interviewee : No. not at all! that’s why we were so devastated, that’s why we couldn’t*

*Understand But how and why.*

*32) interviewer : like why us?*

*33) interviewee : Ya, and why us why us (giggling)*

*34) interviewer : Ya, no I understand the devastation.*

*35) interviewee : ARGHHH.. but then again when he was starting to get older and you accepting and*

*When the dust starts to settle down. And then think of you know what sink or swim I*

*Rather swim than I sink, so….*

*36) interviewer : you said no genes right?*

*37) interviewee : No.*

38) interviewer : and then from there when he started growing, you know a child you have to do

A Communication with him, how did you communicate with him?

*39) interviewee : When he was 8 months 7 months when he was 8 months all of the blue out of*

*The blue just all of a sudden just all out of the blue, we got a call from this professor from*

*South Afrikaans hospital and he told us that he is doing cochlear implant, and we didn’t*

*Know and so we said Ok let just go and find the professor we don’t even know what this*

*Looks like but let us just go and hear what this guy has to say. So we went there and he*

*Explained to us everything how it works, how it looks like, how expensive it is.*

*40) )interviewer : Ok.*

*41) interviewee : So we said let us do our duty as parents let us do our duty as human beings, if I can*

*Give my child a second chance to hear then let me do that, and that’s is why he has*

*Got bi literal cochlear implant.*

*42) Interviewer : how old was he when he was given the first cochlear implants?*

*43) interviewee : He was 10 months, for the one side and when he was 13 months old they did the*

*Other side.*

*44) interviewer : And then after the implantation, was he able to hear a little bit or*

*45) interviewee : Well at the beginning it was very confusing for me as a parent, because when he*

*Spoke and hear, does he recognise his name you know the child when you speak they*

*Head follow now that is confusing why, is he listening to you or is he following the*

*Movement that was confusing to us*

*46) interviewer : but does he grow from one year to two years?*

*47) interviewee : YES, then you can start to see the difference. Yes, even when you call his name he*

*Or just say his name Starts to look around. But that is still confusing because you are*

*Not sure if he can really recognise his name, does he really recognise his name and it*

*It all about repeating one thing over and over just to get the language settlement so*

*That the foundation of the language can be settled down.*

*48) Interviewer : and at home which language are you using is it Afrikaans or English?*

*49) interviewee : Well this is really starting to be interesting We speak to him in Afrikaans at home*

*but Here at school is language of learning is English in p*artner with sign language but at

*Home we speak Afrikaans.*

*50) interviewer : Complete Afrikaans?*

*60) interviewee : Not a complete Afrikaans, when we see that he struggles to understand something*

*Then we will repeat again in English and then he will show he understands but for the*

*Rest of the time we speak Afrikaans.*

*71) interviewer : and then when you engage with him are you supposed to be direct to him or you*

*Can talk from far away?*

*72) interviewee : No I can talk to him from far away he can be in his room I can maybe in the*

*Kitchen And maybe I can ask him” Michael are you alright?’’ Ya sharp sharp. No you*

*Don’t Have to sign.*

*73) interviewer : but does he also use sign language?*

*74) interviewee : Yes he does.*

*75) interviewer : He completely understands it?*

*76) interviewee : Yes!*

*77) interviewer : and then you as parents you also know sign language?*

*78) interviewee : Yes!*

*79) interviewer : like mommy and daddy?*

*80) interviewee : Yes!*

*81) interviewer : So when you are home you speak Afrikaans and English do you also maybe sign*?

*82) interviewer : Yes. what happens is, if he doesn’t understand a word and then he will look you*

*This and then he will show you ahh ahhh… sign then you will sign quickly and he will*

*Show you yah I understand and then he will answer you. So there comes a total*

*Communication, there is total communication*

*83) interviewer : so it means it is almost like three languages that you use at home?*

*84) interviewee : Yes 3in 1.*

*85) interviewer : yes 3in 1*

*86) interviewee : You see for me as a parent the main thing is just as long there is open*

*communication And that there is mutual understanding between parent and a child*

*and vice versa.*

*87) interviewer : and then at what age did you take him to school? Like a crèche or*

*88) interviewee : OK NO After his cochlear implant, the system the cochlear whole unit system,*

*they Recommended that we must take him to a private school there in Queenwood*

*school And it is a private school that caters for children with cochlear implant and also*

*Normal hearing students. But after a while I saw that he struggles with language*

*with Because at this school they are not allowed to use sign language.*

*89) interviewer : there?*

*90) interviewee : Yes so I could see that this is really starting to frustrates Michael,so I said you know*

*what I am going to settle his problems in future especially with language especially with*

*Total communication, ah I am going to take him out from this school and I am going to*

*Search a school that suits him because the school must suit him not him with the school.*

*91) interviewer: Ok. Yes, so in that school it is children with cochlear implant only?*

*92) interviewee : No No. and hearing they are mixed together.*

*93) interviewer : so for kids especially for children like Michael were they providing extra support?*

*94) interviewee : Yes they call it parental guidance but for me the word parental guidance what we*

*haveThought as parents as me a mother what I have thought is that they gonna give*

*me Guidance like emotional guidance, what I am going to expect next with yourself as*

*Parents, what are you going to look out for next as a parent and is not like that,they only*

*Tell you the next stage that your child is going through,not a stage of what a parent is*

*Going through.*

*95) interviewer : so it is vice versa actually?*

*96) interviewee : It supposed to be vice versa actually cause everyone is thinking about the child th*

*Child, what about the parent?*

*97) interviewer : was he doing crèche that time?*

*98) interviewee : Yes it was crèche.*

*99) intervieweer : so when you moved him to Transoranje was he supposed to do like which grade*

*Or still Crèche?*

*100) interviewee : NO, No he was still going to do crèche , but what they did was to start him on a*

*Language so that he can understand. They took him to a lower level of sign language*

*So that he learns the basics so that he could just catch up with the communication.*

*101) interviewer : so when he started a new crèche here and having to adapt to sign language,is there any*

*Support that was given to you as parents?*

*102) interviewee : A lot from this school a lot I must be a number fan as a parent because everybody*

*here Is understanding everybody is helpful and everybody really they advise you can ask*

*them Anything about everything. These people here they are so open with advise and help.*

*103) interviewer : and then they also when you arrive here, were there any classes that were conducted*

*For parents to learn sign language?*

*104) interviewee : Yes.*

*105) interviewer : is it the same for instance he is creche then the basics were you also attending as*

*Parents in learning the basics?*

*106) interviewee : Yes. We made an effort to do that, what we actually did we made it our own littl*

*Personal competition why because I cannot allow that my child is too steeps in front of me*

*With language and I am like what are you saying what do you want to tell me, you know so.*

*107) interviewer : it is better when are as a parent a bit far with sign language so that you can*

*Support him*

*108) interviewee : Exactly tjo!*

*109) interviewer : Ja, no I understand…..But when he started learning it was there any amusement*

*from Him that he is enjoying this.*

*110) interviewee : OH, Yes a lot of humour a lot of humour and you know why? You have to be open*

*minded About this you have to be to have a little bit of humour why,if you going to be what is*

