



Householders' Options to Protect the Environment Inc.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MEDIA RELEASE

Monday, 19 April 2021

National “Citizen Science” style PhotoVoice Project



Can you take a picture “worth a thousand words”?

If yes, then you are invited to participate in an exciting citizen science style PhotoVoice project.

“Photovoice is a long-established method in community capacity building. As the name implies, the process uses self-generated images and captions to help participants have a ‘voice’ and articulate their interests and concerns around some problematic situation. For example, the

community impacts of environmental pollution or uncontrolled climate change.”

Years 9, 10, 11 and 12 students and their home-schooled equivalents throughout Australia are invited to get *snap happy* and find their voice in addressing current topical issues relating to the environment; social justice; animal welfare/conservation; and heritage conservation and protection.

This project is an initiative of Householders' Options to Protect the Environment (HOPE) Inc. (Australia) – www.hopeaustralia.org.au .

“We are keen to gauge the level of interest and/or concern on issues across the 4 areas noted above. Once we’ve reviewed the submissions, we will undertake some extra research to further develop our A-Z List of Useful Resources to help guide youth in dealing with these matters”, said Mr Frank Ondrus, President of HOPE Inc.

The PhotoVoice “citizen’s science” project welcomes youth to submit a photo, short video or drawing/sketch of an issue that they find concerning, type up a short caption to match, and submit to HOPE by the 30th June 2021. This caption should aim to be about 30 words long and explain why the picture was taken, what it means to the student, why it is important, what issue it highlights and why it does so effectively, and what we as a community can do to improve the issue.

Youth are urged to be respectful of the people's personal space and privacy – always ask permission first! Try not to take close-up portraits, and instead try to take images of things rather than people. Make sure to stay safe, check-in with teachers and parents, don't go adventuring alone, and avoid hazardous situations. Some jumping off points are shown below but students are encouraged to get creative and inspired and choose whichever topic sparks their interest.



Submissions for the PhotoVoice Project are due by 30th June 2021 and are to be submitted to HOPE via email, Google Drive or any other easily accessible platform. For photos and drawings, please submit a scanned A4 PhotoVoice submission and for videos, please attach a link to your email. Youth are asked to include their name, year level and school in their submission.

For more detailed information on the PhotoVoice project, email HOPE at office@hopeaustralia.org.au.

Handwritten signature of Frank Ondrus in cursive script.

Frank Ondrus, President – HOPE Inc., ph. 4639 2135