

Yesterday was mother's day, and the children in the school where my son attends had the usual gathering to offer all their mothers the due homage they deserve.

As these gatherings usually go, they are quite staged by the teachers who have spent countless hours preparing for such a special occasion. The children have learned to make gifts over the previous months, as well as learn songs in music class, all of these efforts come together for that special mother's day concert.



I have always taken my video camera, and my still picture camera (both digital), to register "for posterity" such a momentous event in the family history. In our case, it also coincided with the loss of Julio's first tooth. I am not the only one with such tools to register the event. Every parent there had brought her or his own camera or camcorder, as would be expected. The classroom was filled with cameras.

Why the future (of imaging) is digital



But then something happened, that I consider was very different from other such moments that I could recall. The children, without any prompting on the part of the adults, started to pick up the cameras and started to do the filming or photographing on their own.

Some years ago, Francis Ford Coppola, when interviewed about his ideas with regard to the development of camcorders and their impact on cinema, said: "One day we shall see the work by a young little girl from Ohio, who will change the way we approach cinema". This quote, which is more or less exact, stuck in my head for years, so when I saw the image of these children in my sons classroom filming on their own, I immediately took a picture thinking that here was the idea of what Coppola envisaged.





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