

Contributors

Sally Austen, BA (Hons), MSc, PhD, consultant clinical psychologist, has worked with Deaf and deafened people for over 25 years. She has two jobs. She works for the National Health Service (NHS) in specialist deaf adult mental health services. The NHS funds three such inpatient units for adults in England and a further three community services; child services have one inpatient unit and three community hubs. Austen's private work at Austen Psychology involves undertaking expert witness court reports, training and supervision of both clinicians in deafness and interpreters in mental health, and psychological consultation to the media. She is the coeditor of *Deafness in Mind* and *Deafness and Challenging Behaviour*.

Amber D. Farrelly, JD, received her undergraduate degree from the University of Oklahoma and her Juris Doctorate from Arizona State University's Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law with the highest distinction for her pro bono work. Farrelly began her legal career clerking for both defense teams in the yogurt shop murders shortly after their reversals in 2007 until both cases were dismissed in 2009. She began practicing as a criminal defense attorney in 2009 and has worked with the Innocence Project, Innocence Project of Texas, and the Texas Civil Rights Project. Farrelly is licensed in and practices throughout the state of Texas and in the U.S. Western District. She specializes in Deaf clientele and is a Board for Evaluation of Interpreters court-certified interpreter in American Sign Language (ASL). Working with the Conviction Integrity Unit in Dallas County, she testified as an expert witness on ASL and Deaf culture in the Stephen Brodie exoneration case—the only Deaf person exonerated in the United States. She has consulted and testified in numerous cases involving Deaf individuals as an expert. Farrelly is the former president and current director of the Texas School for the Deaf Foundation Board. She is dedicated to and is an advocate for the Deaf. Farrelly received the Texas Society of Interpreters for the Deaf President's Award in 2016. She was named Travis County Woman Lawyer of the Year for 2012. She has given numerous presentations and workshops on legal interpreting and Deaf rights. She has also been a guest on *48 Hours*, *Full*

Frontal With Samantha Bee, America's Most Wanted, Intersections Radio, and Legal Broadcast Network.

Debra Guthmann, EdD, NIC, is a nationally recognized lecturer, administrator, researcher, educator, and advocate with 40 years of extensive experience in service to the Deaf community. Guthmann was the lead consultant for a federal grant at Wright State University focusing on the validation of mental health, substance abuse, and career-related screening tools in ASL. She is the founding director of the Minnesota Substance Use Disorder Program for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Individuals, which opened in 1989 and was one of the first inpatient treatment programs for deaf and hard of hearing (DHH) individuals in the country. Guthmann worked 17 years as the director of student services at the California School for the Deaf in Fremont, California, where she was responsible for admissions, clinical services, individualized education program implementation, and due process. She teaches online classes focusing on substance abuse and ethical considerations within the Deaf community. Guthmann has made over 200 national and international presentations and written numerous articles and several book chapters focusing on ethical issues, substance abuse, and treatment models to use with DHH individuals. She has also been involved in the development of a number of materials specifically designed for deaf individuals, including an Anti-Tobacco and HIV Prevention Curriculum, a training DVD for clinicians, and e-cigarette prevention materials. Additionally, Guthmann has served on a number of advisory boards and is the past president of the American Deafness and Rehabilitation Association (ADARA) and the National Association on Alcohol, Drugs and Disability.

Raychelle Harris, PhD, is currently doing authoring work for TRUE+WAY ASL curriculum with her coauthors, and recently published the second edition of *Exploring Deaf Communities* with her coauthors. In the past decade, she was a full professor in the Department of American Sign Language at Gallaudet University, Washington, DC, spending most of her time directing and teaching in the Master's in Sign Language Education program. She has worked as a Deaf interpreter and translator for over a decade. Her research interests include specialized discourses in ASL, language pedagogy, digital curriculum design and development, and language assessment. She has also spoken, presented, and published about research ethics and the cultural and linguistic aspects of teaching, interpreting, and researching with Deaf communities. She holds professional certification with the American Sign Language Teachers Association (ASLTA), is certified with the Board for Evaluation of Interpreters (BEI), and is a licensed Texas Court interpreter.

