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Essay #2 Draft

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School Versus Home

A photograph is a person decision to take in order to keep it as a memory or an event that is worth looking over at. John Berger said, “A photograph is a result of the photographer’s decision that it is worth recording that this particular event or this particular object has been seen.” (1). This can be something that is really appealing because of the shape, color, or lighting that make it special and unique. The two photo that I will be comparing is call “Home” and “My College”. Both of these photos are something that I have been to or seen day to day basis, and are important to my education as well as my life.

In the first photo, “Home” is a photograph of the house that I lived in ever since I was born which is located in Bronx, NY. This photo was taken in the morning as I was leaving for school. I was walking out the front door, the sunlight was shining in my eye, but as soon as I take a few steps down the stair, the blinding light disappear. When I got to the edge of the side walk, I look back, and saw that the top half of the house was really bright and the other bottom half of the house was dark, which made me take out my phone and to take a picture because of the light contrast. Berger said, “The minimal message of a photograph may be less simple than we first thought.” (3). The photo is not about just the house, it is about what else is in the photo that make me want to take it in the first place. In the photo the sunlight is shining on the top half of the house, while the bottom half of the house and the garden is in the shadow. This photo was taken on a nice day because there is no cloud in the sky and it was taken in the beginning of spring so all the plants have not grown any leaves yet. This photo has a lot of geometric shape, mostly triangles and rectangle. There multiple triangles shape on the top half of the house and rectangle shapes as windows and the door. The house that was cut in the frame on the left side is where my cousin lives and the right is my neighbor, who just move in for almost a year now.

In the second photo, “My College” is a photograph of the college that I am currently attending, New York City College of Technology which is located in 300 Jay St, Brooklyn, NY. This photograph was taken as I was arriving to school, it was still early in the morning and the weather was really nice. I took this photo because of the light and dark contrast just like in photo one. Since it was early in the morning, there are students walking to school and there was a lot of cars on the road so I could not get a clear picture of just the college building. I took this picture because I spend most of my weekdays here at City Tech and the building itself is very big. In this photo, I use the rule of thirds to make sure I get the angle of the building in order to show the halo name, and the front side of the school to be in the center of the photo. In this photo, there is some spaces where the sun is shining on and some are in the shadow. The City Tech logo side of the building is in the sunlight, while the front right side of the building is in the shadow. The road is also in the shadow but it has a few bright spots because of the light reflecting off of cars and windows on other building.

The two photographs both have similar style in sunlight hitting on some part of the building while the other part is in the shadow. If I were to take in another few hours or on another day, the lighting would have been different and there might be rain making the photo look different. Both of these photos have different structure in building. One is a house that has very few window and the other one is a college building that is much bigger and has more windows. Photo one is taken from the front and photo two is taken from a father away location and is angle at the side.

People tend to just walk by and not notice too much on the thing that they see day to day. Berger said, “Photography is the process of rendering observation self- conscious.” (2). He is saying that a photograph is an image of something that they see before but never really notice before and how nice it looks in a different perspective.

Work Cited

Berger, John. "Understanding a Photograph." Macobo. Taylan, 2006. Web. March & April 2017. <http://www.macobo.com/essays/epdf/berger\_understanding\_a\_photograph.pdf>.