

TEACHERS' VIEWS ON ROMANY CHILDREN'S FAILURE IN SCHOOLS

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Abstract

Research conducted in recent years indicates that Romanies are the most disadvantaged group in Turkish society. Employment, accommodation and education are highlighted as the major fields in which Romanies encounter problems. Romany children are mentioned as one of the disadvantaged groups in having access to education. It is often observed that those children have high rates of dropout, high levels of attendance problems in schools and that they are illiterate even if they are in upper grades. The number of studies on Gypsy children's educational status and their problems is scarce. This study aims to exhibit the problems those children encounter in education. This study was conducted with teachers teaching in schools Gypsy children attended in Sungurlu district of Çorum. The study employs the design of case study, which is one of qualitative research designs. Semi-structured interview forms were used in collecting the data. It was concluded that Romany children had problems in school attendance, doing their homework, willingness to come to school and in communicating with their parents.

Keywords: Romany children, education, problems.