



**University of
Sunderland**

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Creating an **LGBTQI+** PhotoVoice Project

Day One

Welcoming you and getting to know you

The purpose of day one:

- To introduce the key concepts behind a PhotoVoice project.
- To examine how we look at images and pictures.
- To introduce photography techniques.
- To introduce community mapping.
- To start **your** PhotoVoice journey with a homework task.

Our Plan for Day One

- **Welcoming you and getting to know you**
- **What is PhotoVoice?**
- **Break**
- **Exploring images**
- **Becoming a photographer**
- **Break**
- **What is community mapping?**
- **Activity to complete before day two on Thursday**



Our Plan for All Days

- **Day 1:** (Today) Understanding PhotoVoice.
- **Day 2:** (Thursday) Bringing photographs together and mapping power. Starting your PhotoVoice project.
- **Day 3:** (To be arranged) To continue and finish the project with Legebrita. Exhibit and make social change happen!

What rules should we all agree on if we are to work together on this project?

Let's construct our rules together



Memory Scene

- **Firstly, split into pairs (if possible).**
- **We will then ask you to close your eyes and to picture a place, or location, where you feel safe.**
- **Think about what you will see, smell, taste, touch, and hear. Now close your eyes for 1 minute.**
- **Now, we would like one of you to go first and explain to the other person about what you saw. Describe it in detail, and they will attempt to draw it.**
- **Now swap roles, with the other person, who is now describing their own safe space, and the other person drawing it.**
- **Some questions to discuss with each other after you have both drawn your safe places:**
- **Pairs: Is it an accurate picture which was drawn?**
- **Pairs: Why is this your safe space?**
- **Whole group: Do we have any common themes?**

What is PhotoVoice?

The power of photography: Kevin Carter



What is Photovoice?

- **Wang and Burris (1992) gave cameras to rural village women in Yunnan Province in China, and they documented their lives and environment for one year.**
- **They met regularly to discuss their images.**
- **At the end of the project, they exhibited their pictures and used it to tell local policy makers about their needs.**
- **Wang and Burris (1992) found that by using photos with communities, this technique can do five key things:**
 - 1. Show that images teach others.**
 - 2. Explain how pictures can influence policy.**
 - 3. Show that community members should participate in creating their own images, showing how policies affect them.**
 - 4. Bring policy makers and other influential people to the table to serve as an audience.**
 - 5. Emphasise both individual and community action.**

What is Photovoice?

This means that there are **three key aspects to PhotoVoice**. It aims to do the following three things:

- 1. To help those who are often unheard gain a voice, enabling them to record and reflect on their experiences and their own communities' conditions, both positive and negative.**
- 2. To encourage 'critical consciousness' (Freire, 1970). Through choosing, discussing, and reflecting about your own photographs. By doing this, it helps us all to gain a clearer understanding of your own circumstances and the economic, social, psychological, and political forces, that shape you.**
- 3. To bring about change that will improve your own conditions and enhance other peoples lives, by reaching and influencing policy makers.**



“Through a combination of photography and group discussions, PhotoVoice enables members of the community to identify their viewpoints and use them as tools for social change. An effective method to analyse everyday life experiences, to empower and give voice to marginalised communities” (Anamuh, 2023)

