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# RISE

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*Changing Lives*  
and **Empowering  
Humanities**

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# How Photography

## *Changes Lives and Empowers People*



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t this very moment, our environment is flooded with an abundance of images from various sources. As they can be seen in a variety of formats and styles, photographs are an essential component of human communication today. There is a significant amount of influence that photography possesses in terms of improving lives and elevating individuals through a variety of techniques.

An image possesses the capacity to narrate compelling stories that elicit emotions, communicate messages, and motivate action. Photography functions as a medium for narrative that can educate, create awareness, and drive good change, whether by recording societal challenges, celebrating cultural variety, or emphasizing moments of resilience.

Photography possesses the capacity to serve as a formidable tool for advocating and heightening consciousness regarding important social, environmental, and humanitarian issues. Photographers have the ability to illuminate injustices, amplify the voices of disenfranchised individuals, and mobilize support for positive action and change through the

creation of captivating photographs that depict authentic real-life situations and experiences.

Photography enables individuals to develop empathy, understanding, and compassion by providing them with a window into the lives of others, bridging cultural, geographical, and social gaps. Photographs possess the ability to humanize intricate problems, connect different perspectives and promote conversation and unity among varied groups.

Photography highlights the aesthetic and multifarious nature of people by capturing instances that mirror many cultures, customs, identities, and encounters. Photography enhances inclusivity, confronts prejudices, and cultivates a deeper admiration for the distinctive attributes that distinguish individuals and communities by highlighting the abundance and intricacy of human existence.

Photography allows individuals to artistically convey their thoughts, communicate their stories, and reclaim authority over their narratives, resulting in a sense of empowerment.



Photography has the potential to serve as a potent instrument for marginalized communities and those experiencing hardship. It empowers individuals to express their identity, build resilience, and achieve emotional recovery. It also enables individuals to recover autonomy and advocate for societal transformation.

Photography serves the purpose of preserving memories, capturing significant moments, and safeguarding legacies for future generations, guaranteeing that crucial narratives and experiences are not sent to oblivion. Photographs immortalize brief instances, serving as evidence of the endurance, fortitude, and compassion of individuals and societies, which creates a lasting visual heritage that motivates, enlightens, and emboldens others.

Through the power of photography, individuals can be brought together, fostering relationships, promoting cooperation, and boosting cooperative efforts for the transformation of society. Participants in community-based photography projects, workshops, and exhibitions have the opportunity to work together, express their opinions, and strive toward common goals that advance equality, justice, and human rights. These opportunities are available to individuals who express themselves via photography.

To illustrate, there is the portrait of Che Guevara. In order to capture the photographs that are included in this collection, Alberto Korda utilized a Leica M2 90mm lens on March 5, 1960. Che Guevara's image became a symbol when it was placed within the framework of the revolution movement. It is a photograph that is widely regarded as being among the most famous in the world and an image that has been reproduced in every possible medium, more than any other picture.



Photograph 1: Portrait of Che Guevara (Extracted from Website the Week Magazine)

Lewis Hine's collection of photographs is yet another illustration that exemplifies the value of photography in bringing about positive changes in people's lives and elevating humanity. As a result of his contributions to the documentation of child labor in the United States, Lewis Hine was deemed a humanist photographer. Between the years 1908 and 1924, Lewis Hine compiled a collection of photographs that highlighted the working and living situations of children in the Americas. In the latter half of the 19th century and the early 20th century, the United States of America witnessed a high demand for labor, which frequently resulted in the employment of young people. Between the years 1890 and 1910, there was a discernible increase in the number of young people who were under the age of employment and who were actively engaged in the industrial sector workforce. These children worked in low-skilled professions at lower wages than adults, which is one reason why the businesses chose to hire them rather than adults. As a consequence, the influential nature of Lewis Hine's photographs performed an essential function in the process of altering the labor laws of the nation.



Photograph 2: Faces of America (Extracted from Website the Wall Street Journal)

Photography is not just a visual art but also a potent instrument for social justice, as its widespread accessibility enables the message to reach all corners of the globe. It has the capacity to impact individuals' lives, challenge deeply ingrained views, and provide humanity with the opportunity to build a world that is fair, unbiased, and empathetic. Therefore, it is incumbent upon each individual to ensure the capture of a compelling picture, which can serve as a potent tool both presently and in the times to come.

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