

641 Years of Anti-Gypsy Laws and Acts

(the consequences of being a gypsy are underlined; the “words register, document, report, license” are bolded because the anti-gypsy law I live under - SFPD 97 - was amended in 2019 to include a “license” for those in San Francisco’s “safe parking program”, which I was forced into Aug 9, 2022 to March 3, 2025. After it closed, March 2025, I encountered a HOT outreach worker with a thick notebook binder titled “Vehicle Registry” which isn’t ANY different from all the other times I list below because it isn’t meant to help us in any way whatsoever, only persecute)

1383. *Vagabonds Act of 1383* was an Act of Parliament in England. It empowered Justices of the Peace or county sheriffs to bind over vagabonds for good behavior, or to commit them to the assizes if sureties could not be given.

1385. In Romania, first mention of Roma, noted as slaves.

1388. *Statute of Cambridge* was passed in England and it strengthened the powers of the Justices of the Peace to impose and administer the law. It distinguished between the “sturdy beggars” capable of work and the “impotent beggars” those incapacitated by age or infirmity. It forbade servants to move without legal authorization out of their “hundred”. This was the administrative area of the time and may have consisted of several Manors and related Manorial lands. This meant that roaming around the countryside in search of work was no longer allowed and allocated responsibility to the leaders of a particular “hundred”. It introduced a formal geographic basis for accountability for the poor which would be delegated down in time to the Parish. Each “hundred” was made responsible for housing and keeping its own paupers, but made no special provision for maintaining the sick poor. This is where we get the concept of responsibility of “counties-as-opposed-to-cities” from.

1427. Hundreds of Roma arrive at the gates of Paris. The city sends them on to the town of Pontoise in less than a month.

1449. Roma are driven out of the city of Frankfurt-am-Main.

1471. 17,000 Roma are transported into Moldavia for slave labour.

1471. The first anti-Gypsy laws are passed in Lucerne, Switzerland.

1482. The first anti-Gypsy laws are passed in the state of Brandenburg (now Germany).

1492. The first anti-Gypsy laws are passed in Spain.

1494. *Vagabonds and Beggars Act* passed in England: “Vagabonds, idle and suspected persons shall be set in the stocks for three days and three nights and have none other sustenance but bread and water and then shall be put out of Town. Every beggar suitable to

work shall resort to the hundred where he last dwelled, is best known, or was born and there remain upon the pain aforesaid."

1493. Roma are expelled from Milan, Italy.

1496-1498. The Reichstag (parliament) in Landau and Freiburg (now Germany) declares Roma traitors to the Christian countries, spies in the pay of the Turks, and carriers of the plague.

1498. Four Gypsies accompany Christopher Columbus on his third voyage to the New World.

1499. Medina del Campo in Spain orders Gitanos to find a trade and master, cease traveling with other Gitanos, all within sixty days. Punishment for failure to obey is 100 lashes and banishment. Repeat offenses are punished by amputation of ears, sixty days in chains, and banishment. Third-time offenders become the slaves of those who capture them.

1500. At the request of Maximilian I, the Augsburg Reichstag (now Germany) declares Roma traitors to Christian countries, accuses them of witchcraft, kidnapping of children, and banditry.

1504. Roma are prohibited by Louis XII from living in France.

1510. Roma are prohibited by the Grand Council of France from residence. The punishment is banishment. A second offense results in hanging.

1512. Roma are expelled from Catalonia.

1512. Roma are first recorded in Sweden. A company of about 30 families, led by a "Count Anthonius" arrives in Stockholm, claiming that they came from "Little Egypt". They are welcomed by the city and given lodging and money for their stay. A few years later, King Gustav Vasa, suspects that the Roma are spies and orders that they be driven out from the country.

1525. Charles V issues an edict in Holland ordering all those that call themselves "Egyptians" (this is where the word 'gypsy' originated) to leave the country within two days.

1526. The first anti-Gypsy laws are passed in Holland and Portugal.

1530. The *Vagabond Act of 1530* are passed in England "an Act how aged, poor and impotent Persons, compelled to live by Alms, shall be ordered; and how Vagabonds and Beggars shall be punished." Under this act, vagabonds were subject to the harsher punishment of whipping, rather than the stocks. However, it also created provisions for those who were unable to work due to sickness, age, or disability. These "impotent" beggars could become **licensed to beg** by their local Justices of the Peace. This statute is recognized as the first English poor law to be at least partially aimed at providing relief, rather than punishing vagrancy, because it made the Justices of the Peace responsible for the licensed poor within their district, or "hundred".

1530. First law expelling Gypsies from England was introduced. *The Egyptians Act of 1530* was an Act passed by the Parliament of England in 1531 to expel the "outlandish people calling themselves Egyptians", meaning Gypsies. It was the start of confining them to their place of origin whether birth or place of dwelling. This required compliance for a period of three years. The statute forbade any more Gypsies from entering the realm and gave those already in England sixteen days' notice to depart from the realm. Goods which Gypsies had stolen were to be restored to their owners and property confiscated from Gypsies was to be divided between the Sovereign and the Justice of the Peace or another arresting officer. Henry VIII also forbids the transportation of Gypsies into England. The fine is forty pounds for the ship's owner or captain. The Gypsy passengers are punished by hanging. It was repealed in 1840.

1530. Diet of Augsburg declared that "whosoever kills a Gypsy, will be guilty of no murder."

1531. The Augsburg Reichstag forbids the issuing of passports to Roma. However, in 1556, the government stepped in to "forbid the drowning of Romani women and children".

1536. The first anti-Gypsy laws are passed in Denmark.

1538. Deportation of Roma in Portugal to colonies begins.

1539. Roma are prohibited by Frances I from residence in France. A second offense results in corporal punishment.

1541. The first anti-Gypsy laws are passed in Scotland.

1541. Roma are blamed for outbreak of fires in Prague. This sets the stage for future anti-Gypsy legislation.

1547. *Vagrancy Act* in England requiring that any able-bodied person who was out of work for more than three days should be branded with a V and sold into slavery for two years. Other offenses would lead to a life of slavery. Many local authorities refused to enact this legislation.

1549. The first anti-Gypsy laws are passed in Bohemia.

1554. In the reign of Philip and Mary of England, an Act is passed which ordered the gypsies to leave the country within a month. It was decreed that the death penalty shall be imposed for being a Gypsy, or anyone who "shall become of the fellowship or company of the 'Egyptians' ".

1557. The first anti-Gypsy laws are passed in Lithuania.

1557. In the reign of Sigismund Augustus, the first law ordering Roma to be expelled is passed by the Warsaw, Poland Sejm (parliament).