*that Word you know if he is not enjoying learning it you are going to have trouble.*

*111) interviewer : so along the process of learning parent and the child learning sign language there*

*must Be a lot of humour and fun so that the child won’t feel frustrated.*

*112) interviewee : Yes,oh Yes. Serious that is the word I am looking for you don’t have to be serious*

*cause You will have trouble.*

*113) interviewer: so when he started learning and the next Grade 1 now he continued learning sign*

*Language as a subject right?*

*114) interviewee : Yes.*

*115) interviewer : so were you also still learning sign language going along with his Grade 1 level/*

*116) interviewee : Yes, when he was doing Grade 1 I started working here at the school.*

*117) interviewer : Ok.*

*118) interviewee : Then every year the university of Witwatersrand let me say every second year the*

*University come here at the school and then we did formal sign language courses,because*

*So that we are on standard.*

*119) interviewer : so the Witwatersrand were coming to support parents? In sign language?*

*120) interviewer : No, it is not parents but to support the staff but there are extra classes but they*

*Do it Once in a week.*

*121) interviewee : and then with his progress of learning how is he? do you find him struggling*

*Maybe or He is just good with everything? Learning other subjects and sign language and*

*Afrikaans Because he uses three languages at home.*

*122) Interviewee : Ok here at school, they don’t have uhhm they starting to phase Afrikaans out so*

*that’s Why we felt we are so feeling it is important for him language wise to go on with*

*English Because when he must go out of school the whole world is English even*

*with Maths it is English but he is good in Maths he is very good in Maths but when it*

*comes to language like*

*Writing he struggles a little bit with spelling but that is also normal for any child to actually*

*Just to struggle a bit……*

*123) interviewer : with grammar…*

*124) interviewee : Yes, yes. But otherwise he is fine at school.*

*125) interviewer : and then with the language because there is one for sign language and the one like*

*The one we normal use like now, and then which one he uses mostly? Is it the normal*

*One or the one for sign language?*

*126) interviewee : no it is the normal formal language that they use ,Yes.*

*127) interviewer : because some they prefer to use the one for sign language.*

*128) Parent A : Yes, because it is shorter…… yes*

*130) interviewer : yes because it doesn’t have many vocabulary.*

*131) interviewee : Yes.*

*132) interviewer : he is in Grade 6 now right?*

*133) interviewee : Yes*

*134) interviewer : Ok. And then when you discovered that he is having a problem of hearing how did*

*Family besides you and your husband, the other family members how did they feel about*

*It? Were they accommodative or a bit reluctant?*

*135) interviewee : well that is really an interesting question. We from our parents’ side and my inlaws*

*Had a wonderful wonderful support because yes they also didn’t knew what was going to*

*Happen what’s next everybody was dumbstruck because you don’t know what is going to*

*Happen next, and in that way you support each other as you can or how you can.*

*136) interviewer : no. I understand that because everyone was their first experience with this, ok let*

*us Let us see what’s next let us do it let us go to the next step and from there onward they*

*Learn as it goes on.*

*137) interviewee : Because that’s the only way that you can handle it the only way that you can do it*

*take Everyday step by step.*

*138) interviewer : How is he now as you have mentioned that he was diagnosed with meningitis?*

*139) interviewee: He is fine everything, he didn’t have side effects or whatsoever just he became Deaf*

*that All.*

*140) interviewer : and then the other family like the grannies are they able to talk or they speak to*

*him In which language or they also mix?*

*141) interviewee : No they only talk Afrikaans with him because it was so interesting they don’t*

*Understand sign language. The support system is very very good.*

*142) interviewer: you know once when you look at you guys sign you would think that it is very easy*

*and You like wow I wish I could sign like this. It looks very easy*

*143) interviewee : Yes but it is very difficult at the beginning it is very difficult why because the*

*hands are Moving so fast when you think you going to blink just blink and then you lost it*

*like that You lost the whole conversation that’s why I am saying at the end there must be*

*humour.*

*144) interviewer : hmhm……. Yes in the process of learning there must be humour all around.*

*145) interviewee : Otherwise you can’t be serious like all the time you have to take it lightly.*

*146) interviewer : mhhm….. ok and then I suppose you are good because you also good in sign*

*Language so there are no struggles in supporting Michael?*

*147 )interviewee : NO struggles also with my line of work I have to be on standard because I also*

*A hostile mother so I am with the children everyday like the whole day and you learn*

*More yes you are never old to learn anything new so yes.*

*148) interviewer : ok so it make things to be easy. And then with emotions how is he how does he*

*feel Sometimes is he moody maybe or*

*149) interviewee : HMH.. he is in the stage right now like he feels he want to be lonely in his phone*

*Cause now he is 13years old he is a teen now yes so he* is in that stage where he want

To be left alone and whatapp.

*150) interviewer : and the stage of indepedance,Does he has any hearing friends?*

*151) interviewee : No not really the he only has Deaf friends, he is not even interested in hearing*

*friends Of which I feel its normal because it is not even his type of people he is used to you*

*Know.*

*152) interviewer : I think with the issue of that I don’t hear them and they don’t understand me so*

*why Must I bother myself.*

*153) interviewee : YES YES because I already have friends.*

*154) interviewer : Ja No I understand that one, so Transoranje is from creche to Grade 12 right?*

*155) interviewee : Yes*

*156) interviewer : so meaning he is sorted he will just be here until he finishes/*

*157) interviewee : Yes*

*158) interviewer : and then with the issue of you know I have seen on the research that they are very*

*few Deaf students who enrol at university, what could be the impact on that? Like here*

*You have Grade 12 do they come and do orientation on careers on learners?*

*159) interviewee : yes they do but it is their decision you know I think most of the Deaf students*

*prefer To go to the university of Witwatersrand where they would feel accommodated,*

*that’s Why you won’t find them in other universities.*

*160) interviewer : Oh yes I remember when I was doing sign language at Wits La*nguage School SASL

*LEVEL 1A the basic so I still have to go back and complete the course,so we were taught*

*By Deaf students, and I was wondering that if is it the level of requirement they cannot*

*Meet or they are not accommodated or so...*

*161) interviewee : I think also that they do a total different curriculum the level not only to Deaf*

*schools But LSEN schools I think the level of the curriculum they are doing its not in normal*

*Or in standard with universities. I personally think that.*

*162) interviewer : I also think YAH it is not the same but at the same time I feel like they need to*

*Accommodate because they know they cannot weigh them the same way they do with*

*Ordinary schools.*

*163) interviewee : But you know there is college in Boaster that is also accommodating Deaf*

*students They go there yes.*

*164) interviewer : so when Michael speak is the voice normal with the implant?*

*165) interviewee : OH Yes it is normal remember the cochlear implant accommodates for the*

*sound.*

*166) interviewer : oh ok because you know with the implant I thought maybe he might speak so low*

*or So loud.*

*167) interviewee: yes softly or loudly because they have to hear themselves so with Michael it is a*

*Normal voice.*

*168) interviewer : so with the implant are you supposed to change them after a certain time or they*

*are Permanent?*

*169) interviewee : OK What is underneath the skin is permanent but what is outside* depends on

the *Medical aid affordability usually changed after 3 years depends on the device type.*

