

World Orphans Photography Best Practices

Our heart is to cultivate focus on relationships, and we realize capturing pictures can take away from authentic time together. To that end, your team may identify a designated photographer to take pictures on behalf of the team so that other team members are freed up to be fully present. With a designated photographer you can be confident photos are being captured while allowing remaining team members to focus on individuals and not be distracted by phones.

When considering taking a picture:

- Before taking a picture, please keep in mind how you would feel if someone came to your home, yard, or community and started taking pictures of you without your permission. How would that make you feel? Always ask permission.
- Be culturally sensitive. If you are not sure, ask a World Orphans staff person.
- Respect dignity and privacy of those photographed (i.e. – be respectful, don't assume you are entitled to take every photo, conceal camera as much as possible when not taking photos, photograph others as you would want to be photographed, etc.
- If in doubt, don't take the picture.
- Seek to capture joy, not devastation.
- Be aware of the negative stereotype of “poverty tourism” or “voluntourism.” Keep in mind the focal points of World Orphans wholistic care model: physical, mental, emotional and spiritual.