

THE COLIN MCENROE SHOW: ASL RADIO

Transcribed by: Adrienne Smith & David Widman - Humber College

COLIN: Alright, 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 either the closed captioning or the descriptive content, or whatever it is, for what you're about to hear right now.

TED CRUZ: Oh, I believe it. I believe you know politicians much better than I do because for 40 years you've been funding liberal democratic politicians. And by the way—

[Unintelligible yelling]

DONALD: You're a lot of fun tonight, I have to tell you.

COLIN: So, the CNN closed captioner eventually typed [Unintelligible yelling], which I think is fair. I mean, if you could hear that, you wouldn't get anything more than unintelligible yelling. But it points to some of the challenges that are involved when you are trying to supply a kind of content, or an augmentation of content, for people who aren't getting that part of the content.

So, we're 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: Thank you so much, Colin. It's great to be part of your show.

COLIN: It may be obvious to most people by now, what we're talking about, but maybe you should explain how Descriptive Video Works works.

DIANE: Sure. Descriptive video, basically, is filling in the parts of a show that someone that's blind or vision-impaired wouldn't be able to understand. So, we're painting a picture for them. So, they would hear the dialogue, they wouldn't hear where the person is, the location, they wouldn't hear some of the emotion that's going on. Like we've done the Olympics, we did the Olympics for NBC, so you think about how emotional some of the athletes would be, a commentator wouldn't add that in, so descriptive video is basically in between dialogue, describing what is happening.

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