*170) Interviewer : because I remember with the other parent I was interviewing Oratile’s parent she*

*told Me that they need to be changed after 3 years.*

*171) interviewee : It all depends on the medical aid that it must be changed be upgraded maybe to*

*a new Device but cochlear implant is more expensive so it can cost more than R100 000,*

*So some of the things like batteries a medical aid doesn’t cover for that depending if*

*You bought the rechargeable implants or the one that uses the battery.*

*178) interviewer : so it is much better to buy the rechargeable implants? Right and when the*

*implants Are off can Michael hear anything?*

*179) interviewee : Yes it is better to buy rechargeable ones it costs around R5000, No when they*

*are off he Cannot hear That’s why we charge them during the night when he is asleep.*

*180) interviewer : tjo they are very expensive so everything is expensive.*

*interviewee : Yes it is because it is not a South African products that’s why so I wish they can make it*

*Local.*

*interviewer : m… it will be much cheaper.*

*interviewee : Yes I wish really they can make it local so that we can buy local.*

*interviewer : so it means that the parents who cannot afford to do or buy that it becomes a real*

*Struggle who cannot buy anything.*

*interviewee : Yes it is nothing and it put a very big big financial strain on a parent.*

*interviewer : so when they had to implant him I heard you said even on the inside there was an*

*Operation done.*

*interviewee : Yes the operation is four to six hours on one ear just to put the implants in it is a very*

*Big operation that they do.*

*interviewer : so you agree with me when I say at the same time raising a child who is Deaf* is very

Expensive?

*interviewee : 100% Agree because it is a financial burden and it is not the child’s fault or the parents*

*The parents fault so yes there is a financial burden it is I will not even be afraid to say*

*That.*

*interviewer : yes it is when you talk about R150 000 it is a lot. But when you go to go lets say you not*

*Using medical aid is there such?*

*interviewee : There is assistance but it also fall more on a parent because you have to get people*

*To donate collect money in the whole process involves money lot of it.*

*interviewer: so it means you just decided that you know what let me die once and put him the*

*Implants and I am paying this money? And only pay battrey. So it means if he wasn’t*

*Put these implants he would be using a complete sign language?*

*interviewee : YES*

*interviewer : so every time when he is asleep do you take them off or he takes them off by himself?*

*interviewee : NO He takes them off by himself even when he takes a bath he does take them off.*

*interviewer : isn’t not good that he can sleep with them incase he hears something?*

*Interviewee : No it is not good because inside the implants there are small small small wires and if*

*that Breaks it is a problem so there are risks involved.*

*interviewer : so is he fluent in sign language? In Afrikaans or just sign language?*

*interviewee : Remember he doesn’t speak sentences remember Deaf people don’t speak in sentences*

*They only say in short sentences like man walk road it is only short words which makes*

*The sentence but yes he is fluent in sign language and he is fluent in Afrikaans just*

*Remember there is a difference with sentence structure.*

*interviewer : Yes yes.*

*interviewer : can he also writes in Afrikaans or*

*interviewee : No only in English and spelling is also just English yes.*

*interviewer : so he only speaks Afrikaans but when it comes to writing it is English.*

*interviewee : YES even on reading he uses English.*

*interviewer : And how is his behaviour is he naughty or.. just how is he*

*interviewee : WOW he likes to play pranks maybe there is a sign that you couldn’t remember,so he*

*Would show you something just to see if you still remember it in sign language, he*

*Would stand next to the corner and show you something just to see if you still*

*Remember.*

*interviewer : so he likes jokes…*

*interviewee : YES He likes jokes very very much. You know I think that just because he like jokes I*

*think He has personally accepted himself with who he is but he has accepted himself.*

*interviewer : I think he also accepted himself because of your support from the beginning till now so*

*He feels that because my mom can sign with me and my dad can sign so we are all the*

*Same. He doesn’t fell that there is a gap between you as parents or treat him different*

*Just because he has an implant and someone who is unique he feels accommodated.*

*interviewee: Yes*

*interviewer: I think that helps a lot once the child has been accepted by his family because they feel*

*Loved they feel accommodated in a way that they don’t see a need for them to go*

*Around and try to make friends with people who are hearing because they know at*

*Home they get everything.*

*interviewee : Yes. And at school as well because they know they get all the support even at school*

*And they know their friends are here at school.*

*283) interviewer : Does he participate in any sport?*

*284) interviewee : Well he is not actually the sporty type but he did like soccer last year he played*

*soccer For the school and ok that is before the pandemic that has strike us he played*

*soccer last year.*

*285) interviewer : and then when it comes to when they children have to come and play soccer, with*

*Deaf learners is it the same rules like using the whistle etc.*

*286) interviewee : No it is the same because you find that it is an LSEN school against another LSEN*

*school with hearing kids, you see when it comes to team work they play very well. Then*

*you must see these kids*

*287) interviewer: so when you are in the field as a coach you still have to use sign language?*

*288) interviewee: Yes they also use sign language with each other with their team mate, that’s*

*why I am saying go and experience.*

*289) interviewer: Ya I need to see*

*290) interviewee : You must go and see it is an experience.*

*291) interviewer: I am sure with the hearing team they will be amazed with how they Deaf are*

*Communicating.*

*292) interviewee : Yes it’s like a secret code*

*293) interviewer: even when they are gossiping about them the hearing they can’t see because they*

*Don’t understand sign language so when in sport it makes them feel more accommodated 294) interviewee : YES, Exactly*

*295) interviewer: thank you so much Mam thanks I think we are done*

*296) interviewee: Are you sure, let me know anytime if you need help I will assist you.*

*297) interviewer : oh yes we are done thank you so much*

***Parent B***

297) Interviewer: *How did you discover that your child is Deaf, and at what age?*

*298) Interviewee: I discovered when she was 3 years that she doesn’t talk.*

*299) Interviewer: that time was she hearing you when you speak?*

*Interviewee: she wasn’t responding but focusing on her toys, when she is looking somewhere when*

*You call, shout or scream at her she wouldn’t respond but only focusing on her toys.*

*Interviewer: when you discovered that she is Deaf, did you take your child to a health specialist when*

*You suspected hearing problems?*

*Interviewee: I took her to the clinic and they gave me a letter to take her to hospital and then at*

*Hospital they checked her and discovered that she has nuclear ear infection, then she*

*Started attending her therapy session from there.*

*303) Interviewer: was it both ears of one ear?*

*304) Interviewee: Yes both ears because she wears two hearing aids.*

*305) Interviewer: so did the therapy session helped?*

*306) Interviewee: Yes it did helped.*

*307)Interviewer: what were the changes after the therapy?*

*308) Interviewee: she started responding.*

*309) Interviewer; did they give her something at hospital like hearing aids?*

*Interviewee: Yes they gave her hearing aids, when she was 3 years she started attending speech and*

*Therapy and then at 4 years that is when they gave her hearing aids.*

*311) Interviewer : How did this discovery affect your family?*

*Interviewee: me I was not sad I told myself it is God’s will but her father was not ok at all by this*

*Situation.*

*313) Interviewer: Do you have any family member that is Deaf, like family history?*

