

## The Concept of Blindfold Multi-Sensory Photography

Blindfold Multi-Sensory Photography workshops celebrates the diversity of human condition by trained visually impaired photographers guiding and leading the blindfolded sighted people through the simulation of blindness - giving them whole new experience, demonstrating that though things look difficult, they are just done differently.

Sighted are torn out of social routines and familiar acceptance. They experience their own limits of senses and sparks thoughts that dissolve their predetermined mind-sets towards the visually impaired people. While visually impaired guiding the blindfolded sighted become the ambassadors of their world, demonstrating that being blind is a different, interesting way to perceive and lead life.

A reversal of role takes place.

## Putting Transformative Learning Theory into Practice

Blindfold Multi-Sensory Photography is practical implementation of American sociologist Jack Mezirow's *Theory of Transformative Learning* by taking participants through four stages.

# **Experiencing unfamiliar environment**

Blindfold makes you "pseudo blind" and disorients you from the conform of seeing the world.

#### Realisation and change of role

You begin to understand life beyond sight, revision of belief, enhanced empathy and engage in social activities.

#### **Critical self reassessment**

While visually impaired photographers as trainers guide you how to take photographs you introspect and un-learn to rediscover self

#### Acquire new knowledge

You learn to use non-visual senses, institution, imagination and judgement to take photographs and tell stories

## Why we need Blindfold Multi-Sensory Photography

In society apprehension, predetermined mindsets, avoidance and prejudice raise mostly out of ignorance and from lack of contact with people who are differently able. **Blindfold Multi-Sensory Photography** by bring the sighted people in contact with the visually impaired and by giving the sighted an experience of blindness helps them to develop sense of understanding toward visually impaired, free from prejudices and treat them as equal partners in the society.

Blindfold Multi-Sensory Photography also take us away from the sight-centered interpretations of knowledge and truth, by demanding the use of less used senses (touch, sound, smell, warmth of light), open new perspectives and brings us closer to life.

## Impacts on Visually Impaired

Blindfold Multi-Sensory Photography engages trained visually impaired photographers as guides and instructors and they are paid for their service. This new opportunity of financial support / livelihood helps to transform themselves from passive welfare recipients to active shapers of their own lives. They take pride to represent their world, bring dignity, increase their confidence, self esteem, develops social and work place skills.

## Impacts on Sighted

Blindfold Multi-Sensory Photography offers learning, fun and excitement in experiencing another world beyond sight. Participants develop respect for people who see the world through different eyes, correct pre-determined mindsets and prejudices thereby reduce the gap between "us" and "them."

Apart from impacting individuals and society at large, the workshop benefits in developing and enhancing employees capabilities in organizations.

## How Blindfold Multi-Sensory Photography benefits corporate?

Communication and cooperation are essential tools for successful business. The loss of sight, even though temporary has an intense and long-lasting behavioral and emotional impact on individuals and groups. It helps people reflect on themselves, their environment and their relationship with others, that can be transferred to the context of their workplace. The four broad areas touched by **Blindfold Multi-Sensory Photography** are -

- •Leadership change management, find solutions, creativity, trust and self-reflection
- •Diversity recognition of potentials, tolerance and respect
- •Communication active listening, voice recognition and non-visual communication
- •Team building sense of collaboration, team spirit, shared work and success

Blindfold Multi-Sensory Photography can be customized and integrated with Leadership, Team Building or human development programs conducted at the corporate and business schools.

## **Clients of Blindfold Multi-Sensory Photography**

Blindfold Multi-Sensory Photography workshops and trails was conducted at -

- 1. HVB School (IB board), Mumbai
- 2. Gold Crest High School, Latur Maharashtra
- 3. DaDa International Disability Art Festival, Liverpool UK
- 4. Edelweiss Group, Mumbai
- 5. Child Rights & You (CRY), Mumbai
- 6. Harrington Street Arts Centre, Kolkata
- 7. Art & Soul Gallery, Mumbai
- 8. SP Jain Management Institute, Mumbai
- 9. Dialogue in the Dark, Singapore
- 10. Commonwealth Association of Museums, City Place Jaipur
- 11. Standard Chartered Bank, Mumbai
- 12. LuxDrive, Mercedes- Benz India
- 13. Artists for a Better World, SIF Singapore & Malaysia
- 14. Time Literature Festival Mumbai
- 15. Linutus, Athens, Greece

