Walks Before You

Immigrant Motherhood, Roles and Appearances in Columbia, MO

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Abstract

When photographers focus on subjects that come from minority groups, it is important for them to cover all perspectives of a specific character and try to depict his/her social roles as objectively, fairly, and evenly as possible. This research uses two independent photo projects about two different immigrant mothers. The purpose of this research is to find whether or not photographers ignore the other roles in society of an immigrant mother while her role as a mother is clearly communicated. By using the method of quantitative data collecting, participants (photographers) provide information about their feelings on a 7-point-Likert survey for future analysis.

Summary of Professional Skills Component

"Walks Before You" is a photo story about Shenghua Sinkler, a Chinese mother of 2 young children. Shenghua came to America in 2010 from her hometown, Guizhou, China, 7,243 miles away from Columbia, Missouri, and she has been married for 7 years. Without any other close relatives, parents, or siblings, Shenghua finished her Ph.D. program in the United States and now works as a nurse at Women's and Children's Hospital. This photo project documents Shenghua's life for 3 and a half months and depicts the features of an immigrant mother from objective aspects.