

## Home education and inclusion: Gypsy, Roma and Traveller children in the UK

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This paper will examine the experiences of Gypsy, Traveller and Roma (GTR) children who are being home educated in the UK. It will argue that home education for GTR parents is not simply down to *choice*, rather parents have little options regarding the education of their children as they experience overt racism and discrimination in schools on a daily basis. On the one hand, schools claim to be inclusive regarding the education of pupils from marginalised and minority groups, yet on the other hand many schools show little support regarding the education of GTR children. Schools are less likely to support GTR children due to their lower levels of achievement and attendance compared to those from white, working class communities or black minority ethnic communities. Consequently, GTR parents who choose to home education are perceived by schools as 'opting out' of formal educational structures and are accused of wanting to home education to escape legal prosecution or of not being qualified to do so. This paper argues that in order to move towards a social justice and inclusive agenda, schools must work *with* marginalised communities in creating different opportunities for education rather than those based on formal, structured approaches to learning.