*314) Interviewee: No there is no family history she’s the first one in the family to be Deaf.*

*315) Interviewer: As from 3 years Which language do you generally use to communicate with your child?*

*Interviewee: I was using signs but that time they haven’t trained us so I was creating my own natural*

*Sign language when I talk to her and she would understand.*

*Interviewer: so just the normal signs you created?*

*318) Interviewee: Yes my own signs.*

*319) Interviewer: Such as pointing at things or so…*

*320) Interviewee: Yes. I would point at times.*

*321) Interviewer: But at home which language do you use full time?*

*322) Interviewee: We use Sesotho but her dad is a Zulu.*

*323) Interviewer: Did you receive any support in learning and understanding sign language?*

*324) Interviewee: Yes we were attending a training at Transoranje every Friday when she started at crèche*

*When she was 6 years we attended a training.*

*325) Interviewer: Did the training help you?*

*326) Interviewee: Yes it helped.*

*327) Interviewer: so are you able to fluently sign with her or you sometimes use natural signing?*

*328) Interviewee: I am not fluent I also use natural sign language and pointing at things.*

*329) Interviewer: So you are mixing the sign language to communicate with her?*

*330) Interviewee: Yes.*

*Interviewer: So the child which language does she use at home, does she use sign language and mix*

*It with Sesotho?*

*Interviewee: she uses both because she also hears Sesotho like for instance when you say come with*

*Water, she would lip read like when you say ‘come’ she does understand.*

*Interviewer: Does she still use hearing aids as yet?*

*Interviewee: She lost them last year in the taxi, right now I am in the process to get the new ones.*

*Interviewer: so if they are lost is there a change in communication or when you talk to her?*

*Interviewee: myself I don’t see a change but she says she cannot learn without the hearing aids she*

*needs them.*

*Interviewer: alright so you guys are mixing at home sign language and Sesotho right?*

*Interviewee: Yes.*

*Interviewer: does she have hearing friends at home?*

*Interviewee: Yes, but her friends are hearing.*

*Interviewer: how does she interact with them does she sign or*

*Imterviewee: she signs with them and also talk to them just that her pronunciation is not the same*

*As her hearing friends, she tries to talk.*

*Interviewer: So she also use lip reading ne?*

*Interviewee: Yes.*

*Interviewer: How is the rest of the family and the community communicating with your child?*

*Interviewee: they communicate with her using signs and also by talking.*

*Interviewer: they use natural signs right?*

*Interviewee: Yes.*

*Interviewer: when she started at school, they start by learning the basics right? What were the*

*Difficulties to support her at home in learning sign language?*

*Interviewee: it was very difficult when I had to assist her with homework, I didn’t know how explain*

*To her, and that time she couldn’t even write unlike now when she can write in English.*

*Interviewer: with English ne there is English sign language and sign language, so when she writes*

*Which one does she use?*

*Interviewee: she uses the English for sign language. She would want to say I want to visit you, she*

*Would instead write You I visit me.*

*Interviewer: oh yah she is using the one for sign language.*

*Interviewee: Yes, she sometimes writes vice versa.*

*Interviewer: At what age did your child enrol at school? If at a later stage what caused the delay?*

*She started at 6 years there were no delays.*

*Interviewer: How do you think your child cope with being Deaf, maybe like being moody sometimes?*

*Interviewee: She is sometimes moody stay indoors, when I ask what is the problem, she would say*

*That her friends were gossiping about her she couldn’t hear them, so they don’t explain*

*To her what they meant.*

*Interviewer: She feels offended fast ne?*

*329) Interviewee: Yah.*

*330) Interviewer: at home like tv channels, are they certain channels maybe for instance like*

*Generation Soapie they don’t sign, are you supposed to sign and explain to her what is said?*

*331) Interviewee: she does watches them and read the sub-titles, because you will find her laughing.*

*332) Interviewer: so she reads the sub-titles ne?*

*333) Interviewee: Yah.*

*334) Interviewer: what are her dreams like when she grows up, what is it that she wants to be?*

*335) Interviewee: Ya she does talk about that that she wants to be a nurse.*

*336) Interviewer: and you as a parent what do you say to her regarding her career?*

*337) Interviewee: I do encourage her.*

*338) Interviewer: Thank you so much Mama I think I have got all the answers for that questions I*

*had, and The background that I needed in terms of Deaf learners learning sign language and*

*difficulties but besides the language issue. Would you say it is easy or difficult and expensive to*

*raise A Deaf child?*

*339) Interviewee: it is expensive because their schools are not local like where we live, them*

*transport.*

*340) Interviewer: you stay at Soshanguve right?*

*341) Interviewee: Yes.*

*342) Interviewer: what does she use to go to school?*

*343) Interviewee: She uses a bus it started picking her around March.*

*344) Interviewer: ohk so the maintenance of going to school is the one that is expensive right?*

*345) Interviewee: Yes*

*346) Interviewer: so as you said that she isolates herself sometimes, so it means she fills isolated at*

*times When her friends don’t explain what they are saying?*

*347) Interviewee: Yes, she feels like that and isolate herself.*

*348) Interviewer; so in the house do you always make sure that you accommodate her when talking?*

*349) Interviewee: Yes all the time so that she feels accommodated.*

*350) Interviewer: No mama thanks you so much those were the questions I will write everything*

*Down And summarise.*

*351) Interviewee: Thank you.*

***Parent C***

352) Interviewer: *How did you discover that your child is Deaf, and at what age?*

*Interviewee: the child was talking my child at first, so when she was 2 years she began to be sick*

*And her mother took her to Rankuwa hospital and it was discovered that her right ear*

*Cannot hear.*

*353) interviewer: So when she was born she was hearing but due to sickness she became Deaf?*

*354) Interviewee: Yes my child.*

*355) Interviewer: was it both ears or one Ma?*

*Interviewer: it was the right one because she was given a hearing aid to put it on the right ear,*

*So her mother used to take her for check-up but ended up losing interest and no longer*

*Took the child to hospital for more check-ups, so it ended up both ears not hearing. So*

*They prayed for her continuously and one ear became better.*

*357) Interviewer: so when she was 2 years and got sick where did you take her for help?*

*Interviewee: we took her to Rankuwa hospital her mother did.*

*Interviewer: so from then was the child taken to a specialist for ears maybe?*

*Interviewee: I am not sure that time I was working you can ask her mother she is the one who knows*

*Interviewer: Do you have any family member that is Deaf?*

*Interviewee: in our family we have never had a Deaf person.*

*Interviewer: ohk and how did it affect the family this whole situation?*

*Interviewee: it was saddening and there was nothing we could do, but when she started at school*

*It became much better.*

*Interviewer: What language do you generally use to communicate with your child?*

*Interviewee: we generally just use hands although she can understand isiZulu a bit she can sound*

*Out like Gogo, Mama, but I also write it down in Zulu for her she would read and*

*Understand.*

*Interviewer: Did you receive any support in learning and understanding sign language?*

*Interviewee: Problem is she started staying with her aunt so she was the one supporting her even at*

*School in a way that when she is there they use sign language when talking,so when she*

