

Photography as Storytelling

How can photography be used to tell a story?

Think about how photography has been an artform through the years that has captured specific moments in time and history.

How do these iconic photographs help tell a story? What do they tell us about that time period or what was going on in the world during that time?

****Not all photographs represent joy and happiness, some are sad, shocking, and can be hard to look at****

Alfred Eisenstaedt's
photograph of an
American sailor kissing a
woman in Times Square





Chinese protester steps in front of People's Liberation Army tanks in Tiananmen Square in 1989. At least five photographers captured the event, which became a symbol of defiance in the face of oppression.

Joe Rosenthal's 1945
photograph of U.S.
troops raising a flag in
Iwo Jima during World
War II.



Man falling from the World Trade Center in New York
after the terror attacks on September 11, 2001



Police escorting children after the Sandyhook Elementary School shooting.



Kent State Massacre



Boston Marathon
Bombing April
15th. Runner was
scene knocked
down after the first
explosion.



Dorothea Lange's photograph of a struggling mother with her children in 1936 became an icon of the Great Depression.



How can you capture and tell your story?

Reflect and think about the strange time we are in right now. How is the Corona Virus affecting our history right now? How do you feel about not being in school? What is it like to be home everyday, what are you filling your days with?

How can you photograph this historic time from where you are now? What kind of images will portray and tell your story?

My Story through Photographs...

Since the school has closed I have quickly fallen into the stay-at-home mom roll, which is a big change! I find myself wondering how to fill the day and keep my 18 month old son occupied. Should we build, play basketball, read, watch a movie?! I really try to get him outside as much as possible and am so thankful I live on almost 4 acres, but weather doesn't always cooperate.

The days can seem long and waiting for my husband to get home to have some adult conversation is always a highlight of the day. It has me reflecting on how thankful I am to be a working mom and to be teaching at the high school level. I miss coming in everyday and getting to work with the students. A few days off is always nice, but not knowing if or when we will get back is omniscient and sad.

Take a look through my photographs in the next slides!





Now what do you need to do?

I'd like you to write a written reflection on how this time in our lives is affecting you and how you feel. What are you going through emotionally, or mentally? This can be completed in a google doc. 1-2 paragraphs, full sentences.

You then need to think about how you will represent this through photographs. All photographs can be done on your phone (if you brought your camera home great!) You can use any editing applications you'd like through your phone (I just used photos edits). The only requirement I ask is that you edit them to be BLACK and WHITE! This should help emphasize our emotion and storytelling. Again remember this is about STORYTELLING. How can you tell the viewer a story through your images? You must have a total of 5 photographs taken and submitted.

What will you capture?

All images sourced from

<https://www.cnn.com/2013/09/01/world/gallery/iconic-images/index.html>

Take a look at the article for more inspiration. Also feel free to google iconic photographs throughout US history.