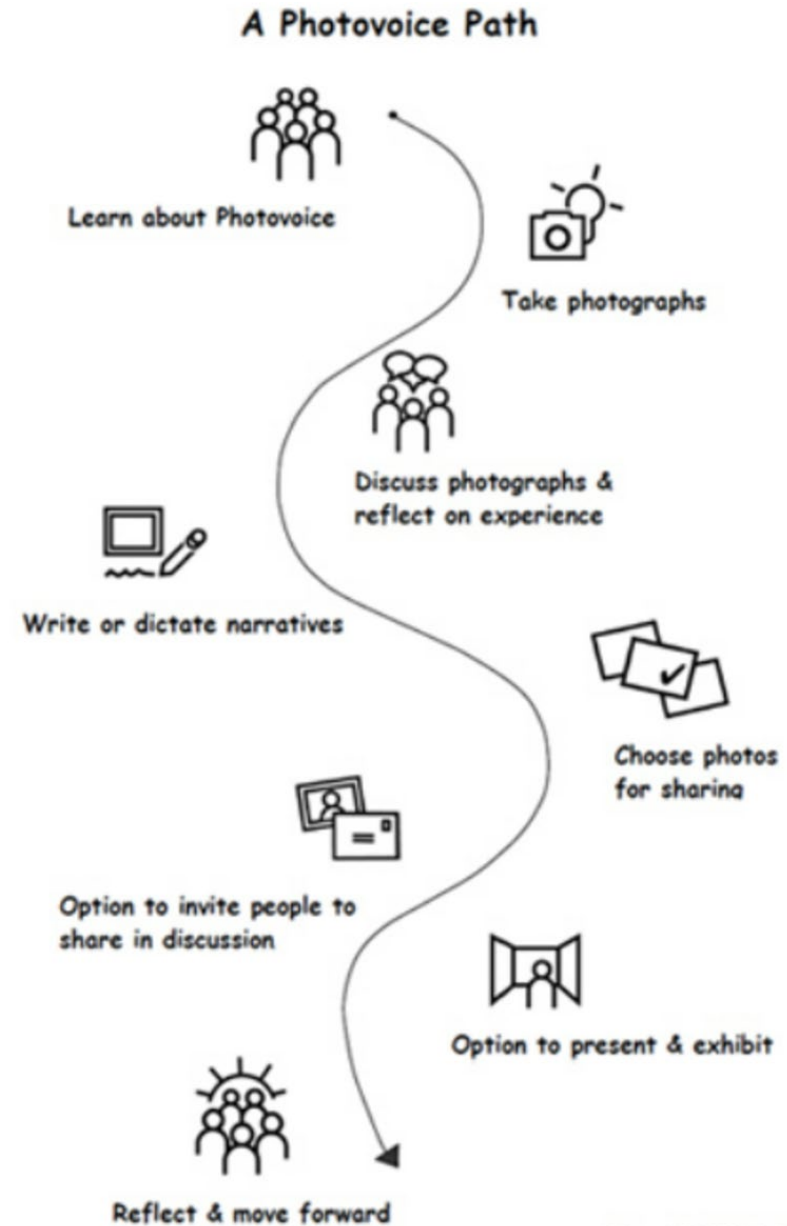
PhotoVoice is about YOU

PhotoVoice is an inclusive technique, because:

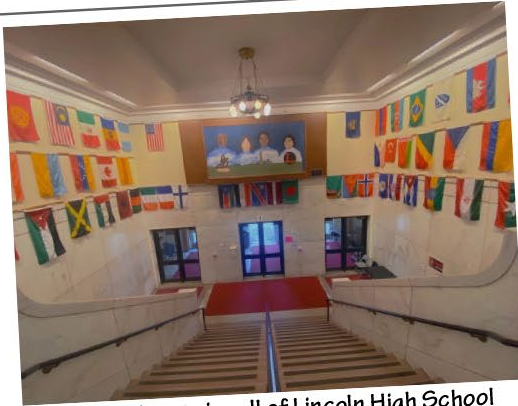
- **It crosses linguistic divides. The common language is photography and pictures.**
- **It does not matter about a person's age, background, sexuality, gender identity or expression, ethnicity, or any other factor – it can be used by all.**
- **It does not matter if you are a good photographer or not. It is not important (and we teach you some basic techniques!)**
- **PhotoVoice is used to gather new insights and perspectives that raise awareness of hidden or overlooked issues within a community.**
- **PhotoVoice is all about YOUR voice.**



A PhotoVoice Path (Lorenz, 2005)



Refugees and Mental Health



Flags in the stairwell of Lincoln High School captured by a Photovoice participant to emphasize diversity and acceptance.

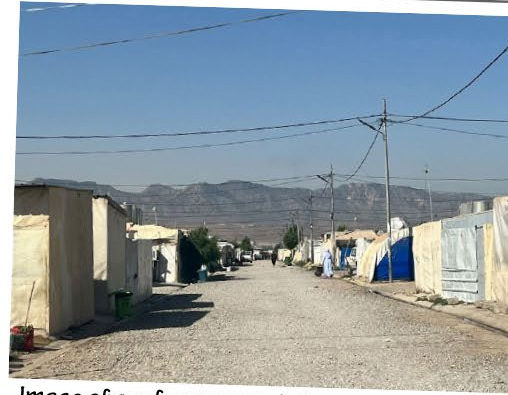


Image of a refugee camp in Iraq captured by a Photovoice participant to showcase mental health in camps versus the United States.



