

Deaf History Pre-1817

ASL 305, Introduction to Deaf Studies
University of Washington
March 30, 2008
Lance Forshay

Deaf History Pre-History

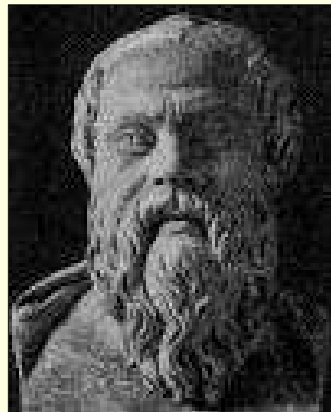
- n Imagine early history how Deaf people lived.
- n Is it important to be able to hear now as was 5,000 years ago?
- n How did deaf people communicate with each other in the past?
- n How would the lives of deaf people be different today? Why?
- n Why there isn't much history on the deaf people? (Before 1700)

Deaf History Before 1817

- n Egypt
- n Israel / Law of Moses
- n Greece

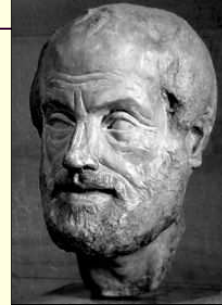
Deaf History Before 1817

- n 399 (?) B.C. Socrates quoted by Plato in "Cratylus" mentions the deaf who express themselves in gestures movement, depicting that which is light or a higher sphere by raising the hands or describing a galloping horse by imitating its motion.



Deaf History Before 1817

- n Aristoteles (384-322 BC): “Deaf are born incapable to reason”
- n Galen, a Greek physician from Perganum 131 AD. “Speech and hearing share the same source in the brain...”
- n Thomas Willis (1621-75) discovered the role of the cochlea in hearing.
- n Johann Bohn (1640-1718) refuted the theory that deaf and dumbness was caused by a connection of facial and aural nerves.



Source: Eriksson, Per. The History of Deaf People, 1993.

Deaf History Before 1817

- n Rome / Augustus (63 BC – 14 AD)
- n Christianity
- n England / St. John of Beverly (700 AD)
- n Talmud, Judaic law / Categories of deafness and legal rights.
- n Europe / Royal families
- n America / Martha's Vineyard

Deaf History Before 1817

- n Private tutor for deaf individuals from wealthy families.
- n Juan Fernandez Navarrette 1526-79, deaf painter, Spain.
- n 1600's Italian monks' vow of silence and the discovery of deaf education through sign communication"
- n Pedro Ponce de Leon, 1520-84 and Juan Pablo de Bonet 1579-1629, Spanish teachers for the deaf published about his work with teaching the deaf using "hand signs"

-
- n Johan Konrad Amman, 1669-1724, Switzerland and Holland. Father of speech method. (Oralism)
 - n England
 - n John de Beverly, 700 AD
 - n John Bulwer, 1614-84
 - n George Dalgarno, 1626-87
 - n John Wallis 1616-1703
 - n William Holder, 1615-97
 - n Henry Baker, 1698-1774
 - n Thomas Braidwood 1715-1806 (Braidwood Academy)
 - n Germany...
 - n France...

Deaf History Before 1817



- n In 1755, Abbe Charles Michel de L'Eppe of Paris founded the first free school for the deaf with sign language as a method of communication. This model of deaf school concept spread all over the European countries for the next hundred years. (33 schools established with this model)

Deaf History Before 1817

- n In 1778, Samuel Heinicke of Leipzig Germany, promoted Oralism, a method of teaching deaf children spoken and written language through speech and lip-reading exclusively without use of sign language.



Deaf History Before 1817

- n Philosophies of Deaf Education:
 - n Oralism
 - n Combined Methods