

Interview with Juan Angel De Gouveia

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Thora: Hello!

I am doing an interview with a person, who is Juan Angel De Gouveia from Venezuela. He was selected as president in WFDYS Assembly in this year.

I ask Juan. What is the difference in the philosophy of the WFD and the WFDYS?

Juan: The philosophy of WFD and WFDYS is not different and in fact both of their philosophies are the same; to provide right to use sign language and human right for Deaf people. But work of WFD and WFDYS is different. We, the WFDYS work to focus on deaf youth. For example we do some youth camp for young deaf people. There are 3 camps; one for children from 10 to 12 years old, other for young people from 13 to 17 years old and third camp for youth from 18 to 30 years old.

In 2010 year camp for children will be in Venezuela; Junior youth camp for youth from 13 to 17 years old in Slovakia in Europe and youth camp from 18 to 30 years old in South Africa before World Congress of WFD. After youth camp, young people can visit in World Congress of WFD. I think all youth's philosophy is the same; human right, sign language what is very important for them and bi-lingual education. WFDYS support young people and WFD too. That is why philosophy of WFD and WFDYS is the same.

Thora: WFDYS want to work for youth from 0 to 30 years old. How can WFDYS influence all youth to be quality of their life better?

Juan: How we work to influence all youth. We have a range of possibilities. WFDYS work for camps what influence youth. For example parents get a baby and are desperate then they can go to deaf association but that is not only a deaf association but also there are many deaf association and well work together in a country. This association is responsible to inform how they learn sign language, know human right and more. I think WFDYS can well influence youth through leadership. Youth learn leadership in camp and do to spread information in their country after camp.

Thora: Is WFDYS dependent on WFD?

Juan: I tell you more what WFDYS is dependent on WFD. WFD has assembly and WFDYS go to its assembly at the same time too. WFD has own aim (with focus on something) and WFDYS can be independent and can do own vote which camp and new board member WFDYS want. WFD is very well in relationship with WFDYS. WFD let us our wishes to do something and do not discriminate us. WFD advance us and its goal is we well work for future then we can join in WFD because people in WFD will be old and left that. This process allows the WFD to continue. If there are no youth who work in WFDYS then how WFD can be went on working on the strong world and human right for deaf people. WFD has young people today it is better that than later. I think WFD has good role model for the world connected.

Thora: What do you think about FR3?

Juan: We, board member by WFDYS, want to say FR3 something we have met many people from FR3 who come from Europe, Africa, Asia and South America and they have seen those people are motivating and active. I have taught them how they work youth at the world. I have seen and known they go to their country after lesson by Frontrunners and inform all how somebody manages leadership that is not only but also they can go to developing countries. You know 70 millions deaf people live at the world and 20% of deaf people visit in school but 1% of deaf people use sign language in school. 1 per cent is very fewest! I hope Frontrunner will go to developing countries and should teach deaf people education at first. If deaf people have good education then they can establish human right better. If they haven't education how they can struggle for human right. I think we are lucky to have FR3. All the best!