Contents

Preface, ix

Acknowledgments, xiii

Chapter 1 Language Attitudes, 1

Chapter 2 The American Deaf Community, 20

Chapter 3 Subjects and Signing Samples in the Study, 42

Chapter 4 Perceptions of Signing, 52

Chapter 5 Effect of Social Information on Perceptions, 63

Chapter 6 Evaluation of Signing Types, 72

Chapter 7 Description of Signing, 88

Chapter 8 Conclusion, 147

Appendix A Subjects' Responses on the Background

Questionnaire, 165

Appendix B Language Judgment Scale, 174

Appendix C Language Feature Interview, 175

References, 178

Index, 187