Photo of a raised garden bed with a sign description of native plants captured by a Photovoice participant as a metaphor for being "native" to a country.

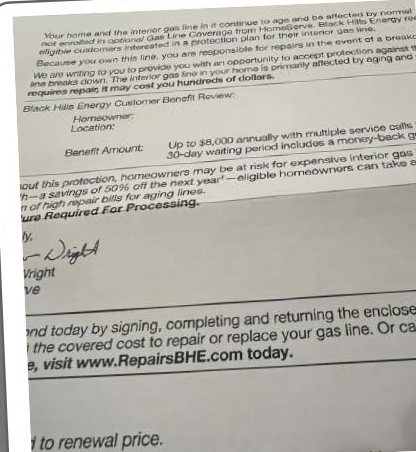


Image of a utilities company letter a Photovoice participant had to translate for family.

Carolyn Campagna Kleefeld Contemporary Art Museum



Living with HIV in Newcastle upon Tyne (BPNE)



Born Into Brothels



Break

Exploring Images Round 1

Task:

- Split into groups.
- You will be given a pile of **random photographs and images**.
- Choose **three photographs** from the pile which interest you.
- Explain to the group **why** these three photographs interest you.



The **SHOWED** technique

A specific technique that helps us to look deeper into our world:

1. What is the first thing you **SEE** happening in this picture?
2. What do you think is really **HAPPENING** here?
3. How does this relate to **OUR** lives?
4. Why does this **EXIST**?
5. What can we **DO** about it?
6. What things would **you change** to make things better?

Exploring Images Round 2

Task:

- Split into groups again.
- You will be given a pile of photographs containing **LGBTQI+ images**.
- Choose **three** photographs or images from the pile which interest you.
- Now let's analyse the photographs using the **SHOWED method**.

Re-cap: **SHOWED** technique

A specific technique that helps us to look deeper into our world:

1. What is the first thing you **SEE** happening in this picture?
2. What do you think is really **HAPPENING** here?
3. How does this relate to **OUR** lives?
4. Why does this **EXIST**?
5. What can we **DO** about it?
6. What things would **you change** to make things better?

Becoming a Photographer

Why is this NOT a well taken photograph?



Why is this NOT a well taken photograph?



Why is this a better photograph?

