

## Activity 11

# Do You See What I See?

### Aim:

To explore how images can be altered depending on the message being communicated

### Age:

10+

### Time: 30 mins

### Materials:

Blank paper, markers, photographs 7, 8 and 13 from the photopack copy of full & cropped images, Bluetac

### What to do:

**Preparation:** Using photos from the photopack, cover part of the photo with a white sheet. Make photocopies (and enlarge if necessary). You should have part of a photo on a white background. Make one such copy for each pair in your group.

**Step 1:** Have a quick brainstorm with the group. How can photos be altered? Do they know the terms airbrushing or cropping? What do they mean?

**Step 2:** Split the group into pairs. Give each pair a cropped photograph (stuck onto an A4 page) and ask them to think about what is happening in this picture? Where do they think it is?

Explain that the picture they have is incomplete and they should complete the picture based on what they think the original image looked like. Allow 10 minutes to draw around the image they have.

**Step 3:** When all of the pictures are completed, display them on the wall for everybody to see. Ask if people can see any similarities between the pictures? Which situation would they prefer to be living in if they had to choose? Why?

**Debrief:** Show the original uncropped photos. Ask if they are surprised by anything? What do you think is happening in the picture? Who do you think took this picture and what were they trying to show? Does a photo always tell the truth? Do you think images are ever altered? Why do they do this? Is this fair on the people in the picture? What is the effect on us when we see the picture?

### Note to leader:

You can do the drawing part of this activity with the age-group 6+, and have a limited debrief

### DID YOU KNOW?

Dáil na nÓg is the National Youth Parliament of Ireland. At their annual event in 2010, body image and the 'airbrushing' of images in the media was a big concern for young people. They called for a symbol and text to be mandatory on altered advertisements and images so the reader knows that this is not the original image. From early 2011 the members of the Dáil na nÓg Council will research and campaign on this issue. For more information visit [www.dailnanog.ie](http://www.dailnanog.ie).



**Action Idea!** Contact local, national or overseas development organisations. Ask them if they ever alter images? Do they have a policy on this? Do they seek permission to use images? Record their responses and display your findings.