*Came to stay with me it was hard but I write and sign some of the things to her. And she*

*Also understands English.*

*Interviewer: How do you support your child in learning sign language at home?*

*Interviewee: it is hard for me because I don’t know sign language the one she learns from school*

*So I try to use natural signing or write down.*

*Interviewer: Are you experiencing any difficulties in supporting your child in using sign language at*

*Home?*

*Interviewee: Yes my child you see we stay very far at Hammanskraal we live very far and her mother*

*Was told at school to come and attend the classes but it is difficult because the transport*

*Is very expensive so she ended up not attending that training. She also doesn’t know the*

*Proper sign language. So to help the child at home is difficult.*

*Interviewer: so what is the normal language you use at home?*

*Interviewee: we use isiZulu my child.*

*Interviewer: At what age did your child enrol at school? If at a later stage what caused the delay?*

*Interviewee: he went to school at the normal age if 5 or 6 years.*

*Interviewer: does he have hearing friends at home or she isolates herself?*

*Interviewee: Yes he does play with them a lot even play soccer with them, he comes home dirty and*

*Tired.*

*Interviewer: did he once had hearing aids?*

*Interviewee: he once had them once, the other one got destroyed so currently he doesn’t have them.*

*Interviewer: how is he as a child is he not moody or isolates himself just because he is Deaf?*

*Interviewee: he is a very open free child whenever you send him to do something or to eat he does,*

*He doesn’t isolates himself from anything.*

*383Interviewer: how is he at school? Is he coping with subjects?*

*384) Interviewee: he tries but he enjoys more doing computer and they only do it at school because here*

*At home we don’t have it.*

*385) Interviewer: How do you think your child cope with being Deaf?*

*386) Interviewee: he has never had an issue in a way that he even attends parties and socialise with o*

*other People since he was born he has never had some issues with people.*

*387) Interviewer: does he watched television those programs?*

*388) Interviewee: yes, he does read sub titles but if they don’t write he ask what are they saying. And*

*if They don’t write sub titles he questions that why they don’t write Gogo. And would tell*

*Him I don’t know my child.*

*389) Interviewer: it means he feels sadden if they don’t write because he can’t follow what is*

*Happening?*

*390) Interviewee: Yes and when we laugh he wonders because there are not sub titles.*

*391) Interviewer: so thank you Gogo I think we are done.*

*392) Interviewee: Yes thanks my child and I wish they can add more hands on skill work to them so*

*that Even when the child doesn’t finish school but he can still have a skill he can use to*

*work For himself.*

*393) Interviewer: that is a very good point Gogo I will note it down, and it is true so that even if a*

*child doesn’t reach a tertiary but would have a skill to use to make a living.*

*394) Interviewee: Yes my child that would really work because he shares his dreams with me that one*

*day He would buy me a big house, buy himself a car and get married.*

*395) Interviewer: Ya ne that’s great Gogo, thank you so much for sharing this information with me.*

***Parent D***

396) Interviewer: *How did you discover that your child is Deaf, and at what age?*

*397) Interviewee: At 2 years I discovered that she is Deaf but she would call Mama, I then realised t*

*that In some words, she doesn’t respond.*

*398) interviewer: So when she was 2 years she was able to call you but could not respond to other*

*Words.*

*399) Interviewee: Yes, and that’s when I decided to take her to GA Rankuwa hospital.*

*400) Interviewer: the next question is that one so when you took her to Ga Rankuwa hospital, what*

*did They say?*

*401) Interviewee: I took her to Ga Rankuwa since she was 2 years for speech therapy once a week, so*

*from 2 years to 5 years, there were no changes so her problem is that they could not drug*

*her The drugging medication that was used to her so that the Doctors could plug some wires*

*On her head so that they can check what was the problem. Those drugs were not*

*Drugging her. I think on that she took after me because even myself any injection does*

*Not drug or make any changes in my body such as vaccines. So they ended up not being*

*Able to check her problem.*

*402) Interviewer: so it is like genes?*

*403) Interviewee: Yes I think so too. So I asked them that there is no way that they can increase the*

*Dosage, they told me it is impossible because the same dosage they use is even able to*

*Drug an adult. So they said if they can add more there would be a problem.*

*404) Interviewer: so when they were giving her that dose, did they want to put wires on the brain to*

*Check her situation?*

*Interviewee: No in the head, they were going to plug on her head and use a computer to check, so*

*She could not be done because she couldn’t sleep from the dosage given to her, as she’s*

*Not supposed to move when plugged in.*

*Interviewer: Do you have any family member that is Deaf?*

*Interviewee: no she is the first person to be Deaf*

*Interviewer: Ohk and how did it affect the family this whole situation?*

*Interviewee: in my family there was no problem, I had a lot of support. So my mom was not well*

*When I got a child and she died when my child was 10 months. Then my father is the*

*One who gave me so much support in a way that even my child is a free spirit child*

*She is bubble and did not give me any issues and she doesn’t isolate herself.*

*Only me as a parent who was stressed that my child is Deaf and so on but she was ok*

*Doing everything normal except being Deaf.*

*Interviewer: What language do you generally use to communicate with your child?*

*Interviewee: at first she started attending at Dominican so she stayed there for three months at first*

*So that they can learn independence, so we used to go there as parents and learn sign*

*Language. But at home we normally use Sesotho although I try to speak to her using sign*

*Language and she sometimes write down if she sees that I don’t understand.*

*Since as school they were learning English and sign language she couldn’t understand*

*Sesotho but lately words like Hello she would look at your lips and respond in sign language*

*Interviewer: so she also does lip reading right?*

*Interviewee: Yes she looks at your lips and read.*

*Interviewer: so it means you use the sign language that you know a bit the one you learned at her*

*School and your natural sign language right?*

*Interviewee: Yes.*

*Interviewer: Did you receive any support in learning and understanding sign language?*

*Interviewee: Yes they would tell us in meetings and encourage us to buy books related to sign*

*Language and also have sessions with us as parents on certain days to teach us basics.*

*Interviewer: How do you support your child in learning sign language at home?*

*Interviewee: Yes if she has homework I need to read it first and if I see that I know them I will write*

*For her in a piece of paper and let her read to understand and copy answers to her book.*

*Interviewer: so at home you speak Sesotho and sign language?*

*Interviewee: Yes. Yes we mix.*

*Interviewer: so how is she when with hearing people does she interact with them or family?*

*Interviewee: she gets angry if we are communicating and talking, so she will look at me to explain to*

*Her what we are talking so that when we laugh she doesn’t think that we laughing at her*

*So she looks at me and I have to explain the communication.*

*Interviewer: Does she have hearing friends?*

*Interviewee: Na she doesn’t have any except my younger sisters’ children the one she grew up with*

*She does communicate because she’s used to them. She doesn’t want to interact with*

*Other hearing because of the issue that she would have to teach them how to talk to her.*

*She enjoys watching tv especially Indian movies because they write sub titles.*

*Interviewer: ohk so with tv shows she enjoys the ones with sub titles?*

*Interviewee: Yes so that she could read and if they do not write she gets bored in the process.*

