

### Part 1: Photography & you

*This Directive is about your experiences of photography and of taking your own photographs. We would like to hear about the types of photographs you take and how you store and display your personal photographs. We are interested in everyone's thoughts, whether you are a professional photographer or have no interest in photography at all. We would love to hear your thoughts on what makes photography important for you...*

As usual, please start each part of your Directive reply on a new sheet of paper with your MO number (NOT name), sex, age, marital status, the town or village where you live and your occupation or former occupation.

Remember not to identify yourself or other people inadvertently within your reply. Please use initials instead of real names and please do not send in any photographs that identify you or anyone else.

#### Memories of photography

Please start your response by describing your early experiences with photography. Did your family have a camera? How regularly did they use it?

Did they keep photo albums? Can you remember what they were like? How often did/do you look at them? Where are these albums now?

#### Owning cameras

Can you remember your first camera? How did you get it?

Do you own any cameras now? If so, what sort of cameras do you own and did you choose to buy these cameras?

#### Taking photographs

Do you enjoy taking photographs? Are there any occasions that you are more likely to take photographs?

Have you ever taken photographs professionally? Or have you ever employed someone to take photographs of you or a special day? Did this work well?

Have you ever taken any lessons in photography or received any training? How did you find this?

#### Memorable photographs

Have you ever taken a photo that you are proud of? Please describe this image in as much detail as possible.

Do you have a favourite photographer or favourite photograph taken by another person? Please give details.

## Developing your photographs

How do you get your photographs off your camera? Perhaps you print them in your own home, or take them to a shop to be developed. How do you decide which images you want to develop/print?

Has the way you develop your photographs changed over the years?

## Displaying and storing your photographs

What do you do with the photographs you take? Do you display them or show to others?

How do you store the photographs you take? Do you ever make photo albums? If yes, please describe what these albums are like.

If you have a digital camera, please say how often you transfer your photos on to your computer. Do you back up the digital files? If so, how often do you do this?

## Bad experiences

Have you had any bad experiences with photographs or cameras? Perhaps your camera has broken at a bad moment, or you lost a camera/photo?

Have you ever destroyed a photograph to forget something? Or found a photograph that helped you to remember? Please share this experience with us.

## Social media

Do you ever use social media (Facebook, Twitter, blogs, Instagram etc) to share photographs with others? Please give details about what you use and how you decided which pictures to put online.

Do you ever look at other people's photographs on social media sites?

Would you mind if you found that someone was putting photographs of you on social media websites?

## Special task

We would like you to keep a day diary by taking photographs. It is up to you which day you choose to record. Please take up to **five** photographs that represent your day and what you do from when you wake up until you go to bed. Please be careful not to identify yourself (or others) in your photographs. **Or**, cut or tear out **five** pictures from newspapers, magazines or printed out from your computer, that you feel shows the value or power of photography. These can range from adverts to leaflets pushed through your door, postcards, tour guides, popular magazines, newspapers; absolutely any kind of photograph you encounter, the choice of subject is up to you. You might want to add a few words about your choice.

# Part 2: Cosmetic Surgery

*In the second part of the Directive we would like you to share your thoughts about cosmetic surgery...*

Please start part 2 of your Directive reply on a new sheet of paper with your MO number and a brief biography.

Please remember not to identify yourself or others in your Directive response

## Cosmetic surgery and you

Have you ever had or considered having cosmetic surgery or other cosmetic medical procedures (i.e Botox injections)? If so, what type of surgery/procedure have you considered and why?

If you've had a procedure done, how do or did you feel about the results? If you haven't had the procedure done please explain why you haven't.

If you have never had or considered having any cosmetic surgery, please explain why.

If you ever had cosmetic surgery, do you think it is something you would openly discuss, or do you think it is something that is better kept private?

## Friends/family

Do you know anyone personally who has had cosmetic surgery? If so, what was your reaction? Did it change the way you felt about that person?

## Cosmetic procedures and the NHS

Do you think the NHS should cover cosmetic surgery and/or procedures?

Should the NHS provide after care if cosmetic surgery goes wrong?

## Plastic vs. cosmetic

Do you think there is a difference between plastic surgery and cosmetic surgery? If so, what's the difference? Do you feel the same way about both types?

Why do you think people have cosmetic surgery?

## Celebrities

What names or people come to mind when you think of cosmetic surgery and celebrities? What is your opinion of these people?

Do you read magazine or newspaper stories about celebrities and their cosmetic surgeries? If so, what do you find interesting about those stories?

Do you ever watch television programmes about cosmetic surgery?

**Imagine...**that you have a friend who wants to have cosmetic surgery. What would your advice be to them? Would you encourage or discourage that person to go through with it?

# Part 3: The London Olympic & Paralympic Games

Please start Part 3 of your Directive reply on a new sheet of paper with your MO number and a brief biography.

This Directive will reach you after the Olympic and Paralympic Games have ended but please could you take a moment to record your observations on the events in London this summer.

You may like to consider:

- Sport and athletes: What did you think about the different sports represented at the Games.
- London and the Games: How do you think London fared at hosting the Games?
- The opening and closing ceremonies: Did you watch them? What did you think about these?
- Media coverage and whether you followed the Games yourself (and how).
- The public's reaction to the Olympics and Paralympics.
- Legacy: what will be the lasting impact of the Games?

Please make sure that you include any direct experience or involvement with the Games and don't hesitate to tell us stories on the subject from your own experience!

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Please post your response to: The Mass Observation Archive, FREEPOST BR 2112, The Library, University of Sussex, Brighton BN1 1ZX Or by email to: [moa@sussex.ac.uk](mailto:moa@sussex.ac.uk)  
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