

A CASE STUDY : COMMUNICATION OF A CHILD
WITH A COCHLEAR IMPLANT
IN THE CONTEXT OF CONVERSATION WITH ADULT CAREGIVERS

A Thesis

by

THERESA MOORMAN BARRETT

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December 1997

Department of Language, Reading, and Exceptionalities

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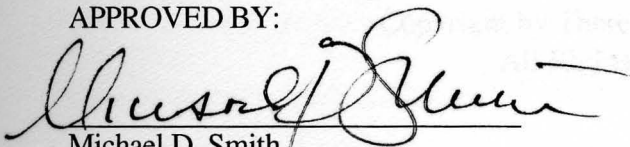
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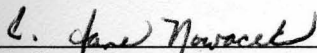
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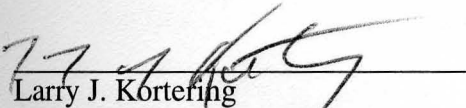
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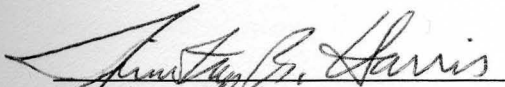
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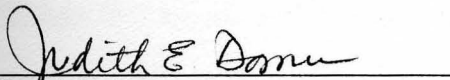
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ABSTRACT

A CASE STUDY:

COMMUNICATION OF A CHILD WITH A COCHLEAR IMPLANT IN THE CONTEXT OF CONVERSATION WITH ADULT CAREGIVERS.

(December 1997)

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Thesis Chairperson: Michael D. Smith

Cochlear implants in young children during the 1990s have challenged parents and educators to match medical and technological advances with appropriate therapeutic interventions. Everyday interactions are the primary occasion of learning for children. Understanding language maturation in typically developing children and in children with cochlear implants may help promote more effective interactions with children who have implants. This paper analyzes one child's communication in natural conversation with several caregivers in order to identify ways to enhance communication.

An analysis of child-caregiver interactions, developed by Elizabeth Cole and Jacqueline St. Clair Stokes in 1984, was used to describe communicative functioning within conversations. Effective adult scaffolding strategies were clarified. Analysis of the results suggested that this child showed basic similarities to typically developing children in maturation of linguistic functioning but brought to these communications her unique history of perception.