1560. The Archbishop of the Swedish Lutheran Church forbids priests to have any dealings with Roma. Their children are not to be christened and dead not to be buried.

1560. Spanish legislation forbids Gitanos from traveling in groups of more than two. Gitano “dress and clothing” is banned. Punishment for traveling in groups of more than two is up to eighteen years in the galleys. This legislation is later altered to change the punishment to death for all nomads, and the galleys reserved for settled Gitanos.

1561. Roma are prohibited by Charles IX of France from residence. The punishment is banishment. A second offense results in the galleys and corporal punishment. Men, women and children have their heads shaved.

1562. An Act is passed in England “*for further punishment of Vagabonds, calling themselves ‘Egyptians.’* Any Gypsy born in England and Wales is not compelled to leave the country if they quit their idle and ungodly life and company. All others should suffer death and loss of lands and goods.”

1563. The Council of Trent in Rome affirms that Roma cannot be priests.

1568. Pope Pius V orders the expulsion of all Roma from the domain of the Roman Catholic Church.

1573. Gypsies in Scotland are ordered to leave the country or settle down.

1578. At the General Warsaw Sejm, King Stephen Báthory pronounces an edict threatening sanctions against anyone who harbors Roma on their lands. They are punished as accomplices of outlaws.

1579. Augustus, elector of Saxony, orders confiscation of Romani passports and banishes them from Saxony.

1586. Nomadic Roma are ordered expelled from Belarus.

1589. In Denmark, the death penalty is ordered for any Roma not leaving the country.

1596. 106 men and women are condemned to death at York just for being Gypsies, but only nine are executed. The others prove they were born in England.

1597. *The Vagabonds Act of 1597* in England introduced penal transportation as a punishment for the first time. During the reign of Henry VIII, it has been estimated that 72,000 people were executed. With the establishment of settlements in North America, an alternative practice (seemingly borrowed from Spain) began a reprieve of the death sentence should the condemned person consent to be transported to an American colony, and be entered into bond service.

Early **17th century**. Spanish legislation forbids Gitanos from dealing in horses. The local populace is given permission to form armed groups to pursue Gitanos.

1606. Roma are prohibited by Henry IV of France from any gathering of more than three or four. Roma are punished as “vagabonds and evil-doers.”

1609. The Scottish parliament passed the “*Act against the Egyptians*”; that made it lawful to condemn, detain and execute Gypsies on proof solely if they are known or reputed to be Romanies in regards to their ethnic origins.

1619. Philip III declares all Gitanos are to be banished from the kingdom of Spain within six months, or to settle in a locality with over 1,000 inhabitants. The dress, name and language of the Gitanos is banned.

1637. The first anti-Gypsy law in Sweden is enacted. All Roma should be expelled from the country within one year. If any Roma are found in Sweden after that date the men will be hanged and the women and children will be driven out from the country.

1646. An ordinance passed in Berne gives anyone the right “personally to kill or liquidate by bastinado or firearms” of Roma or Heiden (heathen) malefactors.

1647. Roma are punished by Louis XIV for being “Bohemians.” Punishment is the galleys.

1650s. Last known execution for being gypsy, in Suffolk, England. Others are banished to America.

1660. Roma are prohibited from residence in France by Louis XIV. Punishment is banishment. A second offense results in the galleys or corporal punishment.

1661. Johann George II, of Saxony, imposes death penalty to any Roma caught in his territory.

1666. Punished by Louis XIV of France for being “Bohemians.” Men are sent to the galleys. Women and girls are flogged, branded and banished.

1682. Louis XIV reiterates his previous policy: punishment for being “Bohemian.” Men are sentenced to the galleys for life on the first offense. Women’s heads are shaved and children are sent to the poor house. For a second offense, women are branded and banished.

1685. Portugal deports Roma to Brazil, and makes it a crime to speak Romani.

1686. Frederick William, elector of Brandenburg, decrees that Roma are not to be allowed trade or shelter.

1686. There is a sudden and radical change in the attitude of the Swedish Lutheran Church. Roma are now accepted and their children may be christened.

1700-16 and 1720-22. In Lorraine, Roma are punished for begging and vagabondage in general. Punishment is banishment. A second offense results in iron collars, branding and banishment.

1710. In Prague, Joseph I issues an edict that all adult Roma men will be hanged without trial and that boys and women be mutilated. In Bohemia, the left ear is to be cut off. In Moravia the right ear is to be cut off. These **mutilations enabled authorities to identify the individuals as Romani** on their second arrest. The edict encouraged local officials to hunt down Romani in their areas by levying a fine of 100 Reichsthaler for those failing to do so. Anyone who helped Romani was to be punished by doing a half-year's forced labor. The result was "mass killings" of Romani. In 1721, Charles VI amended the decree to include the execution of adult female Romani, while children were "to be put in hospitals for education."

1710. Prince Adolf Frederick of Mecklenburg-Strelitz issues orders that all Roma can be flogged, branded, expelled, or executed if they return. Children under ten are to be removed and raised by Christian families.

1711. Elector Frederick Augustus I of Saxony authorizes shooting of Roma if they resist arrest.

1714. British merchants and planters apply to the Privy Council to ship Gypsies to the Caribbean, avowedly to be used as slaves.

1714. In Mainz, all Roma are to be executed without trial on the grounds that their way of life is outlawed.

1715. Ten Gypsies in Scotland are recorded deported to Virginia in the Americas.

1717. Forty-one localities are set out in Spain as places of residence for Gitanos.

1719. In France, sentencing for being Roma is altered from the galleys to deportation to French colonies.

1721. Emperor Karl VI of the Austro-Hungarian Empire orders the extermination of Roma throughout his domain.

1723. Roma are prohibited from residence in Lorraine, gathering in the woods or main roads. Punishment is banishment. Communities are encouraged "to gather, march in formation and open fire on them."

1724. All vagabonds and vagrants are prohibited by Louis XV of France from residence and nomadism and gathering of more than four adults in a house. Adult men are sentenced to the galleys for five years. All others are flogged and sent to the poor house.

1725. Frederick William I condemns any Roma over eighteen caught in his territory, man or woman, to be hanged without trial.

1726. Gitanos in Spain are forbidden to appeal against the sentences of the Courts. Charles VI passes a law that any Roma found in the country are to be killed instantly. Romani women and children are to have their ears cut off and whipped all the way to the border.

1727. Berne *decree no.13* reiterates that Roma are forbidden to stay. "Gypsy men and women of more than fifteen years of age shall have one ear cut off the first time they are caught ... but if they are caught a second time they shall be sentenced to death."

