



TEACHER NOTES

Human Rights Photography

BACKGROUND INFORMATION FOR HUMAN RIGHTS PHOTOS

SLIDE 2: ROBIN HAMMOND. THE PRICE OF GOLD

Amnesty International 2011 Media Awards Runner Up

Background Information: This photo shows miners in Mozambique searching toxic water for traces of gold. Whole families here have crossed the border from Zimbabwe. Zimbabwe has one of the lowest life expectancies in the world, so the discovery of gold can literally save lives. But the search destroys lives too. The diggers handle toxic mercury, which can make them ill. They also risk suffocation in fragile mine shafts that collapse burying occupants all too often. A few will find enough gold to change their lives, but most will not.

See more photos from the portfolio The Price of Gold:
www.robinhammond.co.uk/features/the-price-of-gold/

SLIDE 3 ROBIN HAMMOND. TOXIC JEANS

Amnesty International 2010 Media Awards Winner

Background Information: This photo shows a child living in Lesotho, one of the world's poorest nations. He is scavenging waste that has been dumped on unsecure sites by manufacturers making clothes for the world's richest nations. The children of Lesotho risk their lives gathering scraps of material from the garment factories that make jeans for Gap Inc and Levis. The children must work fast to gather scraps before the truck drivers who dump the waste set it on fire. As the solid waste from garment factories is being dumped and burned, untreated liquid waste – dark blue dye – is being poured into the Caledon River polluting drinking water and killing river life.

See more photos from the portfolio Toxic Jeans:
www.robinhammond.co.uk/features/the-dark-side-of-denim/

SLIDE 4 ROBIN HAMMOND. RAPE, A WEAPON OF WAR

Amnesty International 2011 Media Awards Winner

Background Information: *Please note the sensitive nature of the issue depicted by this photo and judge in advance whether it is suitable for your class.*

In the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) as many as 500,000 women and children have been raped in acts of war. The charity Medicin San Frontiers says that over half of all the rape cases it deals with worldwide are in DRC. This photo shows some of the young victims supported by a local charity, Alpha Ujuvi. Alpha Ujuvi supports vulnerable children, in particular orphans, children who have suffered sexual violence, abandoned children, children with HIV and AIDS. Half of the children at their lodge have been raped, many by armed men.

'We've had many children who've been made sexual slaves. They have severe mental trauma and their behaviour changes. They start to neglect themselves, they stop washing and take drugs especially glue and alcohol to forget. They feel disgusted with themselves.' Ursulun Nun, Sister Deodata, and Co-ordinator of children's charity Alpha Ujuvi. North Kivu, eastern Democratic Republic of Congo.

See more photos from the portfolio Rape, a weapon of war:
www.robinhammond.co.uk/features/rape-a-weapon-of-war/

SLIDE 7 MARY TURNER. DENNIS WITH HIS SUITCASE

Amnesty International 2012 Media Awards Winner

Background Information: The photographer Mary Turner spent nearly three years from 2008-11 recording the experiences of the 86 traveller families who lived in the Dale Farm site in Essex. After a long legal battle, the travellers were evicted from the site in October 2011. The photo shows one of the residents, Dennis, with his suitcase days before the eviction.

The human rights organisation Amnesty International and a wide range of United Nations and Council of Europe bodies raised concern about the human rights impact of the eviction as they argued it would leave many residents of Dale Farm without adequate alternative accommodation and without access to essential services such as schooling for children and continuous medical treatment for residents with serious illnesses.

maryturner.photoshelter.com/gallery-image/Last-Days-at-Dale-Farm/G00004m7Lx2s1d4k/I0000QmPOP84Sqak

SLIDE 14

SHARADA KASHYAP, 14

Upper Primary and Lower Secondary, winner, Amnesty International Young Human rights Photographer award 2014

Background information: This picture shows that people walk past the homeless and they hardly give them a second glance. Sharada said: 'It's as if there are two separate worlds. The girl walking by this homeless person doesn't seem to care.'

REECE McCREADIE, 16

Upper Secondary and Further Education, winner, Amnesty International Young Human rights Photographer award 2014

Background information: The image represents freedom of expression, showing the back of an anonymous subject being grasped and restricted by hands belonging to either them or to another anonymous person. Reece said: 'In British society we are taught to confidently express our religious, political and personal beliefs. It is therefore perplexing to me that many feel they can't.'