E. Basil Kessler, PhD, is an assistant professor in Counselor Education at Emporia State University. He has been professionally involved in the Deaf community of Kansas since the early 1980s. He began as the director of services at the first national social service agency for the DHH, Deaf and Hard of Hearing

Counseling Services in Wichita, Kansas. Through his work at the local and state levels, he was appointed to the board of directors of the Kansas Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing. He served in this capacity as the interpreter representative, the mental health representative, and, finally, as an ex-officio member representing the Kansas State Department of Education (KSDE). Kessler served as an instructor in the Rehabilitation Services Education program at Emporia State University before becoming a program consultant with the KSDE. In that position, he worked with the educational interpreting community along with audiologists and speech pathologists across the state. He was closely involved in the Kansas Deaf-Blind Project and helped develop the Usher Syndrome Screening protocol and guidelines for that state. For 12 years, he ran the Kansas Alternative Finance Program before returning to the classroom, where he is currently an assistant professor and co-coordinator of the clinical counseling program at Emporia State University.

Marcia E. Kolvitz, PhD, is a consultant who focuses on issues related to education, vocational rehabilitation, and transition services. She has over 30 years of experience addressing education and access issues for students who are deaf and hard of hearing in K–12 programs and postsecondary educational settings. She is a frequent presenter at state, regional, and national conferences related to deafness and disability issues. Kolvitz completed a doctorate at the University of Tennessee in Human Ecology (emphasis: Human Resource Development). She has a master of arts degree and a bachelor of science degree in Communication Disorders (emphasis: Counseling Individuals Who Are Deaf and Hard of Hearing) from Northern Illinois University.

Talila A. Lewis, Esq. (no gender pronouns), is a community lawyer, educator, and organizer who works to ground all social justice movements in disability justice. Lewis's current work primarily focuses on helping people understand the inextricable links between ableism, racism, classism, and all other forms of systemic oppression and structural inequity. Recognized as a White House Champion of Change and one of *Pacific Standard Magazine's* Top 30 Thinkers Under 30, Lewis cofounded and serves as the volunteer director of HEARD, a cross-disability abolitionist community organization that focuses on supporting deaf people affected by mass incarceration. Lewis created the only national database of imprisoned deaf/blind people and works with HEARD to abolish the medical-carceral industrial complex; correct wrongful convictions of deaf/disabled people; and support multiply marginalized disabled people affected by all forms of incarceration; among other things. Lewis, a founding member of the Harriet Tubman Collective and cocreator of the Disability Solidarity praxis, also serves as a consultant for social justice organizations, and as an attorney and expert on cases involving disabled people. Lewis previously served as the Givelber Public Interest Lecturer at Northeastern University School of Law and as a visiting professor at the Rochester Institute of Technology/National Technical Institute for the Deaf. A recent graduate of American University

Washington College of Law, Lewis has received awards from numerous universities, the American Association for People with Disabilities, the American Bar Association, Congresswoman Eleanor Holmes Norton, *EBONY*, National Black Deaf Advocates, and the Nation Institute, among others. Lewis is a member of the inaugural cohorts for the Roddenberry Fellowship and the Atlantic Fellowship for Racial Equity.

Gabriel I. Lomas, PhD, is a professor of counseling in the Department of Education and Educational Psychology at Western Connecticut State University. Lomas has significant experience in psychological testing and counseling with DHH people. In particular, he worked closely with victims and offenders on thousands of child welfare cases in Texas and across the nation. He has performed countless forensic evaluations for judges and lawyers. He is frequently consulted as an expert witness in cases involving DHH victims and defendants. Lomas has published and presented widely in the area of counseling, child welfare, and assessment with DHH children and adults.