1728. The town council of Aachen passes an ordinance condemning Roma to death. "Captured Gypsies, whether they resist or not, shall be put to death immediately. However, those seized who do not resort to counter-attack shall be granted no more than a half an hour to kneel, if they so wish, beg God almighty to forgive them their sins and to prepare themselves for death."

1733. Empress Anna Ioannovna of Russia decrees Roma are forbidden to travel and must settle down as serfs of the land.

1734. Frederick William I decrees that any Roma caught in his territory, man or woman, will be hanged without trial. A reward is offered.

1740. Charles VI issues an edict that anyone caught aiding Roma will be punished.

1745. Gitanos in Spain must settle in assigned places within two weeks. The punishment for failure is execution. "It is legal to fire upon them to take their life." The Churches no longer provide asylum. Armed troops are ordered to comb the countryside.

1748. All Swedish laws concerning Gypsies are integrated into one law, intending to prevent further immigration and to force Roma to settle.

1749. The year of the "Great Gypsy Round-up" in Spain. All Gypsies in Spain (est. 12,000) would be rounded up in a single night, their possessions confiscated, and forced into slavery. Gypsy women were sent to work as spinners, boys in factories, men in mines and shipyards. Escapees are hanged. Fourteen years later, they were freed by King Charles III.

1759. Roma are banned from Saint Petersburg, Russia.

1761. Maria Theresa, Empress of Hungary, passes first laws in Europe trying to settle and reform, or assimilate, Roma, calling them the "New Hungarians."

1764. All vagabonds and vagrants are denied residence in France with renewed legislation. Adult men are sentenced to the galleys for three years. All others are confined to the poor house for three years, and are then given a choice of domicile and a trade. Repeated offenses by men result in the galleys for nine years, and in several repeat offenses, in perpetuity.

1774. Maria Theresa issued an edict forbidding marriages between Romani. When a Romani woman married a non-Romani, she had to **produce proof** of "industrious household service and familiarity with Catholic tenets", a male Rom "had to prove ability to support a wife and children", and "Gypsy children over the age of five were to be taken away and brought up in non-Romani families." They are transported to distant villages and assigned to peasants to bring them up for a stipend of 12-18 florins a year. Most of the children run away to rejoin their families, who take refuge in the mountains or disappear in the plains.

1776. Constantin, Prince of Moldavia, prohibits marriages to Roma.

1780. English anti-Gypsy laws are gradually repealed, though not totally, from this date on.

1782. Joseph II of Hungary, son of Empress Maria Theresa, issues a 59-point edict reiterating his policy: schooling for children and compulsory attendance at religious services; Romani language, clothing and music are forbidden.

1783. Spanish legislation reiterates previous orders. Gitano dress, way of life, language is forbidden, and settlement is compulsory within ninety days. The name Gitano is forbidden and is to be removed from all official documents. Restrictions on trade and place of residence of Gitanos are lifted. Punishment for failure to observe restrictions is branding. Repeat offenders are sentenced to "death, with no appeal." This bill banned them from working in many of their popular livelihoods, such as shearing, trading in markets or fairs, and inn keeping. Those who continued to live as nomads were to have their children taken from them; placed in orphanages.

Early 1800s. "Gypsy hunts" (Heidenjachten) are a common and popular sport in Germany.

1802. The prefect of the department of Basses Pyrenees in France issues an order "to purge the country of Gypsies."

1803. Napoleon Bonaparte prohibits residence of Roma in France. Children, women and the aged are sentenced to the poor house. Young men are given their choice of joining the navy or army. Adult men are sent in chains to forced labor in Louisiana.

1816. John Hoyland, a Quaker, writes the first serious book calling for better treatment for Gypsies in England. Several charitable projects follow; but many Gypsies are transported as criminals to Australia.

1822. In England, the *Turnpike Act* has Gypsies found camping on the roadside fined.

1824. *Vagrancy Act of 1824* that makes it an offense to sleep rough or beg. Anyone in England and Wales found to be homeless or to be trying to cadge subsistence money can be arrested.

1830s. First wooden horse-drawn covered wagons for Gypsies are developed in England.

1830. Authorities in Nordhausen, Germany remove Roma children from families for fostering with non-Roma.

1844. The Moldavian Church liberates its Romani slaves.

1847. The Wallachian Church liberates its Romani slaves.

1856. The Slobuzenja: the abolition of slavery in Romania; large-scale emigrations of Roma to western Europe and America begin.

1864. Complete legal freedom for Roma in the united Balkan states is granted by Prince Ioan Alexandru Couza.

1868. In Holland, Richard Liebich's work on Roma introduces the phrase "lives unworthy of life" with specific reference to them, later used as a racial category against Roma in Nazi Germany.

1870. Imperial Chancellor Otto von Bismarck circulates a letter dated November 18th demanding the "complete prohibition of foreign Gypsies crossing the German border," and that "they will be transported by the closest route to their country of origin." He also states that Roma in Germany be asked to show documentary proof of citizenship, and that if this is not forthcoming, they be denied travelling passes.

1874. Muslim Roma are given equal rights with other Muslims in the Ottoman Empire.

1876. Cesare Lombroso publishes his influential work: *L'uomo delinquente*, which contains a lengthy chapter on the genetically criminal character of the Roma. This is translated into many languages, including German and English, and has a profound effect upon western legal attitudes.

1876. A decree is issued in Bavaria which calls for the strictest examination of documentation held by Roma, both at the borders and inland, and the confiscation of their work permits wherever the slightest reason warrants. Their horses are also to be examined and confiscated if deemed unhealthy. The movements of those Gypsies who are allowed to remain are still to be **carefully monitored**.

1879. Nomadism is banned in Serbia.

1880. Argentina forbids Roma entry into the country.

1885-95. Unsuccessful attempts in England to introduce *Moveable Dwellings Bills* in Parliament to regulate Gypsy life.

1886. Chancellor von Bismarck issues a directive to the governments of all regions of Germany alerting them to “complaints about the mischief caused by bands of Gypsies travelling in the Reich, and their increasing molestation of the population.”

1886. Nomadism is banned in Bulgaria.

1889. The Showmen’s Guild formed to oppose the *Moveable Dwellings Bills*. Showmen begin to become a distinct group from other Travellers or Gypsies.

1890. Swabian (southwestern Germany) parliament organizes a conference on the “Gypsy Scum” (Das Zigeunergeschmeiß), and suggests means by which the presence of Roma could be signaled from village to village by ringing church bells. The military is empowered to apprehend and move Roma on.