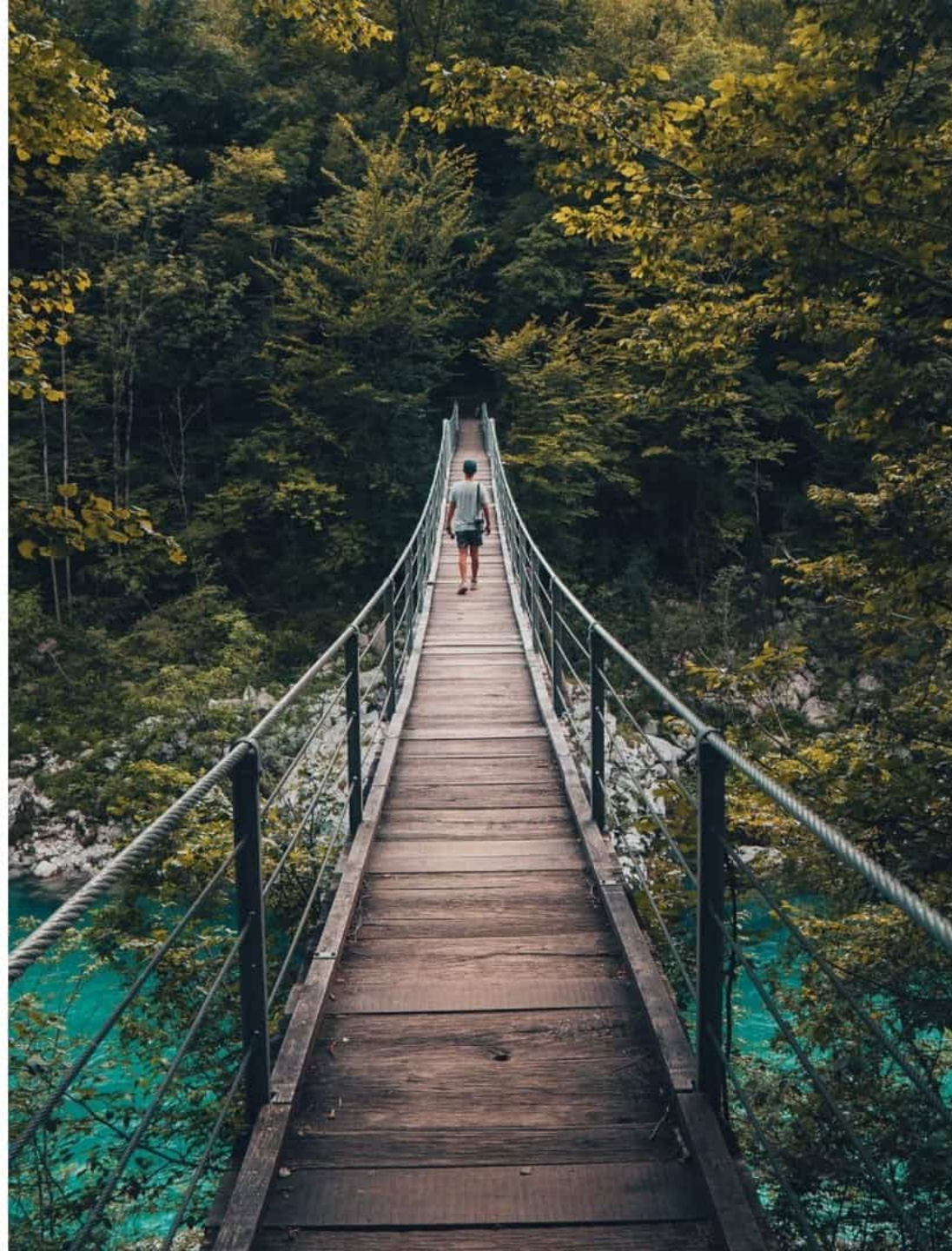


Why is this a better photograph?



Why is this a better photograph?





**Practice: Take photographs using the
'Lines of Composition'**

Technique: 'Rule of Thirds'



**Practice: Take photographs using the
'Rule of Thirds'**

Consent: When should we not take photographs in public?



Break

What is community mapping?

What is Community Mapping?

- **Community mapping brings together communities with a shared purpose.**
- **It allows them to highlight areas of change which are needed in their communities on a map.**
- **Some draw a map instead.**
- **It is about collecting information and then analysing that information.**
- **Once the information is analysed, we may go back to the map to adjust it if we learn new information.**
- **Mapping our community is a good way to bring our voice to powerful people who can help us with making social change happen.**
- **It also compliments the PhotoVoice photography.**



Examples of community mapping



Examples of community mapping



Examples of community mapping



Examples of community mapping



In Ljubljana, where do you feel **safe** and **unsafe** as an LGBTQI+ person?

Task:

- Examine the map in front of you as one big group. Think about where you feel safe and unsafe in the capital.
- Stick **green stickers** on your areas where you personally **feel safe**.
- Stick **red stickers** on areas where you personally **feel unsafe**.
- Now, each of you use the **yellow stickers** to highlight three areas on this map where we **could make these places safer**. What can we do?
- Be prepared to discuss these afterwards in your group.



Your homework task:

- Work as either individuals or groups. Please note that groups may make you feel safer doing this task. You may wish to bring a friend or family member for safety.
- Your task is to take **no more than 5 photographs each** of places in the city where you feel safe and unsafe as an LGBTQI+ person. **How do you feel about this?**
- **Please email Drew and Abbie your photographs** before 12pm on the 5th June, as we are going to print them, so they are ready for day two.
- Our email addresses are:
- Drewdalton@reportout.org
- Abbieriley@reportout.org
- Remember **ethics and consent** when taking pictures, and **do not** put yourself in situations of danger.

What have you enjoyed most about today?

**We now look forward to seeing you on day two,
where we will start to make social change happen!**

Questions **and** answers

Anything we can help with?

