

The Colin McEnroe Show – Accessible Radio ASL Transcript

Colin McEnroe: So, we're going to talk about a different aspect of all this, we're talking about the idea of accessibility, and to begin this, I'm going to play something, I don't think the interpreters have to do very much here, this is from one of the Republican Presidential debates, and so, imagine that you are the person whose job it is to supply the closed captioning or the descriptive content, or whatever it is, for what you're about to hear right now.

PERSON 1: I believe you know politicians much better than I do, because for 40 years, 50 years, you've been funding liberal, democratic politicians, and by the way, the reason ---

PERSON 2: I funded YOU! I funded HIM!

PERSON 1: You're welcome to check back because—

[indistinguishable]
[crowd noise]

Person 2: I gave him a cheque! I gave him a cheque!

Person 1: Five thousand dollars, you never funded me. And – and by the way, let's be clear. Donald claims – Donald claims to care about [indistinguishable]

Person 2: I have this book, thank you for the book. Go ahead.

Person 1: Donald, you can get back –

Person 3: I'm having a lot of fun up here tonight, I have to tell you.

[crowd cheers]

Colin McEnroe: So, the CNN closed captioner typed "unintelligible yelling", which I think is fair, I mean, if you can hear that, you wouldn't get anything more than unintelligible yelling. But it points to one of the challenges involved when you are trying to supply a kind of content, or an augmentation of content, for people who aren't getting, um, that part of the content. So, we are now going to talk a little bit about descriptive video, with Diane Johnson, President and CEO of Descriptive Video Works. So, first of all, Diane, welcome to the conversation.

Diane Johnson: Thank you so much, Colin, it's great to be part of your show.

Colin McEnroe: It may be obvious to most people what we're talking about, but maybe you should explain how Descriptive Video Works, works?

Diane Johnson: Sure, descriptive video basically is filling in the parts of a show that someone who is Blind or vision impaired wouldn't be able to understand. So they would hear the dialogue, but they wouldn't hear where the person is, the location, they wouldn't hear some of the emotion that's going on – we've done the Olympics, the Olympics for NBC, you think about how emotional some of the athletes can be, a commentator wouldn't add that in. So descriptive video is basically in between dialogue, describing what is happening.