*Interviewer: so what is the normal language you use at home?*

*Interviewee: Sesotho and sign language.*

*Interviewer: At what age did your child enrol at school? If at a later stage what caused the delay?*

*429) Interviewee: she was 6 years when she started at Dominican school for the Deaf.*

*430) Interviewer: how is he as a child is he not moody or isolates himself just because he is Deaf?*

*431) Interviewee: she’s very indoors she used to enjoy more being at Dominican because she had*

*Deaf Friends, so she tells me that she prays to God to make her talk so that she can be like*

*The other children. In a way that I told her that God love all of us regardless of our*

*Disabilities. she once told me I must have another girl who will talk because I cannot*

*Talk to her. I told her No, I love you the way you are I don’t need another child I love you*

*The way you are you are enough to me.*

*432) Interviewer: ya ne giving her that psychological support and to make her feel accommodated.*

*433) Interviewee: Yes.*

*434) Interviewer: how is she at school? Is she coping with subjects?*

*435) Interviewee: she is doing good in everything subjects, and she doesn’t mix herself much with*

*boy She is very focused. She said she want to study and own a big house and a car, so she*

*Really encourages me she even takes care of me knowing very well when must I take*

*My medication, she assists in the house as well she is hands on. As parents she give us*

*More effort in supporting her.*

*436) Interviewer: How do you think your child cope with being Deaf?*

*437) Interviewee: she is good she has accepted herself so much that she has adapted in everything*

*and Through the support we are giving her so I sometimes talk to her share my problems*

*With her. She even told me she wants to be a Doctor, although at school they do advise*

*They on courses they must do. So I support her in everything and her dream but she is a*

*Good child.*

*438) Interviewer: thank you so much for your time Ma. Your information was informative.*

*439) Interviewee: One opinion I have is that at schools they need to prolong the sessions offered*

*To parents in learning sign language like give them more time to learn more training.*

*440) Interviewer: thank you I will note it down.*

***Parent E***

*441) Interviewer: How did you discover that your child is Deaf, and at what age?*

*442) Interviewee: I took her to the therapist and audiologist at the university of Pretoria.*

*when She was 3 years.*

*443) Interviewer: what were the signs that made you discover that she is Deaf?*

*444) Interviewee: it is because she was already 3years and she was not talking and not*

*responding*

*445) Interviewer: When you took her to the child to a health specialist what did they say or*

*Discover?*

*446) Interviewee: they discovered that the right ear is damaged and not working and the*

*other One hears but hearing from very far.*

*447) Interviewer: the damage of the ear was she born with it or?*

*448) Interviewee: Yes she was born with it.*

*449) Interviewer: did they advise you on what to do?*

*450) Interviewee: No they only said she needs to wear the hearing aids.*

*451) Interviewer: does she has them, hearing aids?*

*451) Interviewer: Yes she does but I can say she no longer has them because one hearing aid is*

*damaged And no longer working.*

*452) Interviewer: How did this discovery affect your family?*

*453) Interviewee: we were affected and decided to take her to the school for the Deaf.*

*454) Interviewer: Do you have any family member that is Deaf?*

*456) Interviewee: No we don’t have that history.*

*457) Interviewer: but how did the family treat her after they knew she was Deaf?*

*458) Interviewee: they didn’t have much time with her because most of the time she was at school,*

*But when she is back they welcomed her in a good manner, problem are neighbours*

*They don’t treat her right.*

*459)Interviewer: are they mistreating her maybe just because they cannot communicate with her or?*

*Interviewee: they make her a joke.*

*Interviewer: so since she was young up until now they still do that?*

*Interviewee: na not now because she no longer associate herself with them, she is always indoors*

*Watching tv because she knows how they used to mistreat her.*

*Interviewer: What language do you generally use to communicate with your child?*

*Interviewee: we were talking normal and using hands where we can, she can understand when you*

*Are talking to her.*

*460) Interviewer: so when you are talking to her, you point using your hands right?*

*461) Interviewee: Yes she hears.*

*462) Interviewer: Not sign language right just using hands to point and natural signs?*

*463) Interviewee: Yes and when we are talking and using hands, she is able to figure out what you*

*Are Trying to say.*

*464) Interviewer: at home which language do you speak?*

*465) Interviewee: Sepedi.*

*466) Interviewer: Does she lip read when you are talking?*

*467) Interviewee: Yes she does lip read and look at your mouth and watch also your movement and*

*your Body language.*

*Interviewer: At what age did your child enrol at school? If at a later stage what caused the delay?*

*Interviewee: she started at a normal crèche and graduated at 6 years, then I took her to Dominican*

*And she was reversed back to crèche, and they said at the school they would like to*

*Start with her from the beginning so that they can see her development. So she was*

*Reversed back to crèche again.*

*Interviewer: Did you receive any support in learning and understanding sign language at Dominican?*

*Interviewee: Yes at Dominican they used to invite us in their hall and show us video and teach us sign*

*Language some words I know in sign language I have learned them from there. Showing*

*Us videos giving us the discs for free so that when we arrive at home we can practice, so*

*In Transoranje we don’t experience such thing.*

*Interviewer: so when did you move her to Transoranje?*

*Interviewee: as far as I can remember I moved her in 2014 because at Dominican I was paying using*

*Her disability grant and my salary, so after losing the job her school fees was affected,*

*In a way that Dominican didn’t want to take her and the Government subsidies her. So*

*She stayed the whole of 2015 not going to school.*

*Interviewer: so from there you moved her to Transoranje right?*

*Interviewee: I was able to get her to be admitted at Transoranje through the social workers and the*

*The court.so I took her to social workers and she was placed at the place of safety*

*Safety and that is when the school was able to take her we took a very long dry for*

*The school to admit her without any payment.*

*Interviewer: oh alright without any payment?*

*Interviewee: Yes because I am not working. So they didn’t want to help without any payment, so the*

*Social workers and magistrate court for children they took her*

*Interviewer: How do you support your child in learning sign language at home?*

*Interviewer: Are you completely using sign language the one she learned at Dominican or also using*

*Spoken language?*

*Interviewee: No we use the normal signs and talking, but some signs we still remember them like*

*Water, thank you.*

*Interviewer: so you use the basics of sign language?*

*Interviewee: Yes such as Thank you, Sunday Saturday.*

*Interviewer: so meaning you use Sepedi with sign language right?*

*Interviewee: Yes.*

*Interviewer: How does your child interact with hearing children?*

*Interviewee: Na her friends are only those from her school, so those ones from hearing they started*

*To have a bad influence like having boyfriends so I told them I no longer need them at*

*My place. So she only has Deaf friends.*

*Interviewer: How is the rest of the family communicating with your child?*

*interviewee: they use Sepedi and hands also body language.*

*Interviewer: Are you experiencing any difficulties in supporting your child in using sign language at*

*Home?*

*Interviewee: we don’t understand some signs especially if we don’t see it on a video, so if it is manual*

*We don’t understand it at all.*

*Interviewer: How do you think your child cope with being Deaf?*

*492) Interviewee: Na I don’t see any progress in a way that I am not happy with her progress I even wish*

*They can just make her do practical skills on working with hands once because she is 15*

