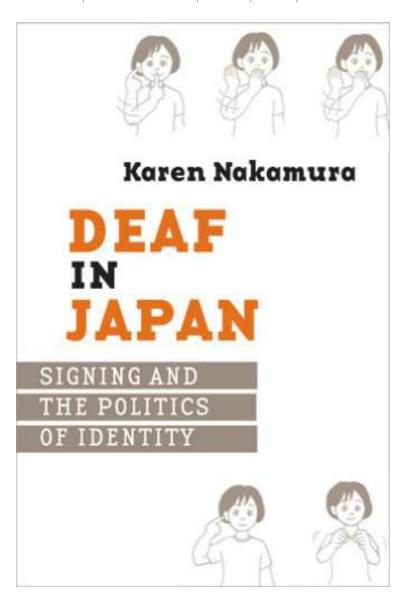
# Deaf in Japan: Signing and the Politics of Identity

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1 of 1 review helpful Very informative and easy to read By Vanessa Saunders I needed this book for a paper I was doing on Japanese Sign Language This book touches on it but it is mostly focused as titled on the politics and Deaf identity Very informative and easy to read It is interesting to see the similarities and differences between the ASL culture with the JSL culture The author Karen Nakamura has two published Until the mid 1970s deaf people in Japan had few legal rights and little social recognition Legally they were classified as minors or mentally deficient unable to obtain driver s licenses or sign contracts and wills Many worked at menial tasks or were constantly unemployed and schools for the deaf taught a difficult regimen of speechreading and oral speech methods rather than signing After several decades of activism deaf men and women are now largely accepted A fascinating account of deafness and deaf people in twentieth century Japan Douglas Baynton University of Iowa Journal of Asian Studies T his text can be read as a long overdue monograph on the Japanese deaf community and

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