

## **CROSSING VISIONARY BOUNDARIES**

### *A Transdisciplinary Photovoice Project of Race and Markets*

June 24-25, 2019

**Université Paris-Dauphine – PSL**

Place du Maréchal de Lattre de Tassigny, 75016 Paris

## **OBJECTIVES**

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Photography conveys ideas and feelings without words. It therefore appears as a highly relevant medium in a society (i.e. France) where the word « race » itself is controversial, if not taboo. In that sense, pictures are an innovative way to engage in a critical discussion on racial dynamics and illuminate new social research insights. A photograph can provide a window into unseen worlds to document social issues, raise public awareness, and even inspire social action (Ozanne et al 2013; Banks 2001; Banks and Morphy 1997; Collier 1967). However, despite living in a visual age (Gombrich, 1996) and the visual saturation of our culture, photographs are underutilized in social science research (Holm, 2014).

The RIM 2019 photographic workshop aims to guide researchers and local stakeholders in their research and engagement, through an exploratory introduction to photography as a methodological approach in on-site research on race and markets. The workshop has three phases:

1. *On Monday June 24 morning*, researchers and local stakeholders will be introduced to preliminary ethical considerations and practical advice on taking pictures. As this workshop places an emphasis on reflexive research that is informed by critical race theory and creative methodological approaches, those involved will take part in fundamental discussions surrounding their positionality in relation to their subject matter (Cunliffe and Karunanayake, 2013), as well as the influence of their photographic gaze (Berger, 1972) and their presence in different spaces that they move through.
2. *On Monday June 24 afternoon*, different small groups will go on race-related tours in Paris, to explore the role of race and markets in Paris through photography.
3. *On Tuesday June 25 morning*, the groups will present and discuss the pictures taken.

This exploratory introduction to the theme *Race in the Marketplace in Paris* aims to inspire academic and other creative outputs, both at the workshop itself and through continued online collaboration after the workshop.

## TAKING PICTURES

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This workshop builds on photovoice (and other photography-based research methods) to create a new methodology enhancing the fluid nature of researcher-researched identities and stimulating critical co-constructed reflections and projects.

As highlighted by Wang and Burris (1997, 370), the aims of photovoice are threefold:

1. to enable people to record and reflect their community's strengths and concerns,
2. to promote critical dialogue and knowledge about important community issues through large and small group discussion of their photographs, and
3. to communicate with policy makers.

During the workshop, local stakeholders will bring their views and experiences to light and show non-Parisians how they perceive racial and market dynamics in their daily life. However, unlike traditional photovoice studies, which are based on photographs taken by community members, this workshop also seeks to draw on the outsider perspectives of participants, since many participants will be less familiar with the Parisian race and marketplace landscape. In that sense, researchers will also engage in preliminary data collection that explores the proposed theme: Race in the Marketplace in the Parisian context.

This methodology aims at triggering critical conversations about the pictures, by taking advantage of the researchers' and local stakeholders' various experiences around the topic, as well as of the ambiguity and fluidity of meanings surrounding photographs. Each group will therefore comprise multiple researchers and one or two local stakeholders.

## INTERPRETING PICTURES

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Each participant will select one picture to briefly present to the entire group for discussion. Participants will base their presentation on a brief description of the picture they chose, prepared in advance. The discussion of each photo will integrate and analyze data in collaboration with local stakeholders around the mnemonic "SHOWeD": What do you **S**ee here? What is really **H**appening? How does this relate to **O**ur lives? **W**hy does this problem or strength exist? What can we **D**o about it?

This session will align with photo-elicitation: openly unravelling each photo's potential ambiguities; various potential research topics; and ways to address racial and market dynamics, from a research perspective as well as from a social change perspective. After the discussion, participants will again write a description of the picture they chose to present, revising (or not), the initial description they had prepared for the picture. The chosen picture and both descriptions will be shared on the workshop dedicated website.

## LONG TERM COLLABORATION

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The team(s) will develop a research collaboration plan that may result in traditional (e.g. journal publications) and creative forms of research dissemination (e.g. online photo exhibitions and essays). These include a journal special issue on race and markets, a consumer conference and sociology conference, among other venues to be identified. The online platform will also be a tool that local stakeholders can use to develop their own projects, extending their collaborations with researchers and thus developing action-research on the topic.

## PROGRAM

Monday June 24, 2019

When/Where	Activity
9:00am – 9:30am B106 (Floor 1)	<b>Registration, Breakfast and Icebreaker</b> <u>Facilitators:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Guillaume D. Johnson, CNRS &amp; Université Paris-Dauphine</li> <li>• Alice Schoonejans, Université Paris-Dauphine</li> </ul>
<i>Session 1: Workshop Overview</i>	
9:30am – 10:15am B106 (Floor 1)	<b>Overview of workshop objectives</b> <u>Facilitators:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Kevin D. Thomas, Marquette University</li> <li>• Francesca Sobande, Cardiff University</li> </ul>
10:15am – 10:30am B106 (Floor 1)	<b>Energizer</b>
10:30am – 11:10am B106 (Floor 1)	<b>Researcher positionality and ethical considerations</b> <u>Facilitator:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Anthony Kwame Harrison, Virginia Tech</li> </ul>
11:10am – 11:30am B106 (Floor 1)	<b>A few elements on photographic practice</b> <u>Facilitators:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sonya A. Grier, American University</li> <li>• Alice Schoonejans, Université Paris-Dauphine</li> </ul>
<i>Session 2: Group Discussions</i>	
11:30am – 12:00pm B106	<b>Groups discussions: background/context for each tour, expectations and guiding questions</b> <u>Facilitators:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Guillaume Johnson, CNRS &amp; Université Paris-Dauphine</li> <li>• Alice Schoonejans, Université Paris-Dauphine</li> </ul>
<i>Session 3: Visits</i>	
12:30pm-2:00pm (various restaurants)	<b>Lunch on-site</b>
2:00pm-5:00pm (various arrondissements)	<u>Community liaison:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Kévi Donat, Nawo Carole Crawford, Jamika Ajalon &amp; Gaëtane Selgi</li> </ul>
<i>Photovoice Dinner</i>	
6:00pm -9:00pm 1 Boulevard Lannes, 75116 Paris, France (Opposite Dauphine)	<b>Dinner: Il Cottage Restaurant</b>

**Tuesday June 25, 2019**

When/Where	Activity
<b>9:00am – 10:15am</b> Raymond Aron (Floor 2)	<b>Breakfast &amp; Preparing the discussion</b>
<b>Session 4: Discussion</b>	
<b>10:15am – 12:15pm</b> Raymond Aron (Floor 2)	<b>Discussion: “SHOWeD” method</b> (What do you See here? What is really Happening? How does this relate to Our lives? Why does this problem or strength exist? What can we Do about it?). <u>Facilitators:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Anthony Kwame Harrisson, Virginia Tech</li><li>• Franesca Sobande, Cardiff University</li></ul>
<b>12:30pm – 2:00pm</b> Foyer (Floor 2)	<b>Closing Lunch</b>

## **REFERENCES**

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