

NOT BACK TO SCHOOL

A few months after the return TO SCHOOL, many Roma children will end up not staying in the classroom.



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Every year when September begins, numerous brands and businesses join in the back-to-school campaign. It is one of the times of year with the greatest promotional impact, full of songs, choreographies and outfits. However, many children do not live in this musical.

"NOT back to school" is an idea that breaks with this commercial fiction, showing that, for many Roma children, this return, so full of barriers, is significantly removed from the advertising clichés.

Fundación Secretariado Gitano has launched a TV spot to give visibility to the situation experienced by Roma students. The spot begins in just as superficial a way as other back-to-school adverts. However, in our piece, we see how the typical, clichéd back-to-school narrative falls apart bit by bit until the very protagonists of the campaign, the Roma students, end up denouncing their situation.

This campaign is being launched shortly after the return to school, when many Roma will end up not staying in the classroom.



www.LaNoVueltaAlCole.org

2 out of 3 Roma children do not finish Compulsory Secondary Education

Most Roma children join the educational system late. Their school trajectory is marked by academic failure and repeating years: by age 11, 40% of Roma children have repeated. Without sufficient support, without educated role models, in segregated schools and with most in situations of poverty, they abandon their studies at around 16 years of age without obtaining the Compulsory Secondary Education Certificate.

The lack of interest from the educational system, which does not take into account the situation of Roma students, means that decade after decade the same outcomes are repeated and the gap with the rest of the population grows: early school leaving reaches 86% for Roma children, versus 13% for the general population.

What are we asking for from the public authorities?

From Fundación Secretariado Gitano, we demand from the educational authorities, among other measures:

- A Specific Plan for Educational Guidance and Support at the national level to reverse the situation of academic failure and early school leaving among Roma students.
- Measures to guarantee the free incorporation of Roma children in the first stages of Infant Education.
- To reverse the educational segregation that affects 1 in 3 Roma children.

Fundación Secretariado Gitano. What we do.

Fundación Secretariado Gitano is an NGO which has been working for over 40 years for the advancement of the Roma people. Defending the fundamental right to education is one of our priorities.

Through our educational guidance and support programme Promociona, we work with around 5 000 Roma students annually so that they can achieve academic success in Compulsory Secondary Education and can continue studying.

A campaign by:



IGUALTRATO

FOR THE
NON-DISCRIMINATION
OF ROMA

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