1899. An Information Agency, the Central Office for Fighting the Gypsy Nuisance established in Munich under the direction of Alfred Dillmann to **collate reports on Roma movement** throughout German lands, and a **register of all Gypsies over the age of six is begun**. This includes obtaining photographs, fingerprints and other genealogical data, and particularly information relating to “criminality.” This agency does not officially close down until 1970.

1904. The Prussian Landtag unanimously adopts a proposition to **regulate Gypsy movement** and means of livelihood.

1905. Alfred Dillmann’s *Zigeuner-Buch* appears in Germany. This consists of three parts; an introduction which presents the arguments for controlling Roma, a **register, 310 pages long, of over 5,000 Roma, including name, date and place of birth, genealogy and kinship, criminal record and so on, and lastly a collection of photographs of Roma and Sinti from various police files**. The introduction maintains that the German people are “suffering” from a “plague” of Roma, that they are “a pest against which society must unflinchingly defend itself,” and that they “must be controlled by the police most severely,” being “ruthlessly punished” when necessary. The notion of the particular dangers of mixed Romani and white individuals, whom Dillmann considers to constitute almost the entire Roma population, resurfaces in Nuremberg Laws of 1935.

1905. Voting rights are demanded for Roma at a conference in Sofia, Bulgaria.

1906. On February 17th, the Prussian Minister of the Interior issues a directive entitled *Die Bekämpfung des Zigeunerunwesens* (“Combating the Gypsy nuisance”) which lists bilateral agreements guaranteeing the expulsion of Roma from those countries, with the

Austro-Hungarian Empire, Belgium, Denmark, France, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Russia and Switzerland. Police are authorized to prosecute Roma for breaking the law, which offenses include “lighting fires in the woods, illegal fishing, illegal camping” and so on. Temporary school attendance is forbidden for children whose families are travelling through an area. Prussia introduces “**Gypsy licenses**,” required by all those wanting to stay there. These are given out only if the applicant has a fixed domicile, no serious criminal convictions, educational provision for their children, and proper tax accounts. Those qualifying are nevertheless not allowed to settle locally.

1909. Switzerland asks Germany, Italy, France and Austria to exchange information on the movements of Roma across their shared borders, and while this is unsuccessful, the Swiss Department of Justice begins a **national register** of Roma, based upon the Munich model.

1909. Recommendations coming from a “Gypsy policy conference” in Hungary include the confiscation of their animals & carts, and **permanent branding for purposes of identification**.

1912. The French government introduces the carnet anthropométrique, a **document** containing personal data, including photographs and fingerprints which all Roma are required to carry. This remains in effect until 1970.

1914. A new law prohibits all further immigration of Roma into Sweden. The law remains in effect until 1954. Norway and Denmark have similar laws during the same period.

1918. In Holland, the *Caravan and HouseBoat Law* introduces **controls over the movements** of nomads.

1919. *Article 108* of the National Constitution of the Weimar Republic guarantees Roma and Sinti full and equal citizenship rights, but these are not heeded.

1920. On July 27th, the Minister of Public Welfare in Düsseldorf forbids Roma and Sinti from entering any public washing or recreational facilities (swimming pools, public baths, spas, parks). In Germany, psychiatrist Karl Binding and magistrate Alfred Hoche argue for the killing of those who are “Ballastexistenzen,” i.e. whose lives are seen merely as ballast, or dead weight, within humanity; this includes Roma. The concept of Lebensunwertesleben, or “lives unworthy (or undeserving) of life,” later on becomes central to Nazi race policy in 1933, when a law incorporating this same phrase is issued by Hitler on July 14th that year.

1922. In Baden, requirements are introduced that all Roma and Sinti be **photographed and fingerprinted, and have documents completed on them**.

1925. The Soviet Romani Writers’ Association in the Soviet Union is founded, then suppressed.

1925. A conference is held on the Gypsy question, at which Bavaria proposes a law to compulsorily settle Roma and Sinti, and to incarcerate those not regularly employed (referred to

as arbeitsscheu or “work shy”) to work camps for up to two years, for reasons of “public security.” This applies equally to settled and non-settled Roma.

1926. The Swiss Pro Juventute Foundation begins, “in keeping with the theories of eugenics and progress,” to take children away from Roma, to change their names, and to put them into foster homes. This program continues until 1973, and is not brought to light until the 1980s. Switzerland has apologized to the Roma, but adamantly refuses to allow them access to the records which will help them locate the children taken from them.

1926. On July 16th, The Bavarian “*Law for Combating Gypsies, Vagabonds and Idlers*” proposed at the 1925 conference is passed. It is justified in the legislative assembly thus: “[Gypsies] are by nature opposed to all work, and find it especially difficult to tolerate any restriction of their nomadic life; nothing, therefore, hits them harder than loss of liberty, coupled with **forced labor**.” The law requires the **registration** of all Roma and Sinti, settled or not, with the police, registry office and unemployment agency in each district.

1927. In Czechoslovakia, *law no.117* prohibits Romani nomadism and bars nomads from “leading the life of Gypsies.” **Roma identity cards** are introduced. Children under fourteen may be taken from their families and placed in children’s homes or with respectable families.

1927. On November 3rd, a Prussian ministerial decree is issued requiring **all Roma to be registered through documentation** “in the same manner as individuals being sought by means of wanted posters, witnesses, photographs and fingerprints.” Infants to be fingerprinted, and those over the age of six to carry **identity cards** bearing their photograph as well.

1927. Bavaria institutes a law forbidding Roma and Sinti to travel in family groups, or to own firearms. Those over sixteen are liable for imprisonment in work camps, while those without proof of Bavarian birth are expelled from Bavaria.

1928. Again in Bavaria, an ordinance is approved placing Sinti and Roma **under permanent police surveillance**. In May, the same law is reissued and reaffirmed, in direct violation of the provisions of the Weimar Constitution.

1929. On April 3rd, resulting from the law of 1926, the jurisdiction of the Munich office is extended to include the whole of Germany; German Criminal Police Commission renames it “The Central Office for the Fight Against the Gypsies in Germany”. On April 16th and 17th, police departments everywhere are told to **send fingerprints and data on Roma** to this office and to the International Criminology Bureau (Interpol) headquarters in Vienna. Working together, they enforce restrictions on travel for Roma without documents, impose up to 2 years’ detention in “rehabilitation camps” on Roma sixteen years and older.