Gabriel A. "Tony" Martin, EdD, was the chair of the Department of Deaf Studies and Deaf Education at Lamar University for over 20 years and, prior to his passing in October 2016, served as the executive director of the Office of Planning and Assessment and the liaison of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools–Commission on Colleges for Lamar University. He had a total of 33 years of teaching and teacher training in the field of deaf education. Martin was fluent in ASL and taught undergraduate, graduate, and doctoral-level courses. His primary areas of interest included educational and deaf law, administration and leadership, and higher education issues. He was an active grant writer and manager.

Donna M. Mertens, PhD, is a professor emeritus at Gallaudet University, Washington, DC. Mertens taught research methods and evaluation to deaf and hearing students at the master's and doctoral levels for over 30 years. She is now an independent consultant and continues to publish a number of books on conducting research on marginalized populations, using a transformative perspective.

Sue O'Rourke, ClinPsyD, was qualified as a clinical psychologist in 1989 and specializes in mental health and deafness. She has worked in NHS mental health services for deaf people and specializes in working with deaf offenders with mental health needs in secure services. Since 2011 she has also worked as an independent practitioner, providing psychological reports to the courts. She has carried out research relating to deaf people in the criminal justice system, on behalf of the Department of Health. She has a number of publications relating to forensic mental health and deafness and has presented at national and international conferences. For over 20 years, she has carried out many

medicolegal assessments and works as an expert witness in relation to criminal, personal injury, and family proceedings involving deaf people. She has particular expertise assisting the courts in relation to vulnerable witnesses and defendants. She is lead author of the *Advocates Gateway's Tool Kit on Deafness*, a publication used by legal professionals in the United Kingdom, and is a qualified sign language interpreter.

Damara Goff Paris, EdD, is an associate professor and Rehabilitation Services Administration grant director at Emporia State University's Counselor Education program. She was the doctoral program director of Lamar University's Deaf Studies/Deaf Education program for several years and taught in higher education courses part-time for over 15 years. She has worked in professional capacities for private, nonprofit, corporate, and government agencies, including counseling and managing the Connection Program (a nonprofit mental health facility for Deaf individuals), program management of the Telecommunication Access Programs at the Oregon Public Utility Commission, and national marketing director for Sprint Relay. During her tenure at the Connection program, she served as an advocate for individuals who were incarcerated or went through the criminal justice system as defendants and also as an expert witness on some cases. A lifelong advocate for Deaf individuals, particularly Deaf women and Deaf Native Americans, she has provided support to these populations and was awarded the NAD Randall McClelland Memorial Award, OAD Woman of the Year, and Deaf Women of Achievement Award. Recently awarded the ESU Teacher's College Excellence in Scholarly Activities award, she continues to research the intersectionalities of being Deaf, Native American, and female. She currently serves as the president of ADARA.

Daniel Shaw, JD, has spent years representing hundreds of children and families throughout the State of California in special education, civil rights, and personal injury cases. He began his career working as a service coordinator for the Regional Center system, serving individuals with developmental disabilities. As a parent of a child with profound hearing loss, Shaw has sat on all sides of the table. He knows firsthand what it is like to have a child with special needs and be faced with numerous obstacles to their success. His daughter helped shaped his passion for the law and the families he serves. Shaw is an expert litigator with extensive experience litigating at the administrative level, district and state court, and the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals. He has obtained numerous successes before the Office of Administrative Hearings, the U.S. District Court, and the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals.

