

# Activity 5: Juxtaposing Images

Consider what narrative can be portrayed by the juxtaposition of images



Sleet, M. (1968) Coretta Scott King at the funeral of Martin Luther King, comforting their 5-year-old daughter, Bernice. This photograph won a Pulitzer Prize. Available at: [Search media - Wikimedia Commons](#) (Accessed: 8 March 2023). Freely available in the public domain.

This activity works well with the “Choose Your Own Image” activity, in which case the students can use their original photo as a starting point. If not, ask the students to select an image from the varied selection, which they find interesting. In pairs, the students should then pick another 2 (or more if the class is smaller) photographs which contrast or contradict their original photograph.

This activity encourages the students to consider the way an image builds a narrative. Does the juxtaposition of the images help to build a coherent narrative? Or does it raise more questions? Now that a juxtaposing image has been added, does this change or add to their initial choice of an important image from the Civil Rights Movement?

A good example from the image pack is the pictures of Coretta Scott King. In the first image, she is smiling with her husband and one of their daughters in a home photograph in 1956. In the second image, a photojournalist has captured her and one of her daughters mourning at her husband’s funeral in 1968. These are juxtaposing images, but they tell a coherent narrative about the journey of Martin Luther King’s family through the Civil Rights Movement.