



## OHIO ASSOCIATION OF THE DEAF, INC.

a non-profit organization promoting the best interests of the deaf of our state

*Mary*

November 6, 1976

Senator Robert Dole  
The Senate Building  
Washington, D.C. 20003

Dear Senator Dole:

This letter is in regard to my attached letter sent to the three major T.V. networks concerning their refusal to provide an interpreter during your recent Vice-Presidential debate with Senator Mondale.

Many deaf T.V. owners in Ohio do not have the Public Broadcasting Service which aired the debate with an interpreter on insert.

I hope in the near future the three major T.V. networks will provide interpreters for the deaf T.V. viewers who also need to know what's happening in our world.

Thank you for your efforts in our behalf. I hope you will continue to represent your state for many years to come.

God grant you good health.

Respectfully,

Irene Tunanidas  
Recording Secretary, OAD  
Teacher of the Deaf  
Oral Day Program, Stambaugh School  
Youngstown, Ohio



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October 18, 1976

President, CBS  
2020 M. Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C.

Attention President:

I was informed that interpreters were to be provided during the Mondale-Dole debate which was aired by your station on October 15th. Why have you denied our rights as deaf voting citizens to develop an awareness and understanding of the political developments by refusing the aid of an interpreter for the debates? The request made by Mondale and Dole showed that they had much concern and compassion for the deaf voters.

Senator Robert Dole had a deaf employee working for him in his hometown office a few years ago, and from this experience, he learned a great deal relevant to deafness. You could show the same concern for the hearing impaired by giving us the opportunity to enjoy the same things afforded the hearing society in the language they comprehend. I know that few deaf television owners in Ohio have the Public Broadcasting Service.

So give the rest of us a break. Open up your hearts and get interpreters that we too may know what is happening, when it is happening.

Sincerely,

Irene Tunanidas  
Recording Secretary, OAD

(File Copy)

Copies sent to ABC & NBC TV  
stations



HEALTH/HANDICAPPED

January 12, 1977

Irene Tunanidas  
Recording Secretary, OAD  
Teacher of the Deaf  
Oral Day Program  
Stambaugh School  
Youngstown, Ohio

Dear Ms. Tunanidas:

Thank you for your letter of November 6, 1976, and for sending me a copy of the letter which you wrote to the President of CBS. I am sorry for the delay in responding to your letter, but hope you will understand that even after the election, my mail volume was very heavy.

Of course, I agree with the sentiments which you expressed in your letter, and support your advocacy of improved services for the deaf and hearing impaired. As I am sure you are aware, the Federal Communications Commission ruled favorably on the petition filed by the Public Broadcasting Service for closed-captioning. Given this green light, I am hopeful that manufacturers will forge ahead on the production of decoders, and that television networks will begin captioning their programs for the hearing impaired. Assuming that captioning catches on, I trust that more and more persons will become aware of the special problems suffered by persons with hearing impairments.

Thank you for your concern and support, and I am hopeful that "line 21" is the beginning of many new experiences for those with hearing impairments.

Sincerely yours,

BOB DOLE  
United States Senator

BD:msw