

National Minority Laws In Sweden and why do we have them



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- Jews
- Roma
- Finns
- Tornedahlingar
- Sami



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Gypsy? The same as Romani?



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Gypsy (Noun)

1.

a member of a travelling people traditionally living by itinerant trade and fortune telling. Gypsies speak a language (Romany) that is related to Hindi and are believed to have originated in South Asia.

synonyms: Romany, Rom, chal, chai, gitano, gitana, tzigane, Zingaro, Zigeuner, zingana, didicoi; More

2.

INFORMAL

a nomadic or free-spirited person.

"why should she choose to wander the world with a penniless gypsy like me?"

synonyms: Romany, Rom, chal, chai, gitano, gitana, tzigane, Zingaro, Zigeuner, zingana, didicoi; traveller, New Age traveller, New Ager; nomad, migrant, rover, roamer, wanderer, wayfarer; Bedouin, Bohemian; informalgyppo, gippy; derogatorytransient, vagrant, vagabond, tinker.

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The first American account to discuss Gypsies at any length appeared in the Christian Enquirer for September 29th, 1855; American readers were given a picture which must have helped set the stage for what followed:

The Gipsies ... are an idle, miserable race, a curse to the countries they inhabit, and a terror to the farmer through whose lands they stroll. They seem utterly destitute of conscience, and boast of dishonesty as if it were a heavenly virtue ... Laws have been passed in several countries to banish them, and great cruelties sometimes practiced to enforce these laws ... So deeply rooted are sin and vagrancy in the hearts of this miserable race, that neither penal laws nor bitter persecution can drive it out. They are not beyond the power of the Gospel, however, nor yet beyond the mercy of the Redeemer.

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The Gypsies, published in 1973, Werner Cohn maintained that "Gypsies are thoroughly European a majority of their ancestors probably came from old European stock." Judith Okely and Wim Willems are currently the most vocal champions of that view among those who study Roma. Both of them maintain that Gypsies are "a motley rabble of diverse origin," an indigenous Western population whose identity was "invented" over time by writers and policy-makers.

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Antiziganistiska lagar ur boken Pariah Syndrom

gypsies ... for each county ... shall be jointly and severally liable with his or her associates [to a fine of] two thousand dollars (State Code of Mississippi, Section 27-17-191).

The governing body may make, amend, repeal and enforce ordinances to license and regulate ... gypsies (New Jersey Statutes, 40:52-1).

After the passage of this act, it shall be unlawful for any ... gypsies ... to ... settle ... within the limits of any county of this state [without having first obtained a yearly license to do so] (Pennsylvania Statutes, Section 11810).

Any person may demand of any ... gypsies that they shall produce or show their license issued within such county, and if they shall refuse to do so ... he shall seize all the property in the possession of such [Gypsies] (Pennsylvania Statutes, Section 11803).

Gypsies [in the State of Maryland] must pay jurisdictions a license fee of \$1000 before settling or doing business. When any gypsy is arrested, all his property and all the property of members of any group with which he may be traveling, can be confiscated and sold to pay any fine a court may levy against the arrested gypsy. Sheriffs are paid a \$10 bounty for any gypsy they arrest who pays the \$1000 fee after he is arrested (Logan, 1976).

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Whenever ... gypsies shall be located within any municipality ... the county department of health or joint county department of health shall have power ... to order such [Gypsies ...] to leave said municipality within the time specified (Pennsylvania Title 53: Municipal and Quasi-Municipal Corporations, Chapter xvii, Section 3701).

It is illegal in Pennsylvania to be a Gypsy without a license ... Any Gypsy who insists on being what he was born - a Gypsy - without a license, is liable to up to \$100 fine and 30 days in jail. A constable may confiscate and sell a convicted Gypsy's possessions to satisfy the sentence ... any person may demand to see a Gypsy's license. If the Gypsy cannot produce a license, the person may turn the Gypsy in to any convenient justice of the peace (Smart, 1969).

Upon each company of ... Gypsies, engaged in trading or selling merchandise or livestock of any kind, or clairvoyant, or persons engaged in fortunetelling, phrenology, or palmistry, \$250 [is] to be collected ... [from those who] live in tents or travel in covered wagons and automobiles, and who may be a resident of some country or who reside without the State, and who are commonly called traveling horse traders and Gypsies (Georgia Acts and Resolutions, 1927, Part I, Title II, Section 56, p.3).

Texas law refers to "Prostitutes, Gypsies and vagabonds" in the same breath, and charges the Romany people \$500 to live there (Bernardo, 1981:108).

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana, that it shall be unlawful for any band of Gypsies ... to camp in tent, wagon or otherwise, on any public highway in this state, or lands adjacent thereto ... Any person or persons violating the provisions of this Act shall be deemed guilty ... and upon conviction shall be fined not exceeding twenty-five dollars or imprisoned in the county jail not exceeding thirty days, or both (State of Indiana Statutory Regulations, Section I). "This statutory law has been used so often against the Gypsies in that state, that Indiana has not been visited by Gypsies for a long time" (Marchbin, 1939:152).

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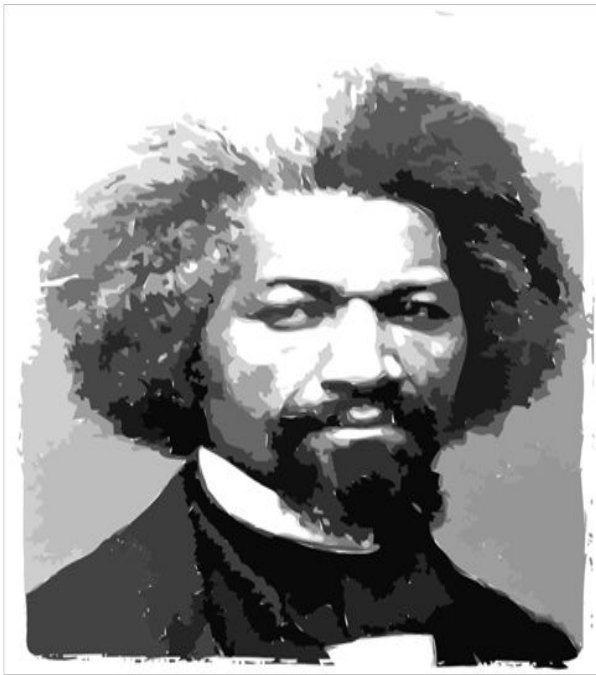
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Hur ska vi arbeta med Romsk inkludering i skolor?



Black History Month Lessons & Resources



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Tidiga årskurser på grundskolan



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För högstadiets elever



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Antiziganismen i Sverige)



According to the law on national minorities and minority languages in Sweden, the Language Act (2009: 600) states that public bodies have a specific responsibility to protect and promote national minority languages. **Numerous public bodies assume that this law is satisfied when they make a national minority language "available". Some municipalities for example may translate parts of their website into the Romani language, or may simply assume that they satisfy the law by announcing in written form that national minorities have a right to mother tongue instruction in their language.** Such efforts to satisfy the national minority laws in Sweden are far from the concept of promotion and protection. In fact the fundamental act of protection in Swedish national minority law states the following:

- **You have the right to information about the minority law and your rights.**
- You have the right to protection and support to preserve and develop your national minority language and your culture.
- You as a child have the right to use your own minority language and develop your cultural identity.
- **You have the right to influence in issues pertaining to you.**

