

Social media has become a space where manipulation, racism and misinformation quickly reach millions. In relation to the Romani minority, even if they serve activism, they have also potentiated the spread of stereotypes. The Roma have been stereotypically represented for centuries. In the past, perhaps, there was no awareness among the majorities of the damage caused, today there is no excuse. Why are such representations still made and why the perverse generalisation by the media. Why are there no Roma professionals and leaders speaking for their own people in the organisations and bodies of power? How is it possible that they are still subordinated and made to be invisible? Why there is not much questioning about the lack of their presence in schools and universities, all contributing factors to the maintenance of anti-Romani behaviour in real and virtual life. The cause: lack of real social and political will to change structural, institutional and epistemological racism. The scale, the anti-Romani feeling is immeasurable. The impact is devastating. The Roma are marginalised and victimised, which is, a historical strategy to maintain the *status quo* of majority societies in the face of their difference. The impact leads to a community being largely paralysed in the struggle for their rights, introjected stereotypes and lives with consequences. I was a child taken from my family under the stereotypical allegation that I had been stolen by Romanis. I was able to return, under a different name, many do not return. Stereotypes are the hard core of prejudice, hence of discrimination and inequality. They need to be actively deconstructed. Centuries of subalternisation need to be healed through specific and truly implemented policies, from spaces of voice in all spheres, including politics. And the hatred in the networks will diminish. It is also urgent to address the issue of Romani women, the main target of anti-Romani behaviour which is also present on social media.

Thank you