1929. The journal Romani Zorya (Romani Dawn) is founded in Russia and starts publication.

1930. The Norwegian journalist Scharfenberg recommends that all Roma be sterilized.

1931. The Moscow Gypsy Theatre (Theatre Romen) is started as a Soviet experiment; it still exists today.

1933-45. O Porraimos, the Great Devouring. Up to 1,500,000 Sinti and Roma are killed in Europe by the Nazi regime and its puppet states. Determining the percentage or number of Roma who died in the Holocaust is not easy. Much of the Nazi documentation still remains to be analyzed, and many murders were not recorded, since they took place in the fields and forests where Roma were apprehended.

1933. Ten days before Hitler is elected Chancellor of The Third Reich on January 30, officials in Burgenland call for the withdrawal of all civil rights for Roma, and the introduction of clubbing as a punishment. On May 26th, *The Law to Legalize Eugenic Sterilization* is introduced by the National Socialists (Nazi Party) in Germany. On July 14th, Hitler's cabinet passes the law against "lives not deserving of life" (Lebensunwertesleben), called *The Law for the Prevention of Hereditarily Diseased Offspring*. It orders sterilization for certain categories of people, "specifically Gypsies and most of the Germans of black color". The Sinti boxer, Johann Trollman, is stripped of his title as light-heavyweight champion of Germany for "racial reasons."

1933. In Romania, the journals Neamul Tiganesc (GypsyNation) and Timpul (The Time) are founded.

1933. In Bulgaria, the Romani journal Terbie (Education) starts publication.

1933. In Latvia, Saint John's Gospel is translated into Romani.

1933. The Oberwarth District Prefect in Germany submits a petition demanding that the League of Nations investigate the possibility of establishing a colony for the resettlement of European Gypsies in the Polynesian Islands. In the week of September 18th – 25th, the Reichsminister for the Interior and Propaganda of Germany calls for the apprehension and arrest of Roma and Sinti, according to the "*Law Against Habitual Criminals*."

1934. Sweden passes a law on sterilization, which becomes harsher in 1941. Anyone, including Roma, seen as leading "a socially undesirable life" are to be sterilized. From January onwards, Roma in Germany are selected for transfer to camps for processing, which includes sterilization by injection or castration. Over the next three years, these camps will be established at Dachau, Dieselstrasse, Sachsenhausen, Marzahn and Vennhausen. On March 23rd, *The Law for the Revocation of German Citizenship* is reinstituted, and again directed at Roma, Eastern Jews, stateless persons and other "undesirable foreigners." In July, two laws issued in Nuremberg forbid Germans from marrying "Jews, Negroes and Gypsies." On September 8th, the Düsseldorf District Administrative Court in Germany prohibits Roma from obtaining licenses allowing them to engage in itinerant trade.

1935. In Yugoslavia, the journal Romano Lil is published.

1935. In May, some five hundred Roma and Sinti are arrested because they are Gypsies, and incarcerated in a camp on Venloerstrasse in Cologne, Germany. September 15th, Roma and Sinti become subject to restrictions of the National Citizenship Law (the Reichsbürgergesetz) and the Nuremberg *Law for the Protection of German Blood and German Honour*, which forbids intermarriage or sexual relationships between Aryan and non-Aryan peoples. A policy statement issued by the Nazi Party reads “In Europe generally, only Jews and Gypsies come under consideration as members of an alien people.” Gypsies, Jews and Blacks are considered “racially distinctive” minorities with “alien blood.” On September 17th, *The National Citizenship Law* relegates Jews and Roma to the status of second class citizens and deprives them of their civil rights.

1936. On March 4th, a memorandum to the State Secretary of the Interior, Hans Pfundtner, addresses the creation of a national Gypsy law (Reich Zigeunergesetz), the purpose of which is to deal with **the complete registration of the Romani population, their sterilization, the restriction on their movement and means of livelihood, and the expulsion** of all foreign-born and stateless Roma. On March 7th, Gypsies and Jews both have their voting rights taken from them. On March 20th, “action against the Gypsies” is instituted in Frankfurt am Main, when the City Council votes to put all Roma into an internment camp. The camp, on Dieselstrasse, is selected on September 22nd this year, and arrests and internment begin a year later. In June, the main Nazi institution to deal with Roma, the Racial Hygiene and Criminal Biology and Research Unit (which is Department 13 of the National Ministry of Health) is established under the directorship of Dr. Robert Ritter at Berlin-Dahlem. The National Interior Ministry supervises this entire project, partially funded by the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (the German Research Foundation). Its expressed purpose is to determine whether the Romani people and the Afro-Europeans are Aryans or sub-humans (Untermenschen). On June 5th, a circular issued by the National and the Prussian Ministries of the Interior instructs police to renew their efforts to “fight against the Gypsy plague.” Information about Roma should no longer be sent to Vienna, but to the Munich Centre for the Fight Against the Gypsy Nuisance. On June 6th, the same ministries release a second circular, signed by Himmler which states that “Gypsies live by theft, lying and begging, and are a plague ... It will be difficult for Gypsies to get used to an orderly, civilized way of life.” Also on this day, a decree issued by the National and Prussian Ministry of the Interior brings into existence the Central Office to Combat the Gypsy Menace. This office in Munich becomes the headquarters of a **national data bank on Gypsies**, and represents all German police agencies together with the Interpol International Center in Vienna. In June and July, several hundred Roma and Sinti are transported to Dachau by order of the Minister of the Interior as “dependents of the Munich Center for the Fight Against the Gypsy Nuisance.” In Bavaria, a deportation decree sends 400 Roma and Sinti to Dachau for forced labor.

1937. On August 18th, Roma and Sinti in Frankfurt are arrested and incarcerated in the Dieselstrasse camp.

1938. On June 12-18, Zigeuner Aufräumungswoche, “Gypsy Clean-up Week,” is in effect, and hundreds of Roma and Sinti throughout Germany and Austria are rounded up, beaten and imprisoned. This is the third such public action by the German state. Like Kristallnacht (“Crystal Night,” or the “Night of Broken Glass” on November 9th this same year) for the Jews, it is a public sanctioning and approval of the official attitude towards members of an “inferior race.”

1938. The USSR bans the Romani language and culture.

1939. In Greece, the Panhellenic Cultural Association of Greek Gypsies is formed.

1939-45. Nazis draw up lists of English Gypsies for internment. British government creates caravan sites for families of Gypsies in the army or doing farm labor. These sites are closed after the war.