## Pictures from Blindfold Multi-Sensory Photography workshops

























### **Pictures from Blindfold Multi-Sensory Photography workshops**























#### **Pictures from Blindfold Multi-Sensory Photography workshops**









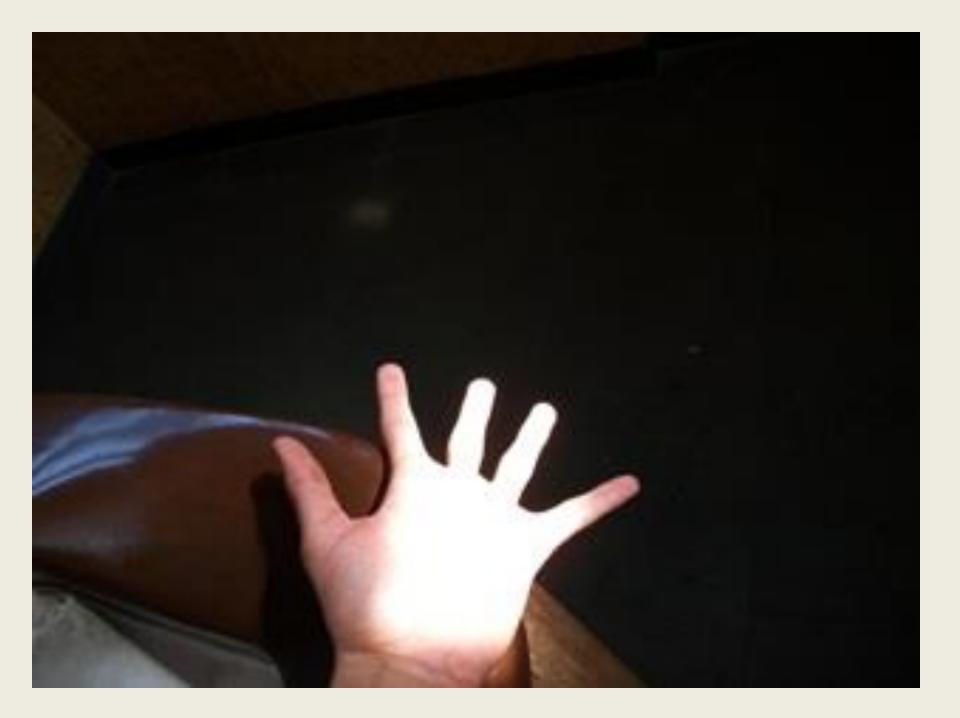


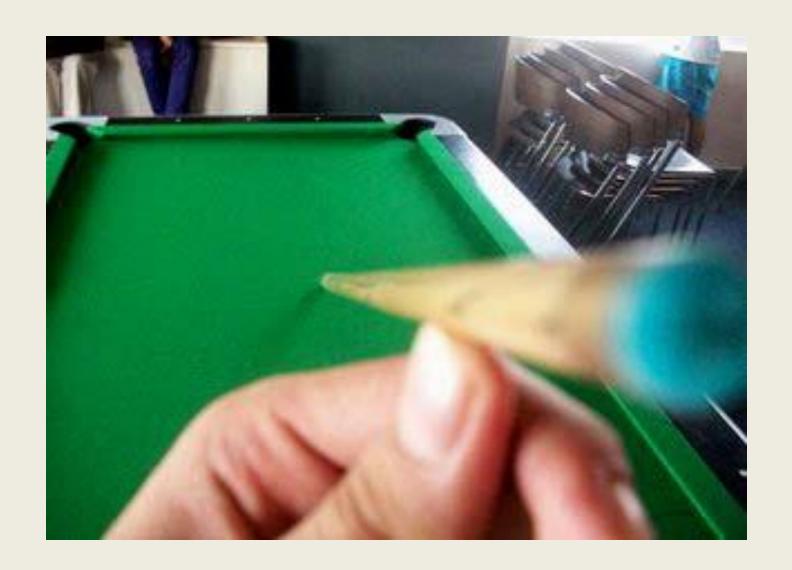
Pictures taken by sighted while blindfolded and by using touch, sound, warmth of light, memory, intuition and imagination.















