

The film explores the complex issue of cochlear implants for deaf children, contrasting the experiences of two families. Nita, a deaf woman, opposes implants for her daughter Heather, believing it would isolate her from deaf culture and limit her identity. She feels deaf people are marginalized and argues that deaf culture is valuable and should be preserved. However, after witnessing the struggles of her own childhood, she decides to be open-minded about the implant. Heather, who has hearing friends she wants to communicate with, expresses a desire for the implant. In contrast, Peter's parents, Mary and her husband, face a different dilemma. They initially are devastated when Peter is diagnosed with deafness, struggling to comprehend how to raise a deaf child in a hearing world. They are presented with information about cochlear implants and decide to pursue them, hoping to provide Peter with the opportunity to hear and speak. The film highlights the clash between the deaf and hearing worlds, exposing the fear and prejudice that deaf people often face. The families grapple with the ethical implications of the implant, debating whether it is a "cure" or a forced assimilation into hearing culture. Some individuals, like Mary, believe that the implant is a blessing that allows deaf children to fully integrate into society. Others, like Nita, worry that it disrupts a rich and vibrant culture. The film ultimately concludes with Peter receiving the implant, demonstrating the ongoing debate and individual choices involved in deciding what is best for deaf children.