

INTERVIEW QUESTIONNAIRE FOR BSL CORPUS PROJECT PARTICIPANTS
Adam Schembri, Version 3.1, 25/09/2008

LANGUAGE ATTITUDES & AWARENESS

1. What do you think the following terms mean: British Sign Language or BSL, Sign Supported English or SSE? Please explain, including examples of how they differ.
2. Do deaf people in your area use signs that are different from the signs used in other parts of the UK? Can you give specific examples (e.g. colour signs, numbers etc)?
3. Do you have trouble understanding deaf people from other places in the UK? If so, which areas?
4. Aside from different signs, are there other differences in how people from other areas use sign language (e.g., fingerspelling, mouthing etc in Northern Ireland, Wales, Scotland, northern and southern England)? Can you give specific examples?
5. If you moved to a different part of the UK, do you think it is important to use the signs in that area, or would you carry on using your own signs?
6. Do you think that everyone should use the same signs across all of the UK? Why/why not?
7. Are there differences between how younger or older people sign? If so, what are the differences? Can you give specific examples?
8. Are there differences between how deaf men and women sign? If so, what are the differences? Can you give specific examples?
9. Are there differences between how deaf people with deaf parents and deaf people with hearing parents use sign language? If so, what are the differences?
10. What does “good” or “correct” BSL look like? Who uses the “best” sign language in the Deaf community?
11. Many hearing people are learning sign language now – do you think this good or bad for the deaf community? Why?
12. Are there differences in the sign language used by deaf and hearing people? Does your signing change when you sign with hearing people?
13. Is sign language changing? If so how? Can you give specific examples? Why do you think it is changing?