

SOCIAL COMPETENCE OF DEAF AND HARD-OF-HEARING CHILDREN

Shirin D. Antia and Kathryn H. Kreimeyer

From the Professional Perspectives on Deafness: Evidence and Applications Series

SHIRIN D. ANTIA is a professor in the University of Arizona's College of Education and has been involved in education of deaf and hard-of-hearing children since 1971. She has taught DHH children in the United States and in India and has been involved in teacher preparation and research. She is the recipient of several research grants to develop peer-interaction interventions and to examine the social and academic

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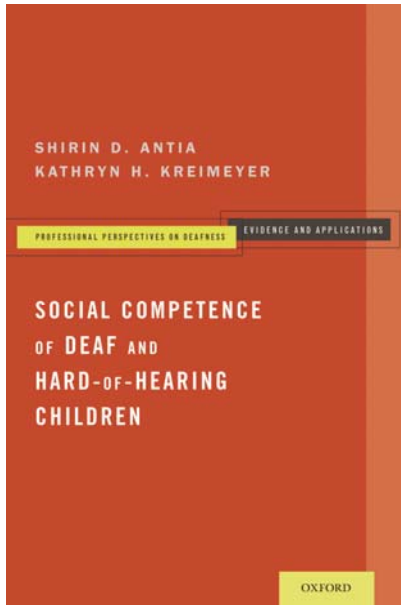
Social Competence of Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing Children addresses the development, assessment, and promotion of social competence in children who are deaf or hard-of-hearing (DHH). Most children readily develop social competence through the mutually dependent development of social skills and social relationships. Why then write a book on the social competence of DHH children? Hearing loss, with its resulting communication challenges, has the potential to impede the development of social skills and restrict social relationships. In this volume, Shirin D. Antia and Kathryn H. Kreimeyer highlight multiple strategies that teachers, families, and community members can utilize to promote the social competence of DHH children.

The authors present a variety of practical ways to assess the social competence of DHH children. They emphasize the role of assessment in identifying social strengths and needs to establish a basis for any necessary intervention. They then present ways to promote social competence, with a separate focus on strategies appropriate for young DHH children and for school-age DHH children. For both age groups, the authors address the role of families, professionals, schools, and communities in helping children develop the skills needed to become socially competent individuals. This book will be a valuable resource for the parents and families of DHH children, for the general and special educators who teach these children, and for the researchers who describe development and evaluate the effectiveness of strategies to promote the social competence of DHH children.

KATHRYN H. KREIMEYER is an associate professor of practice in the Department of Disability and Psychoeducational Studies within the University of Arizona's College of Education, where she prepares graduate-level teachers of deaf and hard-of-hearing children. She and Dr. Antia have worked collaboratively for thirty years to conduct and publish research on the social competence of children who are deaf or hard of hearing.

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