H5 GELSENKIRCHEN (D)

In 1937, after persistent harassment and threats, Sinti and Roma families in Gelsenkirchen were persuaded to move to a municipal traveller site overseen by SA squads and where they were charged for the use of the land. In April 1939, the local police “45 families with 237 persons in 51 caravans” in the camp. The families were later forced to move to the traveller site in Beginenstrasse shown in the photograph. Some fl ed to Cologne, from where most were deported to Poland in 1940. The remaining residents of the Gelsenkirchen Camp were deported to Auschwitz in 1943.



1910 1951

1937

Did you know

... that the big mining and armaments companies in particular called for the “Gypsies” to be banished from the German city of Gelsenkirchen?
...that many Sinti in Gelsenkirchen were actually employed in the steelworks? But the Nazis suspected them all of sabotage, and so they were deported to concentration camps.

Your task

Under what circumstances can people be locked up merely on suspicion of having committed a crime today? Who can issue such an order?

About the photo

“Gypsy” camp in the former Beginenstrasse in Uckendorf, a suburb of Gelsenkirchen.
German Federal Archives, Koblenz, Germany.

https://www.romasintigenocide.eu/en/h