

ACCESS TO THE HEARING WORLD

The Future

We now live in a world where technology has a huge influence on how we live our lives and technology has made our lives far better than before. For example, when wanting to watch a movie we have progressed from VHS cassettes to DVD discs to now a time where we need no hardware as everything is streamed to our devices. Similarly, our lives have been changed with technological advancements in communication (Keating and Mirus, 2014). Now we can communicate with people over huge distances and across various time zones. Now we can communicate using various platforms such as Zoom, MS Teams and other software in order to communicate virtually with each other. These various platforms will inevitably and constantly evolve in the future. Now we can utilise VRS (Virtual Relay Service) to access live interpreters on our hand held devices whereas in the past we would have needed the interpreter to travel and be physically present in the space or carry a huge computer to process the data. Organisations and businesses are now researching how interpreting can be provided virtually using computer generated models such as avatars.



Avatar Sign Language Interpreter – Image by equalizent

“I do feel it’s a remote possibility that technology will take over in the future. To the point where I think face to face interaction will be much less and we will be communicating remotely. It’s possible that spaceships will be used to send down avatars or holograms of people. You look at what Virtual Reality (VR) can do and anything is possible.”

(John Vare)

“I think in the future we will have phones that can project 3D images in front of us and when we meet someone who speaks they will be able to automatically interpret for anyone using our phones.”

(David Ellington)

“I think in the future we may very well be using digital holograms as interpreters.”

(Ricci Collins)

References

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