

DEAF PEOPLE PROTECTING PARENTS (DP3)

Dear California Senator:

If you vote "**YES**" on Mendoza's **Eugenics** Bill, otherwise known as AB 2072, it means that:

- You **DENY** parents access to unbiased resources!
- You promote **INJUSTICE!**
- You promote **GREED** by giving special-interests groups a government-supported sanction to do what they want!
- You promote Deaf **CHILD EXPLOITATION!**
- You promote the spread of **FALSE** information!
- Your name maybe tainted as a Senator who promoted **the WEAKENING** and **WIPING** out of Deaf Culture and American Sign Language!



DEAD WRONG



Are you labeling Deaf Babies defective and worth LESS than human beings?

For Information on Eugenics, please check out the following sources:

- 1) Mendoza Bill in CA creates ethical and legal issues (<http://www.dailiestimate.com/article.asp?id=38256>)
- 2) Definition on Eugenics: en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Eugenics
- 3) The Horrifying American Roots of Nazi Eugenics, by Edwin Black (<http://hnn.us/articles/1796.html>)

Busting the MYTHS about why we are opposed to AB 2072

1. People in opposition to AB 2072 are opposed to parent choice.

This could not be farther from the truth. We are in full support of parents receiving full and unbiased information. Our concern is that parents are being swayed by the “professional opinions” of audiologists without ensuring that parents receive information about how Deaf babies acquire language and develop language. That is an area of expertise not within the scope of work of audiologists.

2. People in opposition to AB 2072 are 100% against audiologists.

We are not against audiologists. We fully respect their roles to evaluate and assess for hearing loss. However, their scope of work ends right there. They should not be the ones to give parents information about language acquisition/development and communication options.

3. The opposition to AB 2072 are about forcing ASL only on Deaf infants.

We know, proven through research in the last 40 years, that ASL is a natural, complete language in its own right that is crucial to full language development for Deaf babies. We do encourage speech training and auditory-verbal training as a secondary activity whenever appropriate but it alone does not help develop language.

4. The opposition to AB 2072 refuse to work with Mendoza.

The Deaf community is the community of people who are the most impacted by this bill and we were not even contacted when Mendoza first authored this bill. We have met with Mendoza and his Legislative Director, Rene Bayardo, at least twice each month in addition to email correspondence. It was during the first meeting with Mr. Mendoza that we learned that although he authored AB 2072, he was not able to explain what each of the communication options listed in his bill (cued speech and total communication) were. Hence, we took the opportunity to educate him and stayed in touch with him regarding provisions in the bill, especially since we are the community of people most impacted by this bill and are the community of people who were not included in the first place when this bill was first authored!