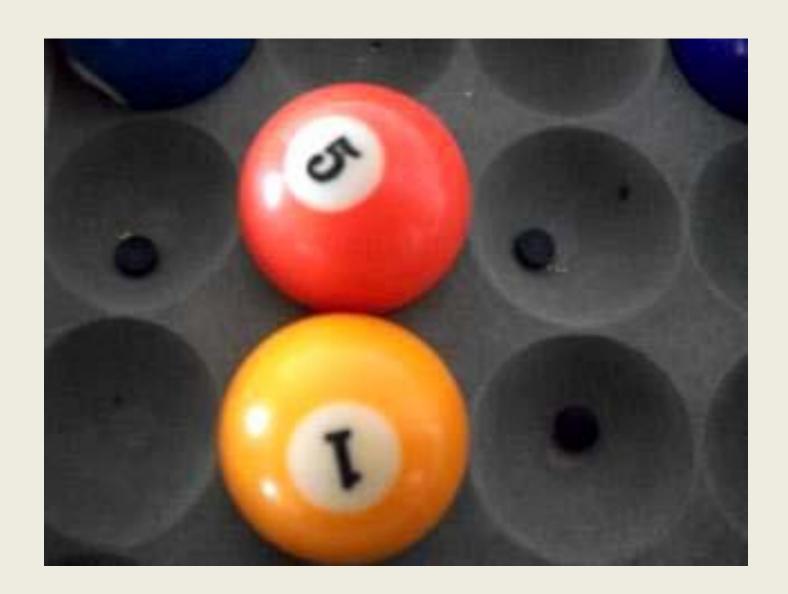


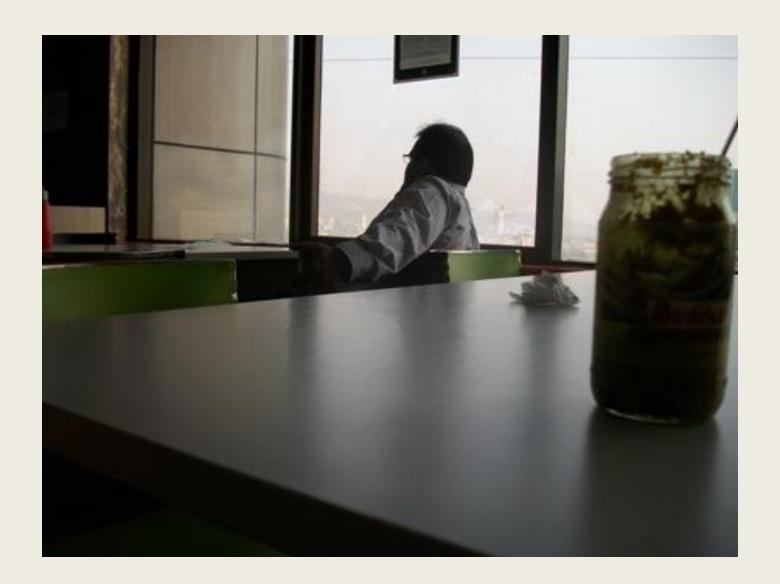












# Pictures from the blindfold photo workshop and learning outcomes.

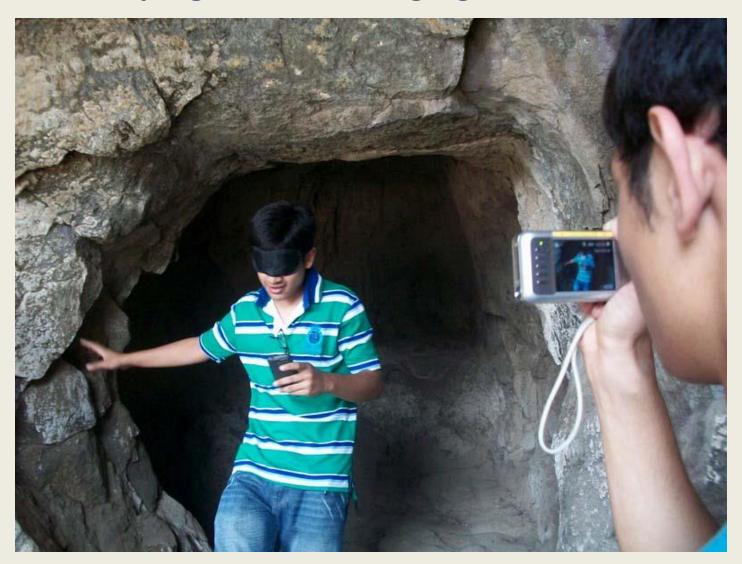
# **New ways to communicate**



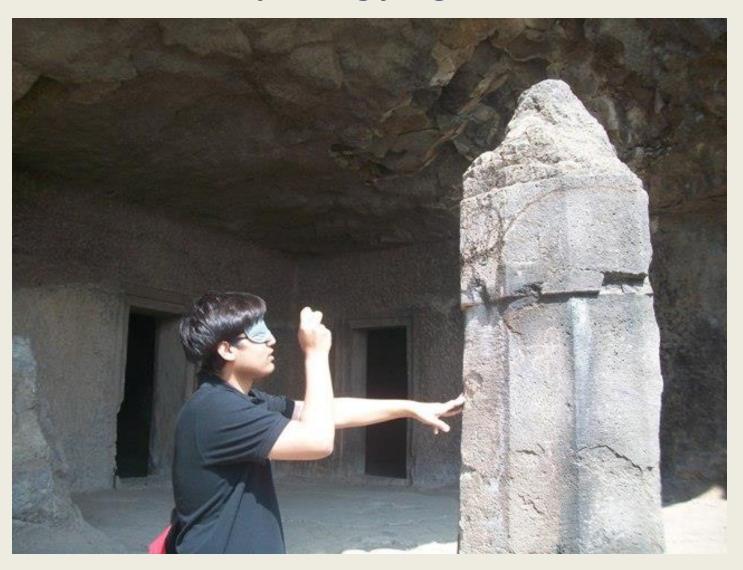
# **Team building - Collaborate & Trust**



# **Coping with Challenging Conditions**



# Improving judgment



# **Searching new ideas**



# **Beyond the obvious**



# **Sharing success**



# Bridging the gap between "us" and "them"



Interested in Blindfold Multi-Sensory
Photography workshop for students,
employees, visitors and audience and ....

#### **Contact**

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