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The present thesis describes perception of disturbing sounds in a daily sound environment, for people with hearing loss and people with normal hearing. The sound environment influence people's ability to achieve desired sound stimuli. The noisier environment, the harder it is to hear. For persons suffering from hearing loss, the possibilities to hear in background sounds are reduced compared to persons with normal hearing thresholds. In the present thesis, sounds perceived as disturbing for hearing aid users, are presented. The result is based on an inquiry with answers from hearing aid users whom had varying degree of experience of hearing aids. Furthermore, the perception of disturbing sounds has been investigated and the outcome is compared between persons with mild to moderate hearing loss, and persons with normal hearing. The result indicates that most people experience disturbing sounds in their daily environment. For hearing aid users it may have the negative effect that they do not use their hearing aid as much as needed due to lost benefit in situations with disturbing sounds.

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## Investigations of people with hearing loss and normal hearing

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*Disability research*



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