Theresa Smith, PhD, has long been both a practicing interpreter and an educator of interpreters. She holds a BA in English literature and education, an MA in counseling, both from Seattle University, and a PhD in sociocultural anthropology from the University of Washington; her dissertation was titled

“Deaf People in Context.” Additionally, she is certified by the Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf (RID) in legal interpreting with the Specialist Certificate: Legal (SC:L) as well as the now defunct MCSC. Being frustrated by the limits of a traditional interpreter training program, which she coordinated for 14 years, Smith and colleagues cofounded the American Sign Language Interpreting School of Seattle, which she then directed from 1989 to 2007. During this time, she was active as a key figure in the emergence of the now well-known DeafBlind community in Seattle, after which she wrote a seminal text *Guidelines for Working and Socializing With DeafBlind Adults*. In addition to writing curricula and articles, she has served on numerous professional boards and committees. Although these interests and activities may seem unrelated, the themes that emerge connecting literature, education, counseling, anthropology, and interpreting are those of human communication, social justice, and community activism.

Barry C. Taylor, JD, is the vice president for civil rights and systemic litigation at Equip for Equality (EFE), where he has worked since 1996. At EFE, he has overseen many individual and systemic disability discrimination cases, and he is currently cocounsel in six Americans With Disabilities Act (ADA) class actions, including in *Holmes v. Baldwin*, a class action on behalf of incarcerated people who are deaf and hard of hearing. Taylor has given numerous presentations on the ADA across the country to people with disabilities, family members, attorneys, employers, businesses, service providers, and advocacy organizations. Prior to coming to EFE, Taylor was the AIDS project attorney in the Midwest regional office of Lambda Legal working to advance the civil rights of people living with HIV/AIDS. From 1988 to 1993, Taylor was a litigation associate at the Chicago law firm of Peterson and Ross. He is a 1988 graduate of the University of Illinois College of Law, where he also received his undergraduate degree in 1985.

Elizabeth Wakeland, ForenClinPsyD, is a registered and chartered forensic and clinical psychologist working in the United Kingdom. She has approximately 9 years' experience within forensic, clinical, and community settings, including prison, probation, offender personality disorder pathway services and secure settings, working with both offenders and victims across the life span. Her interest in deafness began in college, where she studied British Sign Language Level 1, and she is currently completing her Level 6 studies in British Sign Language. She has an interest in the field of deaf mental health and offending, and has published a number of papers within this area. Her doctoral thesis focused on the experiences of Deaf people, as both victims and offenders, which won a “pre-qualification award” from the British Psychological Society Division of Forensic Clinical Psychology for its outstanding contributions to research in this area. She has previously worked in specialist deaf adult mental health services across the charitable and NHS sectors.

Rachel M. Weisberg, JD, is a staff attorney at Equip for Equality (EFE), where she has represented hundreds of clients in individual and systemic disability discrimination cases under the ADA and analogous state and local laws. Of note, Weisberg represents a class of deaf and hard of hearing individuals incarcerated in the Illinois Department of Corrections in *Holmes v. Baldwin*. She manages EFE's Employment Rights Helpline, which aims to expand employment opportunities by providing legal and practical advice to applicants and individuals with disabilities. Weisberg is a frequent trainer on the disability rights laws. Prior to EFE, Rachel worked as an assistant attorney general in the Civil Rights Bureau and the Disability Rights Bureau of the Illinois Attorney General's Office, as a labor and employment associate at Sidley Austin LLP, and as a law clerk for Chief Judge James G. Carr in the Northern District of Ohio. Before law school, Weisberg worked as an ADA technical assistance specialist at the Mid-Atlantic ADA Center and during law school interned with EFE and the Disability Rights Section of the U.S. Department of Justice. She is a graduate of Northwestern University School of Law and the University of Michigan.

Roger C. Williams, MSW, is the executive director of the Spartanburg Area Mental Health Center with the South Carolina Department of Mental Health. He received his BSW from the Rochester Institute of Technology and his MSW, specializing in community mental health, from the University of Illinois and completed coursework toward a doctorate at the University of South Carolina, College of Social Work. Williams is a South Carolina Licensed Independent Social Worker-Clinical Practice and holds a RID Certificate of Transliteration and an SCAD/NAD IAP Level 5 and has been recognized at the state and national levels for his leadership in mental health services within the Deaf community.