Social Documentary Photography is a sub-genre of Documentary Photography, which usually refers to photography as a means to document historically important events (e.g. wars, political events)

Dorothea Lange (1895-1965) has been called America's greatest documentary photographer. She is best known for her chronicles of the Great Depression and for her photographs of migratory farm workers. Below are 42 pre-World War II photographs she created for the U.S. Farm Security Administration (FSA) investigating living conditions of farm workers and their families in Western states such as California.