

How to promote deaf communities inclusion into the Information Society? How to improve the informal learning of Deaf citizens? Would easier collaboration create a new Deaf culture? Cultures show an accumulation of modifications over generations in the direction of greater complexity, in such a way that a wider range of functions is encompassed; this is called 'ratchet effect'. Design for All (DfA) is an approach to the design of products, services and environments to be usable by as many people as possible regardless of age, ability or circumstance. I will illustrate "collaborative DfA" by infusing thoughts and ideas of palpable computing and transhumanism with social Web. Palpable computing means the use of information technology (IT) in everything from the kitchen toaster to the sphygmomanometer; it is about designing IT that is easy to modify and understand for all users. Transhumanism focuses on the applications to improve human bodies. Generally the emergence and convergence of present and future technologies are supported. The potential of technologies could be seen from two points of view: (1) Formal education has always been a top-down approach and a matter of power: New technologies break with this hierarchical model. (2) Learning and collaboration: The development of technology has resulted in an interactive and collaborative Web. I would like to conclude that Deaf communities should develop collaboration with different stakeholders on strategic level thus promoting the ratchet effect. Hence the main issue is in the system as a whole, rather than in separate projects of accessibility.