

WORKSHOP ABSTRACT

Photovoice: Learn about and use this participatory creative-arts method

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Background: This skill-based workshop, led by Associate Professor Evonne Miller (an experienced creative arts-based researcher in ageing), will introduce participants to photovoice – a participatory action methodology that joins ‘photography with voice’. Essentially, researchers give participants a camera and ask them to photograph specific topics or issues.

Aims: This workshop provides an opportunity for hands-on experience with photovoice, equipping participants with the confidence, knowledge, and tools to conduct their own project.

Audience: Anyone interested in learning more about how to conduct a Photovoice project, or has questions about the process

Learnings: Participants will (i) understand the advantages, challenges and opportunities of using photovoice, and the ethical considerations of including visual methods; (ii) develop the knowledge and basic skills to initiate a photovoice project.

Format and length (60 minutes)

0-5 minutes: Welcome.

Facilitator A/Prof Evonne Miller provides a quick overview of photovoice, and her expertise using photovoice with older people, carers, and in residential aged care.

5-15 minutes: Icebreaker Task 1 - Introductions and the Importance of Images. Introduce yourself, your background in photovoice and what you want to learn about photovoice today. Show another person the lock screen on your phone, and explain the image you’ve dedicated to the lock screen to that person.

15-40 Minutes: Presentation & Interactive Q & A - The Nine Photovoice Steps (with, and group discussion during and after about key learnings, takeaways and own experiences). This covers theoretical origins, as well as practical logistics of ethics, basic photography training, and curating public exhibitions.

40-45 Minutes: Photo - Taking Assignment (individual or group task). In groups or alone, take photos that illustrate a specific question, either “what makes a conference great” or one aligned to a planned project.

45-50 Minutes: Sharing, Narrating and Theming Photographs (group discussion)

Participants share their photographs, getting first-hand experience with the theming and curation process.

50-60 Minutes: Final questions and reflections on photovoice process (group discussion)

This final group discussion explores how participants plan to apply the techniques and content learned today, reflecting on challenges and opportunities.

References:

1. Latz, A. O. Photovoice research in education and beyond: A practical guide from theory to exhibition. New York, NY: Routledge; 2017.
2. Miller, E., Buys, L, & Donoghue G. Photovoice in aged care: What do resident's value? Australasian Journal of Ageing, 1–5. 2019. Available from: <https://doi.org/10.1111/ajag.12641>
3. Miller, E., Donoghue, G, Buys, L, & Holland-Batt, S. Inside aged care: A htographic and poetic exhibition of laughter, loss and leisure. Australian Journal of Dementia Care, 2017;6(3):32-35.
4. Sutton-Brown, C. A. Photovoice: A methodological guide. Photography & Culture, 2014;7:169-186.
5. Wang, C., Burris, M. A. Photovoice: Concept, methodology, and use for participatory needs assessment. Health Education & Behavior, 1997;24:369-387