Mel: The word "Deafhood" was coined by Dr. Paddy Ladd. Dr. Ladd is a Deaf professor for the Deaf Studies Center based at the University of Bristol in England. Deafhood is an all-encompassing word with two main meanings.

First, it is about a Deaf person who is learning more about themselves and why they are Deaf. They ask themselves: Is being Deaf a negative thing or a positive thing? Does being Deaf cause disruption or help improve their environment? Why are their Deaf people on Earth? Is my life while I was growing up and my life going forward going to be the same, will it change, or improve? It is a journey of learning, discoveries, and understandings, which enlightens one's understanding of self.

Secondly, Deafhood is a positive, vibrant reflection of all the Deaf people around the world including a collection of all their lives, their histories, experiences, cultures, and signed languages. Oh yes, many of these experiences throughout history include many instances of discrimination, negative views, and oppression, yet Deafhood sees many stories of continued resistance. Deafhood is a message that Deaf people are completely fine as they are.

Deafhood Foundation does not say Deafhood is an "idea" they own or about being right or wrong. Deafhood Foundation believes this is about understanding and facilitating the differing perspectives, interpretations, and expanded analysis as a journey. Deafhood Foundation is inspired to see the many instances of continued discourses around the world.