

INTRODUCTION TO THE ROGOVIN PHOTOGRAPHY TEACHER'S GUIDE

Using the Rogovin Website

The **Rogovin Photography Teacher's Guide** consists of the Guide and eight portfolios from Milton Rogovin's photographic series. There are many suggestions for ways to involve students to deepen their understanding of the content of the photographs and the social or historical issues raised by the photographs. The photos can become a springboard for inquiry about the issues raised by Milton Rogovin's photographs or the work of other artists. There are suggestions for ways to involve students in reading, writing, interviews, and role-plays. Most exciting, there are many suggestions for ways students to become artists themselves and to share their work with others.

While this **Teacher's Guide** is written for classes and after school programs for grades 6 – 12, it can easily be adapted for younger students, or for older students in GED programs, in English as a Second Language classes, in college and graduate classes, in workplace programs, and in community organizations.

The **Teacher's Guide** can easily be used in the following types of courses:

- history, social studies, geography, or economics
- English/language art, literature, or creative writing
- photography, art, art history, music
- foreign language or bilingual classes
- science, environmental science
- health education

Teachers are invited to use the portfolios from the Education section of the Milton Rogovin web site (www.miltonrogovin.com). Laminating the printed folios makes them sturdier and longer-lasting. The Rogovin Collection has granted permission to reproduce these photographs for non-commercial purposes only.

We have provided four curriculum project guides to suggest how the photographs can be used in four different subjects (American history, middle school advisory, English, and photography). These are samples and they suggest ways to use the Rogovin photographs in many other subjects as well. Currently the guides are written for middle grades and high school students. We believe that teachers can adapt them for use with younger and older students.



Native American

Much of the Methods for Teaching section uses examples from the Family of Miners and Lower West Side folios. We are eager to have all eight folios fully developed for classroom use. Please let us know if you would have interest in taking on any part of that challenge!

Milton Rogovin has never titled his photographs. He has never wanted to tell the viewer the “answer” of what is happening in the photo. He wants the viewer to look deep into the photograph and the story will come alive, letting the faces tell a thousand stories! Have your students enjoy the photographs and let their stories be rich and valuable lessons. While many of the photos were taken in the Buffalo area there is a universality, an international significance, to the images.

We invite you to share your experiences using the Rogovin photographs with other teachers through the Rogovin web site. It is our desire that teaching with the photographs and Guide becomes a rich experience. We will post teacher suggestions and student work as we are able. The address to email to is: Education@MiltonRogovin.com.

****Each person sending in suggestions or examples of work will need to sign and return the permission slip.**

About Milton Rogovin

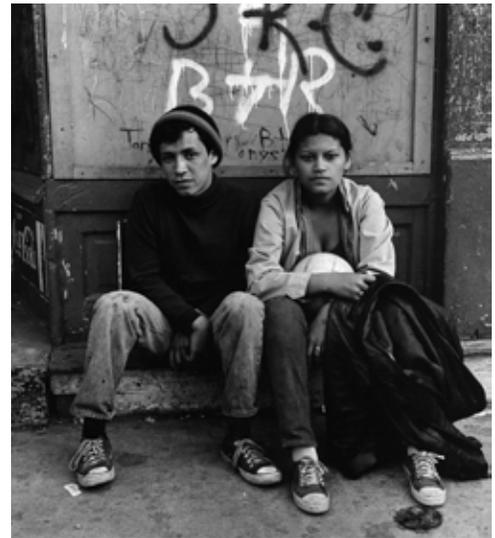
Milton Rogovin was schooled as an optometrist but his passion was photography. His photographs are collected and published around the world. Milton Rogovin always dreamed that his photographs would be seen not just by people who visit art galleries but by young people in schools, by people at community centers, by subway riders, by working people, and by people who might even see their own lives reflected in his photographs. "The rich have their own photographers, I photograph the forgotten ones." That statement by Rogovin defines his work.

Over five decades Milton Rogovin used his camera to take us into the world of workers, both at work and at home, showing us their humanity, dignity and strength. He photographed steel workers before many jobs in the steel industry were outsourced to other countries, leaving the subjects of his photos and millions of others jobless. He returned to see what life was like for those workers a decade after the layoffs. For his Family of Miners series, he photographed miners and their families in Appalachia and in nine other countries.

Rogovin photographed in storefront churches and in a six-square-block community in Buffalo's Lower West Side over a 30-year span. He photographed on Native American reservations, and in the Yemeni community of Lackawanna, New York. At the invitation of Chilean poet Pablo Neruda, Milton Rogovin photographed people in Chile.

As a life-long activist for peace and social justice, Milton Rogovin finds many ways of working to make this a better world for all people. As a social documentary photographer, he seeks to build awareness of the lives and struggles of "the forgotten ones." He hopes that this awareness would lead other people to join the effort to make this a better world.

Milton Rogovin, born in 1909, never anticipated that, through the Internet, his compelling photos would be accessible to people around the world! He is delighted that this Teacher's Guide will enable teachers to bring his photos into their classrooms. The Rogovin family hopes that this Guide will help teachers of all grades and subject areas to find creative and meaningful ways to use the photographs with their students. They hope that through Milton Rogovin's website (www.miltonrogovin.com) teachers and students will share their experiences and work with others.



Native American

Acknowledgements

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Many others contributed to this Guide include Lindsay Adams, Mark Barens, Bleue Benton, Joe Bernick, Estelle Carol, Alexis Ellers, Cass Fey, Steven Fox, Mark Greenberg, Melanie Anne Herzog, Sarah Hoskins, Kevin Lindenman, Victoria Malone, Michelle Melin-Rogovin, Ellen Rogovin Hart, Rima Schultz, Dana Simpson, Irene Sipos, and Rachel Swenie.