Valdano Tobias

INTRODUCTION



My Personal School Experience

Started the primary (elementary) school. (hearing). **6 years old**

- No sign language interpreter
- no access to sign language
- depend on lip-reading and written notes to communicate and learn.

How Did This Experience Affect Me?

- Biggest challenges: Reading, Vocabulary and Creative Writing (Essay)
- Easiest challenges: Mathematics, and Art

Deaf children need accessible education, early language exposure, and teachers who understand their needs

Challenges Facing Deaf Children in Trinidad and Tobago

- Rural communities
- Lack of parental support
- Limited educational resources at home
- Limited awareness of schools for Deaf children
- Lack of Deaf tutors and role models

My Main Message

- To ensure that Deaf children receive early access to language, quality education, family support, and opportunities to learn from Deaf adults.

- To ensure that every Deaf child deserves the opportunity to communicate, learn, develop confidence, and reach their full potential.

Early access to language is not a privilege. It is essential for every Deaf child's development and future.