The Fundación Secretariado Gitano is an intercultural social non-profit organisation that provides services for the development of the Roma community in Spain and in Europe.

We work to achieve the full citizenship of Roma people, to improve their living conditions, to promote equal treatment and to prevent any form of discrimination, as well as to promote the recognition of the cultural identity of the Roma community.

www.gitanos.org

THOUSANDS OF ROMA PEOPLE ARE BRANDED BY PREJUDICE AND DISCRIMINATED AGAINST EACH DAY

www.eltatuajequemasduele.org
I am Roma and I am untrustworthy. This is the message that Amanda, a young Roma woman, was tattooed on the 16 November in front of the media to raise awareness on the invisibility of prejudices. In this way, we intend to attract the attention of all of society to the major problem of discrimination suffered by Roma people who are rejected due to their ethnic background each day.

Why does it shock us that someone has a tattoo of such a negative message and not that thousands of Roma people are discriminated against each day?

I make this protest so that prejudices are visible and to make people think.

AMANDA

WHAT IS THE MOST PAINFUL TATTOO?
The Most Painful Tattoo is an awareness-raising campaign of the Fundación Secretariado Gitano against discrimination and in favour of the dignity of Roma people.

WHAT DO WE PROPOSE?
The defence of equality and the right to non-discrimination are the basis for all of our work. Therefore, the Fundación Secretariado Gitano proposes, among other measures:

- Greater protection from public authorities of the right to equality and dignity.
- Approval of a Comprehensive Equality Law to address discriminating acts which do not constitute a crime.
- Creation of an independent Equality Body, which assumes all powers and responsibilities established by European regulations.
- Encouraging the action of the Hate Crime and Discrimination Services of the regional prosecutors’ offices and their coordination with other agents involved.
- Raising society’s awareness to achieve greater social rejection for flagrant anti-Roma acts.

We will continue to work to make cases of discrimination visible and to report them, supporting the victims and promoting policies that guarantee equal treatment.

THE ISSUE OF DISCRIMINATION
Social rejection of Roma people is an issue that affects thousands of citizens and which jeopardises their Right to Non-Discrimination.

The numerous cases of discrimination against Roma people are related to the difficulty in accessing work, renting a home or entering an entertainment venue, among many other daily situations.

To eradicate discrimination it is necessary to make it visible and demand greater attention from public authorities, institutions and social organisations.

Advancing the real equality of Roma citizens will improve the democratic health of all of society, making it more dignified and fairer.

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