*Years, even her hand writing is horrible. Problem she is also cheeky so when she feels like*

*Not writing she doesn’t want to write if being told. Shes is very cheeky and is not like she*

*Is the only Deaf child because she is cheeky and lazy, her homework she would never pay*

*Attention on them.*

*493)Interviewer: Does she struggle to all subjects or in some maybe in Maths she is better?*

*494) Interviewee: with Maths she is worse, she can’t even construct a sentence or give answer to*

*simple Questions that does not need to much of mind pondering, she can’t even use a*

*calculator If you can see her Maths book it is a mess she even failed it on the report.*

*495) Interviewer: Have you tried to sit down with her and try to understand why she is behaving like*

*that?*

*496) Interviewee: we have tried problem she is stubborn if she doesn’t want to do something she*

*Doesn’t Want in a way that she is also violent she is dangerous even in a family that she*

*even Threaten to kill them. She has suicidal thoughts and actions. She even breaks things in*

*the House once she gets angry.*

*497) Interviewer: so if you try to talk it out what does she do?*

*498) Interviewee: she doesn’t respond even if you try she will never respond at all we just perceiver*

*Because she is our child even at school they are aware of the situation in a way that they*

*Said they think she has mental disorder, and I know it is not that she is just stubborn and*

*Naughty.*

*499) Interviewer: so you have never tried to take her to social workers or health specialist for help?*

*500) Interviewee: At school they did that they have tried the psychologist suggested that she takes*

*Medication to lower her situation of which is wrong because you can’t make someone to*

*Drink medication knowing very well that she is not sick she doesn’t have mental illness.*

*501) Interviewer: so this behaviour is it full time or there are days when she is just rough?*

*502) Interviewee: you know we think that she got this behaviour from Children’s home such as counting*

*Food you know that kind of behaviour so with us there is no such if there is food we eat it*

*And when it is finished it is finished, so she fights for such.*

*503) Interviewer: she stayed for how long at Children’s home?*

*504) Interviewee: from year 2015 to 2018.*

*509) Interviewer: so she stayed for 3 years ne.*

*510) Interviewee: Yes so it is just that our Government is unfair I had to try other channels to get my*

*child To school through social workers and the court, because I am no longer working I*

*Cannot afford. So the issue of school fees and so on was supposed to be paid by the*

*Children’s home via court. but I still do get the bills from school with my name on it saying*

*I need to pay so I am not responsible because the school fees and the hostel is supposed to*

*To be paid by the Children’s home, so I suspect that at Children’s home they are still*

*Getting the grant for my child and not paying the school and just eating my child’s grant.*

*I myself I even think of going to the Children’s court and enquire the issue because my child*

*Did not serve the years she was supposed to stay at the Children’s home and I took her*

*Back.*

*511) Interviewer: so how are you managing her responsibilities such as transport?*

*512) Interviewee: they have provided us with the transport and there are many issues there when it*

*comes To paying the driver who take my child to school every day, and there are many*

*politics Involved with lots of issues you know. And again they keep on changing drivers*

*Brought a Bus of which the driver doesn’t want to take the child from the gate for safety as*

*The child cannot speak and I myself I cannot go with the child and put my life and of my*

*Child to danger.*

*Interviewer: did you report this issue?*

*Interviewee: Yes there they say different things and not helping at all. I even think that it is useless of*

*Her to keep on attending because if I don’t have money sometimes she doesn’t even go*

*To school due to such issues. Various issues involved and very painful because I cannot*

*Even take her to local schools because her type of schools are rare and far from home. So*

*Even the social workers don’t even do their work they don’t bother to check the progress*

*Of the child that what is happening and how is she you see so it is a lot.*

*Interviewer: no I could feel your pain Ma you are facing lots of issues in raising your child and making*

*Sure that she goes to school.*

*Interviewee: I blame the Government and social workers for not meeting us fully with our Deaf*

*Children because even the issues of her disability grant has been stucked with the social*

*Workers and when those social workers come to check they come once after a while and*

*Changing the social workers to check on the child so that they can compile a report after*

*So much time not checking on the child and everything it all not fair what they are doing.*

*We need help with all these issues.*

*Interviewer: No Mah thank you so much that was very informative I will compile a full report of your*

*Experience.*

*Interviewee: covid 19 made the situation worse because the child stayed for 2 months not attending*

*At school they said there is no driver to take children to school, the driver was not paid by*

*The school so he quit the job, and due to rotation in attending and I cannot even allow*

*My child to go get transport to school on her own because she doesn’t talk she is Deaf.*

*There are many gaps in this disability section and too much negligence.*

*Interviewer: thanks all is noted and thank you so much for your time, all your views, opinion are*

*Noted.*

***Parent F***

*460) Interviewer: How did you discover that your child is Deaf, and at what age?*

*461) Interviewee: 2 and half years*

*462) Interviewer: Did you take your child to a health specialist when you suspected hearing*

*Problems?*

*463) Interviewee: to the clinic to the hospital Kalafong for seeing a specialist.*

*464) Interviewer: How did this discovery affect your family? Like was she able to say maybe one*

*word?*

*465) Interviewee: she was mumbling.*

*466) Interviewer: so from taking her to the specialist what was the next procedure?*

*467) Interviewee: it was the hearing aids procedure.*

*468) Interviewer: but did they assist her?*

*569) Interviewee: how assistance like how?*

*570) Interviewer: like can she hear something or?*

*Interviewee: oh Ya yes but only now that she’s grown up but before she was not responding to*

*Anything.*

*Interviewer: and then how did it affect the family?*

*Interviewee: we were ok with it but we were once interviewed and they asked us if in the family do*

*We have someone who was or is Deaf*

*Interviewer: oh yes and I was about to ask that question that is there any family member that is Deaf*

*Because sometimes they say it is from generation to generation.*

*Interviewee: Yes we do have a Deaf family member*

*Interviewer: What language do you generally use to communicate with your child?*

*Interviewee: Setswana.*

*Interviewer: How low or high is your voice must be when communicating with her?*

*Interviewee: it must be down and she does lip reading.*

*Interviewer: can you sign with her or you use Setswana only?*

*Interviewee: we use body gestures and also use our own natural signing.*

*Interviewer: Did you receive any support in learning and understanding sign language?*

*Interviewee: Yes from school they sent us time to time to university of Pretoria and they advise us to*

*Attend sign language classes on Fridays meaning the support was there just that we did*

*Not attend.*

*584) Interviewer: How do you support your child in learning sign language at home?*

*585) Interviewee: the sister is helping her she can sign but not fluent.*

*586) Interviewer: was the sister taught by her?*

*587) Interviewee: Yes by Oratile she taught her sign language.*

*588) Interviewer: Are you completely using sign language or also using spoken language?*

*589) Interviewer: How does your child interact with hearing children?*

*Interviewee: No she does not have hearing friends we not people’s people we always indoors, only*

*When there is a family gathering she tries to mingle and talk with the family children.*

*591) Interviewer: How is the rest of the family communicating with your child?*

*592) Interviewee: they try to communicate with her in natural sign language and Setswana.*

*593) Interviewer: does she also do sign language at school right?*

*594) Interviewee: Yes.*

*595) Interviewer: Are you experiencing any difficulties in supporting your child in using sign language*

