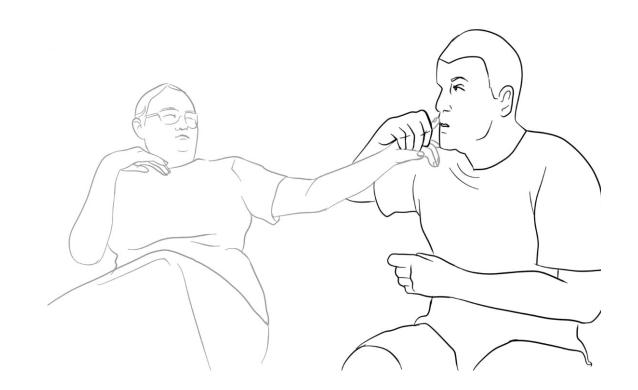
## Bay Islands Sign Language is produced with extensive co-formation\*

signer's hand, signer's body



Signer places own hand on own cheek

addressee's hand, signer's body



Signer places addressee's ! hand on own cheek

signer's hand, addressee's body



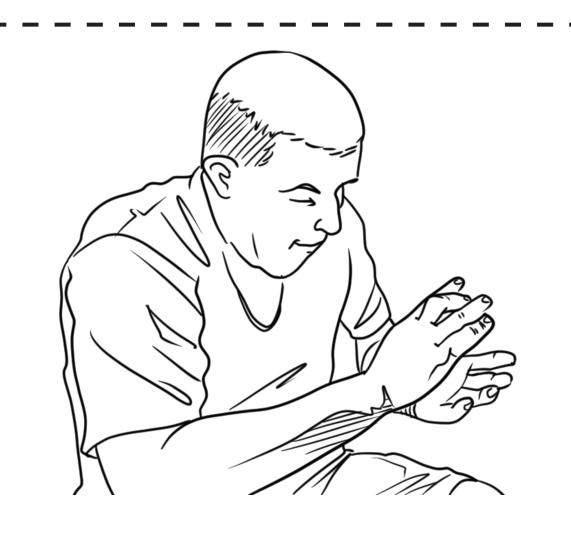
Signer places own hand on addressee's cheek

addressee's hand, addressee's body



Signer places addressee's hand on addressee's cheek

Background: The presence of Usher's Syndrome since the late 19th century in communities in the Bay Islands led to the emergence of a shared sign language used by deaf-blind, deaf-sighted and hearing-sighted people.



Visual form of NOTHING



NOTHING co-formed with signer and addressee's hands



NOTHING produced by 'sandwiching' addressee's ; hand



NOTHING produced by rubbing addressee's leg

Fig 1: Four ways of producing one-handed Fig 2: Four ways of producing NOTHING

body-anchored signs

\* Co-formation: Production of signs using the signer's and the addressee's hands and bodies

## and perceived visually, tactilely and proprioceptively

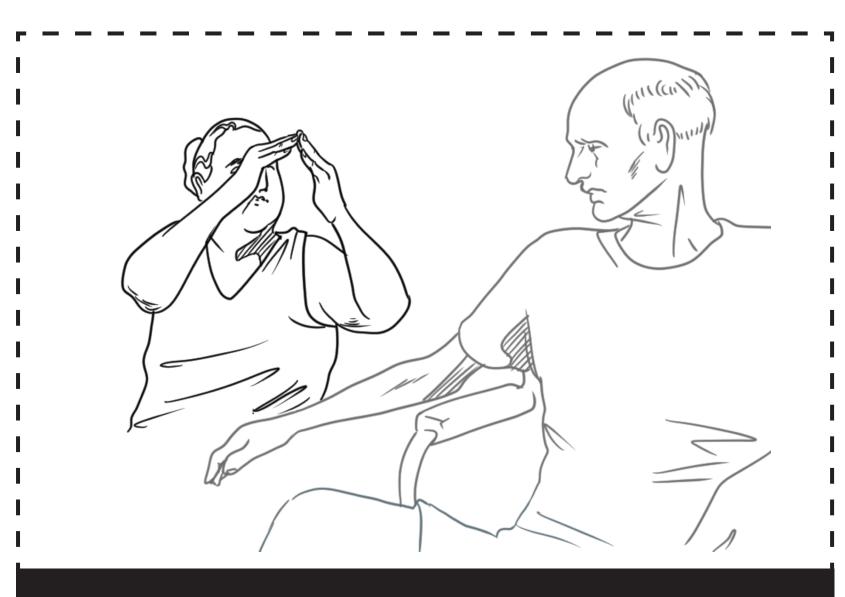


Fig 3: HOUSE perceived visually



Fig 4: HOUSE perceived tactilely (addressee holds signer's hand)



Fig 5: HOUSE perceived proprioceptively (signer forms HOUSE using addressee's hands)

Even when sighted people are addressed, signs are frequently co-formed and perceived tactilely and proprioceptively.

Title: "Production and perception in a shared tactile sign language" Kristian Ali and Ben Braithwaite (University of the West Indies)

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