1940. The French government opens internment camps for nomads.

1940. At Buchenwald, 250 Romani children are used as guinea-pigs to test the Zyklon-B gas crystals.

1940. In Poland, a Gypsy camp is set up in the Jewish ghetto of Lodz for 5,000 inmates. In Croatia, the Jasenovac concentration camp opened. In Serbia, German Military Command orders that all Gypsies will be treated as Jews. In Nov. it further orders the immediate arrest of all Gypsies and Jews. In September, an SS Task Force carries out mass executions of Roma and Jews in the Babi Yar valley of the Ukraine. In Yugoslavia in October, the German army executes 2100 Jewish and Gypsy hostages as reprisal for soldiers killed by partisans.

1942. Heinrich Himmler issues the order to deport the Gypsies in Greater Germany to the concentration camp of Auschwitz-Birkenau. In Poland, all Gypsies from the Lodz ghetto are transported and gassed at Chelmno.

1942. Nazi leader Himmler orders all Gypsy camps closed, resulting in the liquidation of the Romani prisoners.

1944. On May 16, 1944 at Auschwitz-Birkenau: the Roma and Sinti prisoners in the “Gypsy Family Camp” actively resisted the Nazi guards taking them away for execution. Reprieve lasted a week, then the Nazis began taking out the young + fit men, sending them to labor camps.

1944. Zigeuner Nacht, literally, Gypsy Night. On August 2, the remaining Roma are gassed and cremated in a single action at Auschwitz-Birkenau.

1944. In Slovakia, Roma join the fight of partisans in the Slovak National Uprising.

1945. In Bulgaria, the Romani Organization for the Fight against Fascism and Racism is established.

~ WW2 ends Sept 2, 1945 ~

1950s. In Germany, the Verband Deutscher Sinti (Association of German Sinti) and the Zentralrat Deutscher Sinti und Roma (Central Council of German Sinti and Roma) are founded to further reparation claims from World War II, and later to pursue equal civil and social rights.

1950-1967. In the Cologne region of Germany, identity papers given to survivors of the Nazi concentration camps are withdrawn from Sinti and Roma on the grounds that they could provide no written proof of their German nationality.

1953. In Denmark, Roma are readmitted to the country.

1954. Police authorities in Bavaria set up a special office, in conjunction with Interpol, for **registering Sinti and Roma.**

1958. In Czechoslovakia, *law no.74 bans* nomadism. To enforce this policy, police kill all caravan horses and remove the wheels from their wagons. To remain a nomad is punishable by prison terms of six months to three years.

1958. Bulgaria attempts an assimilation campaign by issuing a decree that prohibits Roma from traveling. Local councils are enjoined to channel them into factories and cooperative farms. This campaign will last for thirty years.

1959. The World Gypsy Community (CMG) is founded in Paris by Ionel Rotaru. The CMG includes Rom, Manush, and Kalé from France, with contacts in Poland, Canada, Turkey, and other countries. By 1965, the French government issues a decree dissolving the World Gypsy Community (CMG).

1960. The *Caravan Sites (Control of Development) Act* in England stops new private sites being built until 1972. Eviction and harassment of Gypsies starts to reach a crisis.

1962. The National Association of Gypsies in France is founded.

1964. Poland approves settlement laws aimed at forcing Roma to become sedentary. They are forbidden to travel in caravans. Those who fail to observe these laws are expelled from the country and stripped of their citizenship.

1964. In Slovakia, Roma are to be cleared and dispersed to Czech areas with fewer Roma. Roma deported under this plan either return to where they came from or are followed by their extended families, creating new concentrations of Roma.

1967. The Association of Gypsies of Finland is founded.

1968. The *Caravan Sites Act* states that from 1970 local authorities should provide caravan sites for Gypsies in England. This Act is never fully enforced, and is later abolished.

1968. Rudolf Karway, President of the Zigeunermission, a civil rights movement based in Hamburg, leads a delegation to the Council of Europe's Human Rights Commission in Strasbourg, France.

1971. The First World Romani Congress is held in London with delegates from fourteen countries. An international Romani flag, anthem and motto are formally approved. The term Rom is adopted as a self-appellation. Five commissions are set up dealing with social affairs, education, war crimes, language and culture. The International Gypsy Committee is renamed the Komiteto Lumniako Romano (International Rom Committee) at the First World Romani Congress in London. Vanko Rouda is confirmed as president.

1972. In France, the National Committee of Travellers is founded.

1972. The British government begins to exempt some councils from building sites for caravans. The Gypsy Council begins to split. The government starts to give grants only to Gypsy organizations who cooperate with it.

1972. In Czechoslovakia, a sterilization program for Roma begins.

1973. The government bans Romani associations in Czechoslovakia on the grounds that Roma are not a recognized national minority and that they "failed to fulfill their integrative function."

1973. The Nordic Rom Council is formed representing the interests of Roma in the Scandinavian countries.

1974. The Association of Travellers in Switzerland is established.

1975. In Hungary, the first issues of the magazine Rom Som (I am Roma) appears.

1976. The first Roma Festival is held at Chandigarh, India. Mrs. Indira Gandhi pledges support for demand that Roma be recognized as a national minority of Indian origin.

1976. The Czechoslovakian newspaper Vycho-doslovenske Noviny publishes the official text of government plans for compulsory sterilization of Roma as an act of "socialistic humanity."

1976. Sweden passes a parliamentary decision giving the State Immigration Authority responsibility for programs aimed at rehabilitating Roma socially and medically, and for providing housing for Roma in Sweden who had earlier been living under harsh conditions.

1978. In Italy, the Komiteto Romano and Italia (National Roma Committee) is formed.

1978. The Second World Romani Congress in Geneva renames the International Rom Committee to the Romano Internacionalno Jekhetani Union. The Congress is attended by some 120 delegates and observers from 26 countries. India is strongly represented.

1979. The International Romani Union is given consultative status at the United Nations Social and Economic Commission (UNESCO).

1980. The Union of Gypsies and Travellers in France is established.

1981. The Third World Romani Congress held in Göttingen, Germany. It is attended by some 600 delegates and observers from twenty-eight countries. It supports the demand that Roma be recognized as a national minority of Indian origin.

1985. Phralipé (Brotherhood) is founded in Romania. It is the first Roma organisation in nearly fifty years established with official government approval.

1989. Collapse of Communism in Europe beginning of Third European Diaspora of Roma, according to scholars. Racially-motivated violence against Roma increases.

1990. The Fourth World Romani Congress held in Serock, Poland. In attendance are some 250 delegates. Among the programs discussed are reparations from World War II, education, culture, public relations, language, and a Romani encyclopedia, written in Romani, not about Roma, but for Roma.

