

A2 Middle Class

In most countries of Western Europe, Sinti and Roma were banned for centuries from joining trade associations and guilds, and many of them therefore became dealers and merchants. In Western Europe especially, many Sinti and Roma were successful business people. Their children attended local schools, and many Roma and Sinti served as soldiers in World War I. For their services to king and country, some Roma and Sinti were even raised to the nobility.



1910

1951

1935

💡 Did you know

... that many Sinti and Roma bought and sold wares at markets and fairs or went as pedlars from house to house? Others ran stalls or rides at fairs and amusement parks. Many cinemas also used to be operated by Sinti and Roma families.

✎ Your task

Describe the clothes the people are wearing in the photograph. What would you say about the atmosphere in the photograph? What do you think was the occasion for which the photo was taken?

📷 About the photo

The Sinto Max Bamberger (on the right) with his family in a photograph taken in 1935. Documentation and Cultural Centre of German Sinti and Roma, Heidelberg, Germany.



<https://www.romasintigenocide.eu/en/a>