

Photovoice Protocols

OUR GOALS

- To create authentic discussion of the issues surrounding noise pollution and its effect on people and wildlife in vulnerable, underserved communities.
- To increase understanding of the experiences with and impact of noise pollution for the participating communities and science.
- To gather community perspectives and understanding to inform a co-created app and national community science project.

PARTICIPANTS

-ICBO representatives of underserved communities including:

José González
Sister Sharon Horace
Karen Kitchen
Catherine Crum
Fanny Villarreal
Jose Miguel Hernandez
Marilú Lopez Fretts
Marcelo Bonta
Cecilia Álvarez
Juan Flores
Yao Foli

-Partner CBO Leaders including: Makeda Cheatom, Berenice Rodriguez, Bobby Wilson, John Annoni, and Tanya Zwald

-Community Science Collaborators from Atlanta, San Diego, St. Paul MN, and Allentown PA –

-Other invited community organizations/ community advocates

PHOTOVOICE RESEARCH WITH Community Science Collaborators and ICBOs

Step 1- Training:

Our training (via Zoom) will include the following topics: overview of research, ethics, taking good/high impact photos, media releases, how to approach people to photograph, mechanics of taking photos, how we will analyze photos collectively, coding techniques, finding consensus on codes, and developing themes.

Step 2 – Taking photos in our Communities:

Participants will take 1-5 pictures in their communities to answer one question (see questions below) for a period of 2-4 weeks. They will approach people they want to photograph and tell them about the research (see Script for Introducing the Project) and obtain a signed media release (see media release). They will upload the pictures and caption to Cornell Box folder labeled with the question or email them to kap7@cornell.edu. All photos should be labelled with the last name of the photographer, number of Photovoice Research Question, and if you are submitting more than one picture per question, number of photo (ie: Purcell_Question1-1). The folders will be accessible by all participants and research team.

Step 3 – Photo Sharing and Reflection:

The Community Science Collaborators (and other participants who are interested) will meet via Zoom once every two weeks and once in person at a workshop at the Cornell Lab of Ornithology to analyze and discuss photos. In addition, we will present the photos, summary of ongoing analysis, and promote discussion at our monthly ICBO meetings (via Zoom) and our in-person meeting in the fall of 2019.

We will set ground rules at every discussion session (1) everyone has value and has something to contribute (2) all participants' experiences – both positive and negative – are valid (3) participants will take part in the project only to the extent that they have time and energy to participate and (4) the purpose of Photovoice is to engage in deeper discussion, not critique photography skills.

We will generate a set of codes together and code each of the images into approximately ten or fewer themes. The codes will emerge from the photos themselves and discussions around the photos. In depth discussions will take place as we make meaning of the photos to create codes and eventually themes. Each photographer will have an opportunity to talk about the meaning behind their photos and provide their perspectives. We will find full consensus on the codes – if consensus is not clear we will indicate this and place it on hold until consensus is possible.

Each analysis session will include debriefing as some topics may bring up difficult topics for participants.

POTENTIAL QUESTIONS FOR PHOTO TAKING SESSIONS (Generated by our communities)

- When you think about silence, what image comes to mind?
- What does noise mean to you?
- When you think of noise what image comes to your mind?
- Do you prefer noise or silence?
- Does noise influence your mood?
- Do you have a quiet place outdoors where you go to relax or enjoy nature? Where?
- Is most noise pollution concentrated in communities that are poor and underserved?
- What impact does noise pollution have on our health?
- Are there noise sources (and noise levels) in your home/ neighborhood, work environment, or recreational environment that you believe put you at risk for hearing loss?
- Are there noises (and noise levels) in your home/ neighborhood or work environment that create physical or emotional discomfort for you or a family member?
- Have you ever changed your behavior because of environmental noise (e.g., closed the windows, turned up the volume of your TV)?
- How does noise affect our health and/or well-being?
- What is the quietest time of day?
- What is the noisiest time of the day?
- Do you notice any 'natural' noises (ie. wind, birds), if so what are they?
- What is the most common noise you hear? Do you associate those noises with emotions/feelings?
- How does noise pollution affect people who live outside (people who are homeless)?
- How do noise issues affect people who live outside (people who are homeless) differently?
- Have you heard of noise pollution?
- How has noise pollution impacted your families?
- Does noise pollution affect your ability to sleep?
- How noisy is your home community? (rate from extremely noisy to extremely quiet)
- What do you think about noise pollution?
- Do you think that low-income homes are more vulnerable to noise pollution?

Informed Consent (via paper form):

Community Perspectives on Noise Pollution Survey

Your participation in this research will allow us to better understand how noise pollution is experienced and perceived in your community and under-served communities across North America. We want to learn about what is known about noise pollution to better create a community science project and telephone APP that measures noise, identifies noise refuges, and provides educational content about the effects of noise. We want to make sure that the project comes from and authentically represents our communities.

Your participation in this research entails participating in a short training via ZOOM video conference (including topics like: overview of research, ethics, taking good/high impact photos, mechanics of taking photos) and taking 1- 5 photos every two weeks to answer a research question focused on noise pollution. These questions were generated by community members of underserved communities across the U.S. In addition, we will meet once every two weeks to discuss the photos taken and collectively find themes and meaning. This research will primarily focus on your experiences with noise pollution in your community. Your participation should take from 10 minutes to 30 minutes per week to take photos and 1.5 hours every other week to discuss the photos every other week. Participating in this research should not cause you any harm or distress. However, if you do feel uncomfortable at any time, you are free to stop your participation without any negative consequences. You may benefit from answering these questions by having your voice and perspectives heard and learning about noise pollution in your community.

There is no payment for participation.

Your personal information will not be directly linked to photos beyond the research team involved in this project and other participants. We want you to know that we will keep all your information confidential. In any written study findings, your name will not be associated with any specific photos, themes, or responses and care will be taken to ensure confidentiality. You will also have the opportunity to review any written study findings and provide comments before they are distributed or published beyond the project team. All photos and other electronic data will be kept on secure servers and only the research team and project participants will have access to. The ethics board that reviewed this study may also access our records for auditing purposes.

This research is being conducted by a panel of partner Community Based Organizations located in communities throughout the United States working with the Cornell Lab of Ornithology. Karen Purcell, staff at Cornell University is Principal Investigator. You may contact Karen at kap7@cornell.edu or at 607-254-2455. If you have any questions or concerns regarding your rights as a subject in this study, you may contact the Institutional Review Board (IRB) for Human Participants at 607-255-5138 or access their website at <http://www.irb.cornell.edu>. You may also report your concerns or complaints anonymously through Ethicspoint online at

www.hotline.cornell.edu or by calling toll free at 1-866-293-3077. Ethicspoint is an independent organization that serves as a liaison between the University and the person bringing the complaint so that anonymity can be ensured.

AGREEMENT TO PARTICIPATE

Your signature does not waive any legal right. If you agree, please sign this form.

I am 18 years of age or older and agree to participate in this research.

Date

Signature

Name