*at Home?*

*596) Interviewer: At what age did your child enrol at school? If at a later stage what caused the*

*Delay?*

*597) Interviewee: she started from preschool when she was 5 years old since she started at Transoranje.*

*598) Interviewer: and then emotionally is she ok?*

*Interviewee: No she is full of nonsense on a very serious note. Like serious I told her there is someone*

*Who is coming to visit us, and she asked us why she is not cooperative at all.*

*600) Interviewer: ya ne maybe she feels like just because she is Deaf so people are coming to get*

*Information about her.*

*Interviewee: Yes she is also lazy she doesn’t want to do her bed, wash the dishes it is a problem we*

*Have to fight.*

*Interviewer: but as parents have you thought of taking sign language lessons?*

*Interviewee: you know when she was young we did not see a need, only now we realised we were*

*Supposed to take those lessons and be able to engage with her in a proper sign language.*

*Like now at the school they no longer do those lessons but if they bring them back we will*

*Indeed, go and attend.*

*Interviewer: oh Yes so that you can also assist her at home and anywhere, where there is no*

*Interpreter you see.*

*Interviewee: her sister assist in interpreting but we also see a need of doing and learning sign*

*Language because now we are disadvantaging her a lot in using sign language.*

*Interviewer: since she uses sign language do you consider her falling under Deaf culture?*

*Interviewee: Yes. She is like us but not 100% like us, like she doesn’t communicate with sign language*

*At home most of the time but only if she doesn’t understand then she signs and we*

*Explain to her and speak slowly.*

*Interviewer: do you still consult for hearing?*

*Interviewee: No we don’t consult for health but only for hearing aids like every year we have to*

*Renew them because they get broken or ruined you see so ya.*

*Interviewer: are they affordable?*

*Interviewee: No very expensive maybe like R10 000 or more depending on the brand so for us we*

*Don’t wait we use our private medical and pay because we can afford you know. In*

*Public hospital the process of getting the hearing aids is too long and take time so we go*

*To private.*

*Interviewer: and when she started going to school she didn’t have problems?*

*Interviewee: at first we took her to a local crèche we experienced a problem, so then we took her to*

*Transoranje and that is where she was fine as she realised they are all the same.*

*Interviewer: how did you get to Transoranje?*

*Interviewee: I was assisted by a Sister nurse from the clinic and referred me to a lady who knows*

*About the school.*

*Interviewer: How do you think your child cope with being Deaf?*

*Interviewee: she changes in a good way become the boss of that moment in a way that the peers*

*or children they end up behaving like her as if they are Deaf.*

*Interviewer: does she participate in any sport?*

*Interviewee: Yes she once joined Netball but due to transport issues she stopped and also did*

*Athletics it was better they did it during school hours.*

*Interviewer: Which transport does she use to go to school?*

*Interviewee: She use a school bus they mix learners from Zodwa special school with kids from*

*Transoranje.*

*Interviewer: so her sister is doing which Grade and when did she learn sign language?*

*Interviewee: when Oratile started at school she used to communicate with her sister in sign language*

*Interviewer: No thank you so much and she is privileged that she has parents like you who take her*

*To school, not neglecting them not taking them to school, so that is what my study is*

*Trying to close that gap when it comes to disability.*

*Interviewee: but the Government is trying just that us as parents we neglect such trainings and not*

*Attend sign language classes to support our children, as parents we don’t take care of*

*Them you could see even at school finding a child dirty uniform, and when the teachers*

*Want to see us we don’t make time for such.*

*627)Interviewer: Yes and it also goes up to the issue of Deaf learners not reaching universities.*

*628) Interviewee: I think also the Transoranje standard is too low it cannot be reach the level of like*

*Normal matriculants so I also blame the standard.*

*629) Interviewer: but at school how is she behaving academically?*

*630) Interviewee: She is doing very well she behaves like a normal child it is just that sometimes you*

*Have To keep up on checking her progress, I am so happy with what the teachers are*

*h Her school with the level of support she is good academically.*

*630) Interviewer: so when she is writing which language does she use is it English sign language or*

*English Language?*

*631) Interviewee: she uses the one of sign language and the normal one. I think I would need to*

*consult The social workers regarding her anger, because sometimes she would wake up do*

*her Own food isolates herself, lock her bedroom and you know just wake up moody.*

*632) Interviewer: Ya she needs help, and you know with rectifying such issues there is a lot that still*

*needs To be done as inclusive education such as interpreters in all public services, enrolment to*

*Any university.*

*633) Interviewee: Yes very true and the Government can do that.*

*634) Interviewer: are there any favourite channels she enjoys watching?*

*635) Interviewee: oh yes she enjoys more the one for doing recipes because it is practical and the*

*Family Channels such as How things are made like starting a car from scratch etc. she also*

*enjoy The one with sub titles.*

*Interviewer: when she grows up what does she want to be?*

*Interviewee: She want to be a Doctor. And I think when she says she want to be a Doctor she has*

*That feeling that she would like to fix those who cannot hear and take something out.*

*Not understanding the real problem of Deafness., she thinks that there is something*

*She can do.*

*Interviewee: you know I also wanted to check around our location if we can get parents and meet*

*Form a group to support our children also share ideas, as some are not working maybe*

*Open an organisation to assist those parents who cannot afford to take their kids to*

*School, like we do during lockdown making parcels for people in need. And arrange that*

*Our children stay healthy and eat healthy teach one another to use disability grant useful*

*Interviewer: Yes such organisation could assist lots of parents and grow to understand the child, and*

*Make other parents aware that the issue of Deafness it is normal it is not a curse. Some*

*Even abuse and neglect their kids.*

*Interviewee: Yes and you know I have noticed my son’s child she seemed to have an issue and his dad*

*And mom is indenial I suspect an autism and when you communicate with the child*

*Facing opposite she won’t respond I also suspect she might be having hearing problems*

*So when we tell the parents they don’t want to admit the issue they are indenial. You*

*Know that time when I had Oratile I was working at Woolworths and she was taken*

*Care by another lady until I decided that let me quit the job and spend time with my*

*Child.one other day she was eating bread and I called her name she never responded I*

*Called her again and again until I could see that no there is a problem here, I called her*

*Dad and told her that the baby has a problem she doesn’t respond at all when being called.*

*Interviewer: Oh and you got time to spend with her and understands her better.*

*Interviewee: Yes so from then we started that process to clinic and so on so I think I took a good*

*Decision by quitting the job because it was going to take time to see that she has a*

*Problem. So what I like about her is that she becomes the Boss of the place.*

*Interviewer: Thank you so much and you know I think if sign language can be made as the subjects to*

*All schools even hearing learners be able to learn sign language.*

*Interviewee: Yes like one of my cousin’s child when she’s with Oratile she enjoys talking with hands so*

*She would go back to her mother and start signing and the mother will discipline her for*

*Doing that.*

*Interviewer: thank You Ma I believe there are many ways sign language can be exposed to everyone*

*And even make it a normal career even to hearing people so that Deaf people feel*

*Accommodated. I will compile all the information and write a report thanks.*