

People and Ideas Move from Place to Place

The Gypsies, also called Roma, are a close group of people who originated in India. Today they live worldwide, especially in Europe. Gypsies are people who are committed to a nomadic or travelling lifestyle. Some gypsies are permanently on the road and regularly move around various countries from place to place. Some travel in caravans or mobile homes. Their way of life means that they travel staying for various periods of time in different locations.

This traveling lifestyle makes it difficult to earn a living. Their work is frequently seasonal. They tend to stay during winter months to have access to schools and then travel during the summer months. The skills they are known for include livestock traders, musicians, craftsmen, and even fortune-tellers. At the same time, the Roma keep their distance from local citizens. This has been their way of life for many generations.

Unfortunately, many people dislike the Gypsies' way of life. As a result, the Roma are harassed and face discrimination. They have often been accused of many crimes. Their dark skin, constant moving, and their rituals make them easy targets. This intolerance has forced them to leave towns or cities.

Besides being relatively uneducated, Gypsies suffer because they lack access to government services and health care. French laws in modern time even prohibited them using campsites. The consequences of poor quality housing and education results in high unemployment. This tends to generate discrimination from area citizens and the Roma to move to different locations.