1990. In Poland, the journal Rrom p-o Drom (Roma on the Road) is founded.

1993. In Austria, indigenous Roma are recognized as an ethnic group.

1993. In Scotland, the Scottish Gypsy Traveller Association is established.

1993. The International Romani Union petitions for and receives promotion to Category II, Special Consultative Status at the United Nations.

1993. Hădăreni riots, in which a mob of Romanians and Hungarians, in response to the killing of a Romanian by a Gypsy, burnt down 13 houses belonging to the Gypsies, lynched three Gypsies, and forced 130 people to flee the village.

1994. The UK's *Criminal Justice and Public Order Act* abolishes the Caravan Sites Act leaving about 5,000 families with no legal home.

1994. A proposal to teach Israeli high school students about the murder of Roma by the Nazis draws loud protests, especially from Yad Vashem, Israel's national Holocaust memorial. Critics say the curriculum, titled "Sensitivity to Suffering in the World," would blur the uniqueness of the Holocaust.

1994. From the linguist and political commentator, Noam Chomsky stated, "No one gives a damn about the Gypsies." (commenting in reference to recent reports of Germany kicking the Gypsies out of its borders with Romania.) David Barsamian, "The Prosperous Few and the Restless Many: Interviews with Noam Chomsky 1994

@<http://www.zmag.org/chomsky/pfrm/pfrm-intro.html>

1996. The European Roma Rights Centre is set up in Budapest, Hungary

1996. Five thousand Roma are evicted from the Selamsiz quarter of Istanbul, Turkey.

1997. In Romania, a conference is held in Bucharest on the Prevention of Violence and Discrimination against Roma in Europe.

1997. When Romani refugees were allowed into Canada, a protest was staged by 25 people, including neo-Nazis, in front of the motel where the refugees were staying. The protest followed weeks of public controversy where public officials, members of the press, police and general public spoke and wrote harsh things about "gypsy" refugee claimants. The protesters held signs that included, "Honk if you hate Gypsies," "Canada is not a Trash Can," and "G.S.T. – Gypsies Suck Tax." (The last is a reference to Canada's Goods and Services Tax, also known as GST.) The protesters were charged with promoting hatred, and the case, called R. v. Krymowski, reached the Supreme Court of Canada in 2005. Justice Louise Charron faulted the trial finding as too focused on the terms "Roma" and "Gypsies," and not on the general question of whether the protesters were attempting to promote hatred of the Roma. She emphasized the importance of studying the "totality of the evidence" and drawing reasonable conclusions to determine whether a group was subject to hate speech. It was suggested that evidence besides the use of the word "Gypsies" be considered. This included that the Roma were staying at a motel that was targeted, that neo-Nazi displays were used, and that the protesters advocated "White Power." Neo-Nazism was particularly important since the Nazi Germans persecuted the Roma in the Holocaust.

1999–2006. period that the European Roma Rights Center documented numerous crimes perpetrated by Kosovo's ethnic Albanians with the purpose to purge the region of its Romani population along with other non-Albanian ethnic communities. These crimes included murder, abduction and illegal detention, torture, rape, arson, confiscation of houses and other property, and forced labour. Whole Romani settlements were burned to the ground by Albanians. At UN internally displaced persons' camps in Kosovo for Romanis, the refugees were exposed to lead poisoning.

2002. Conservative Party politician, and Member of Parliament (MP) for Bracknell Andrew MacKay stated in a House of Commons debate on unauthorised encampments of Gypsies and other Travelling groups in the UK that "They [Gypsies and Travellers] are scum, and I use the word advisedly. People who do what these people have done do not deserve the same human rights as my decent constituents going about their ordinary lives".

2005. Germany deported some 50,000 people, mainly Romas, to Kosovo. These were asylum seekers who fled the country during the Kosovo War. The people were deported after living more than 10 years in Germany. The deportations were highly controversial: many were children, who obtained education in Germany, spoke German as their primary language and considered themselves to be Germans

2008. Following the brutal rape and subsequent murder of a woman in Rome at the hands of a young man from a local Romani encampment, the Italian government started a crackdown on illegal Roma and Sinti campsites in the entire country. In May 2008, Romani camps in Naples were attacked and set on fire by local residents. In July 2008, a high Court in Italy overthrew the conviction of defendants who had publicly demanded the expulsion of Romanis from Verona (in 2001) and reportedly ruled that "it is acceptable to discriminate against Roma on the grounds that they are thieves." The decision came during a "nationwide clampdown" on Romanis by Italian prime minister Berlusconi. The previous week, Berlusconi's interior minister Roberto Maroni declared that all Romanis in Italy, including children, would be fingerprinted. Opposition party member, Gianclaudio Bressa, responded by insisting that these measures "increasingly resemble those of an authoritarian regime". In response to the fingerprinting plan, three United Nations experts testified that "by exclusively targeting the Roma minority, this proposal can be unambiguously classified as discriminatory." The European Parliament denounced the plan as "a clear act of racial discrimination" and asked the Italian government not to continue. The Roma were fingerprinted, even children.

2008. media reported that Gypsies experience a higher degree of racism than any other group in the UK, including asylum-seekers. A Mori poll indicated that a third of UK residents admitted openly to being prejudiced against Gypsies and Travellers.

2009. Having had their windows broken and deaths threats made against them, 20 Romanian Romani families were forced from their homes in Belfast, Northern Ireland. Up to 115 people, inc. women and children, were forced to seek refuge in a local church hall after being attacked. They were later moved by the authorities to a safer location. An anti-racist rally in the city to support Romani rights was attacked by youths chanting neo-Nazi slogans. The attacks were condemned by Amnesty International and political leaders from both the Unionist and Nationalist traditions in Northern Ireland. Following the arrest of three local youths in relation to the attacks, the church where the Romanis had been given shelter was badly vandalized. Using 'emergency funds', Northern Ireland authorities assisted most of the victims to return to Romania.

2009. UN's anti-racism panel charged that "Gypsies suffer widespread racism in European Union." 'Racially motivated crime is an everyday experience' for Roma people, reports EU's Fundamental Rights Agency.'

2009. Equal Opportunities Committee of the Scottish Parliament confirmed that widespread marginalization and discrimination persists in Scottish society against gypsy and traveller groups. 2009 survey conducted by the Scottish Government also concludes that Scottish gypsy and travellers had been largely ignored in official policies. An earlier survey in 2006 found discriminatory attitudes in Scotland towards gypsies and travelers and showed 37 per cent of those questioned would be unhappy if a relative married a gypsy or traveller, while 48 per cent found it unacceptable if a member of the gypsy or traveller minorities became primary school teachers. A report by the University of the West of Scotland found that both the Scottish and UK governments had failed to safeguard the rights of the Roma as a recognized ethnic group and did not raise awareness of Roma rights within the UK.

