What is Deaf History?

The researchers of the Deaf History in Germany and other countries pursue the aim to collect, to evaluate and to announce information about the biographies of deaf persons and the life in the deaf communities from former times and today. Thereby it becomes clear how deaf communities have developed and which deaf personalities they have spawned.

Without consideration of the perspective of the deaf the exclusion of the deaf would be continued. They should be understood not only as „objects“, but as „subjects“. It would be a sign of inclusion if different perspectives are treated in the historiography.

With my historical office I would like to contribute to the fact that the knowledge about deaf people in past and present leads to a new quality of perception, for recognition of deaf people and this way to the support of the variety in our society.

About me - Helmut Vogel:

Born in 1969, I grew up as a deaf child of deaf parents and grandparents in Munich. From 1993 to 2000 I studied educational sciences, history and sign language and have acquired the Master’s title (M.A.) at the university of Hamburg. Later on I started to work as a lecturer, published various articles as well as carried out lectureships and sign language courses. German sign language is my mother tongue; I also have good knowledge in ASL (American Sign Language) as well as in International Sign.

In 2008 I founded the historical office as a freelance lecturer and historian and since 2009 I am living in Frankfurt on Main.

You can take all further information from my homepage: www.deafhistorynow.de

History Agency
Helmut Vogel
“Deaf History Now”
Aims
The history agency by Helmut Vogel „Deaf History Now“ researches, signs and writes academically and at the same time excitingly the history of numerous deaf personalities, of deaf organizations and deaf education, briefly: Of the life of deaf people in Germany in past and present.

Deaf and hearing people have the possibility to take part in scientific talks or excursions, e.g., about the Deaf History or the German history, and to extend their knowledge this way. Moreover with my offers I would like to contribute to guarantee a self-determined participation of deaf people in society.

But also the environment, e.g. the families and friends of deaf people as well as persons with corresponding professional background can profit from the knowledge about the Deaf History: They get to know, what it means to live or to have lived as a deaf person in Germany and develop more sensitivity for the life situation of deaf people as a linguistic minority and a community of disabled persons.

It is time to research and spread these subjects! Therefore: „Deaf History Now“.

Offers
- Presentations, seminars and courses, fitted on the respective circle of people
- Conducted tours in museums and exhibitions
- Cultural trips and educational journeys
- Consultation on subjects of „Deaf History“
- Research projects

My offers provide knowledge in sign language to deaf and hearing people qualified in sign language by my offers and this way without linguistic barriers.

But of course I am also with pleasure available to interested hearing persons without proficiency in sign language with my achievements. All offers can be carried out with a sign language interpreter.

Contact me; I can propose an individual offer for every interested circle of people.

Extracts from my program (Examples)

Presentations/seminars about Deaf History:
- Deaf History – a review on the life of the deaf in Germany
- 200 years of German Sign Language
- The deaf movement in the 19th and 20th century
- „Misjudged people“ - a movie of the deaf (1932) and Willy Ballier
- The deaf education since the 18th century

Presentations/seminars about German history:
- German history in the 19th/20th century
- The national socialism of 1933-1945
- History of the FRG since 1949 and peaceful revolution in 1989/1990

Conducted tours in museums, e.g.:
- German historical museum in Berlin
- „Wege-Irrwege-Umwege“ Historical exhibition of the Bundestag in Berlin
- House of the history of the FRG in Bonn
- historical forum in Leipzig