PHOTOVOICE AS AN EDUCATIONAL SUPPLEMENT IN MIDDLE SCHOOL AND HIGH SCHOOL CURRICULUM

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BACKGROUND

- Photovoice is a visual research method.
- Participants take photographs to attract attention to problems in their community.
- Prior studies had small samples, examined short-term outcomes, and overlooked individual-level changes.

METHOD

- Teacher-administered questionnaires across seven Midwestern state schools.
- 149 middle and high school students sample.
- Yearlong Photovoice project in 2011.
- Data analysis using SPSS.

OBJECTIVE

This study aimed to examine two interconnected dimensions of Photovoice measures: 1) community-related factors, encompassing elements such as community service self-efficacy, perceived community readiness, civic action, and political voice; and 2) individual-related factors, including self-esteem.

RESULTS

- 306 photos & narratives: Showcasing community-driven initiatives, including health programs, school safety improvements, and garden projects.
- Male students reported heightened levels of self-esteem.
- Increase of community-related factors among actively participating middle school students.
- Elevated political voice, Photovoice knowledge, and positive attitude toward Photovoice among actively participating group compared to non-participating group.

RESEARCH QUESTIONS

RQ1: How do Photovoice participants and non-participants vary in their Photovoice-related factors, community-related factors, and individual-related factors?

RQ2: Do demographic variables, such as gender and grade level, moderate the community-related and individual-related factors?

CONCLUSION

- Transformative potential of Photovoice in engaging disinterested and disengaged students.
- Students' narratives about their role in taking proactive steps to benefit their communities.
- Demographic insights for effective Photovoice inclusion into school curricula.
- Encourage the implementation of Photovoice initiatives within the educational setting.
- Advocate fostering youth engagement and integration within community development.
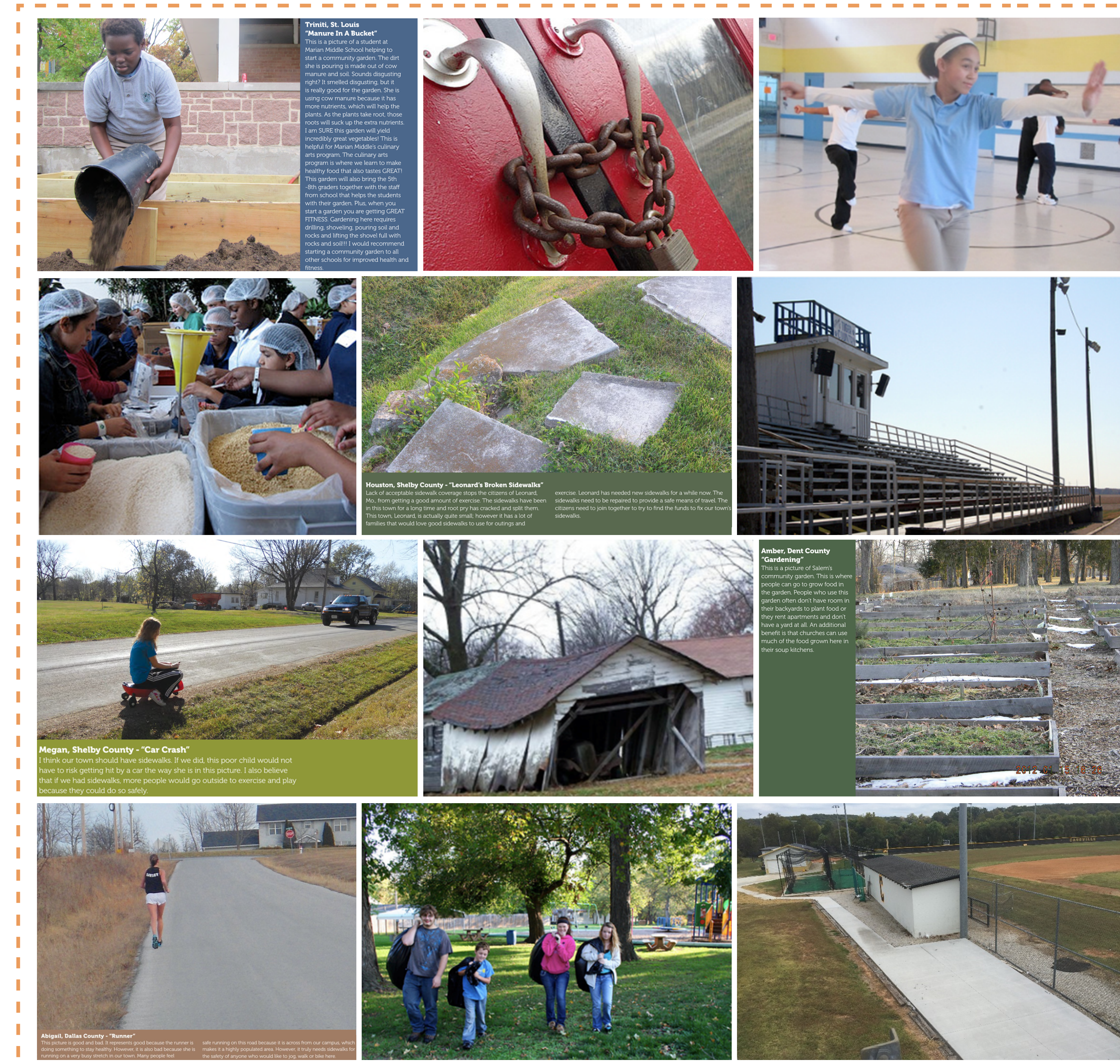- Findings hold implications for Photovoice theory and practice.

Figure 1. Examples of Photovoice submissions

REFERENCES

Scan the QR code for the references.