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The great view of rockaway beach

Photography has been around for many years. Photography can be perceived in many different ways but I read photography with my imaginative mind being able to dig deeper of its meaning. I capture images in many different ways , with my mind, a screenshot and or my phone. In Susan Sontag's "In plato's cave, On photography" she explains how photos "furnish evidence"(531). Camera's play a very important role in our everyday lives especially mine. "Camera's go with family"(533). I agree with Sontag because I capture images of memorable moments with my family, being able to look back at them. In John Berger understanding a photograph he explains how "if everything that exist were continually being photographed, every photograph would become meaningless"(292). I disagree with Berger because every photo has its own meaning and if most things were to go out of existence, we would have a picture that proves that place exist or event happened. Without a camera how can we remember or have evidence that we were at a place. While punctum and studium play a major role while reading photos, John Berger believes photos have no meaning unlike paintings and sculptures.

On september 10th, 2017 at 4:30pm, I went to rockaway beach, although it wasn't very sunny the sky was blue like the ocean water. I want to reveal the studium in my photo, as I was walking through the dry sand I decided to capture a memorable picture that contained a

significant meaning to me. The tone of the beach is very serene. In the background of this photo consist of the blue sky with clouds drifting apart taking up fifty percent of the image. Apart of Rockaway beach is the Atlantic ocean stretching as far as you can see. In the bottom middle center of the photo there's a small wave flowing towards me breaking into foam. The water takes up twenty percent of the image while the golden sand is staying dry from the sun's heat taking up thirty percent of the image. In the far left corner are two females with bathing suits on enjoying their time at the beach. I want to also reveal the punctum in my photo, I always became obsessed with capture anything place, thing, or event that caught my eye. On this day I wanted to spend time with my sister and my nephew and Rockaway beach was the best place to go. We enjoyed sitting in the sand and the view of the water. The sun was out but it was quite chilly that sunday afternoon.

As the hours passed by I started relax on the sand, I then captured another image but this time there were more colors that grasp my attention. I took this image at an obtuse scalene angle. In the left hand corner there is a beach umbrella which is the most important thing in this image consisting of its red blue yellow and green color and also being cut out half way of the image because of the way the image was captured. The sky is now blue with a splash of pink taking up seventy percent of the image. The sand is now wet like a soggy sponge and the tone of this image is gloomy. Beach chairs are used for the lifeguards on duty but you can tell it's getting late because their is no lifeguard on duty sitting in their usually chair in this image. The waves are still calm but there more foamier than they were in the day time.

These 2 images make me feel at ease because the beach is a great place to kickback and relax. Through these two images I learned that they can have meaning because with every image

there's reason for it being captured. It may not be a painting or a sculpture but it's now saved into memory just in case this place goes out of its existence. Berger stated that "Photographs have little or no property value because they have no rarity value"(291). I disagree with Berger because punctum is very useful while reading images because I can tell a story through my image that my viewers will not be able to see or know, although it may not be a painting or a sculpture there is many meaning and history to a image. A image can be taken and passed on to anyone but an image can also become art if we want it to be. While Studium is also important while reading photos, it points out the things my viewer can see. In both of my images it's easy to see that the place is at the beach , it's daytime in both images , the beach consist of sand people beach umbrellas and waves approaching the shore.

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Cited sources

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