2010. Media survey: 83% of Czechs consider Roma asocial and 45% of Czechs would like to expel them from the Czech Republic. The majority of the Czech people do not want to have Romanis as neighbours (almost 90%, more than any other group) seeing them as thieves and social parasites.

2010. French authorities demolished at least 51 illegal Roma camps and began the process of repatriating their residents to their countries of origin. The French government has been accused of perpetrating these actions to pursue its political agenda.

2011. Report issued by Amnesty International, "...systematic discrimination is taking place against up to 10 million Roma across Europe. The organization has documented the failures of governments across the continent to live up to their obligations".

2011. To tackle the widespread prejudices and needs of Gypsy/Traveller minorities, the Scottish Government set up a working party to consider how best to improve community relations between Gypsies/Travellers and Scottish society, including young Gypsies/Travellers to engage in an online positive messages campaign, contain factually correct information on their communities.

2012. When roughly 200 Romani people settled outside Sofienberg church in Oslo and were later relocated to a building site at Årvoll, in northern Oslo, the group was subjected to hate crimes in the form of stone throwing and fireworks being aimed at, and fired into their camp. They, and Norwegians trying to assist them in their situation, also received death threats. Siv Jensen, the leader of the right-wing Progress Party, also advocated the expulsion of the Romani people resident in Oslo.

2013. Jean-Marie Le Pen, French far-right politician and founder of the Front National, had a lawsuit filed against him by the European Roma and Travellers Forum, SOS Racisme and the

French Union of Travellers Association after he publicly called France's Roma population "smelly" and "rash-inducing"

2022. UK's "*Police and Crime Act*" would have enlarged stop and search abilities of the police, as well as change trespass from civil to criminal, as being anywhere in public, returns banned for 12-months, and allowing gypsy Traveller homes to be seized. It was successfully challenged by a Traveller woman, Wendy Smith. The High Court found it disproportionately burdened Gypsies and Travellers, making it harder for them to comply with the law in a way that aligns with their traditional lifestyle.

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Of course you're thinking, well, that's the old country and we are better here with our Constitutions and the enshrined right to travel. Let's look at the U.S.-centric anti-gypsy laws:

In **1777**, the sixth sentence of the Articles of Confederation firmly negates the rights of the free-range citizen in society: "the free inhabitants of each of these States, paupers, vagabonds, and fugitives from justice excepted, shall be entitled to all privileges and immunities of free citizens in the several States." Although this changed by **1868**, the Constitution's Amendment XIV, Section 1, Clause 2, states: "The Citizens of each State shall be entitled to all Privileges and Immunities of Citizens in the several States." Did no good because by the end of the **19th century**, all but four states had passed "Tramp Acts" that banned traveling by those without a visible means of support, handing down sentences anywhere from a few days to a year of hard labor for "wandering".

1885. Roma excluded by United States immigration policy; many are returned to Europe.

1927. Steve Kaslov founds the Roma Red Dress Association in the United States; Kaslov meets with President Franklin Roosevelt for support of Romani rights.

Beginning of the **20th century**, they were still referring to the indigenous people of the land as a "nomadic and uncivilized people" *Winters v United States* 207 U.S. 564 (1908).

However, from *Edwards v. California* 314 U.S. 160 (1941), we find: "It would introduce a caste system utterly incompatible with the spirit of our government. It would permit those who were stigmatized by a State as indigents, paupers, or vagabonds to be relegated to an inferior class of citizenship."

1927. State of Georgia: "Upon each company of ... Gypsies, engaged in trading or selling merchandise or livestock of any kind, or clairvoyant, or persons engaged fortune-telling, phrenology, or palmistry, \$250 [is] to be collected ... [from those who] live in tents or travel in covered wagons and automobiles, and who may be a resident of some country or who reside without the State, and who are commonly called traveling horse traders and Gypsies" (*Georgia Acts and Resolution* 1927, Part I, Title II, Section 56, p.3)

1930. State of Maryland: Gypsies must pay jurisdictions a license fees of \$100 before settling down or doing business. When any gypsy is arrested, all of their property and that of others traveling with him can be confiscated and sold to pay any fine the court may levy against the arrested gypsy. To encourage enforcement, the arresting sheriff was awarded ten dollars if the entrance fee was paid upon arrest.

1953. State of Delaware includes the definition of “tramp”, to describe the idle wanderer and adds to the list of vagrants “all persons roaming about the country known as gypsies.” *Del. Code Ann. Tit 11 881*

1971. San Francisco Board of Supervisors enacts *SFPD 97* making it a crime (punishable by up to 6 months in county jail and/or a fine) to eat or sleep in one’s vehicle from 10 pm to 6 am.

1979. The United States Holocaust Memorial Museum is founded by President Carter. There is no Romani representation on the 65-member Holocaust Memorial Council.

In **1985**, there was a Supreme Court ruling, originating out of California, for the argument that the RV dweller has substantial property (and liberty) interests: “[California Supreme Court] correctly characterizes this vehicle as a ‘hybrid’ which combines ‘the mobility of an automobile ... with most of the privacy characteristics of a house.” *California v Carney* 471 U.S. 386 (1985).

1986. The United States Romani Council is formed.

1995. In the United States, the first national conference on the Porrajmos (Romani Holocaust) is held at Drew University.

1997. The Honorable Ian F. Hancock was appointed by Bill Clinton to represent Roma on the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Council in 1997 and is the Representative to the UN (ECO-SOC/NGO Category II) and to UNICEF for the Romani people.

1998. New Jersey Governor Christine Todd Whitman signed into law *Assembly Bill 2654*, repealing that state’s anti-Roma law adopted in 1917. Specifically it removed references to ethnic groups: “k. [Roving bands of nomads, commonly called gypsies]”

2007. Dept of Housing and Urban Development began collecting homelessness data, called the ONE system. It is required of the municipalities receiving grants to help the poor be quantified. Has a photo attached to it, bar code number, details of every encounter, including our reactions to the worker collecting the data as well as to the proffered “services”. The data is entered by workers with an unsecured phone app.

2020. U.S. State Dept. adopted the “Working Definition of Anti-Roma Racism” as used by the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA); states “sedentary or not”, and that the

word “Roma” is an umbrella term that includes sixteen types of related groups including Travellers.

2022. Congress passed a resolution celebrating the heritage of Romani Americans (S.Res 124)

2023. <https://www.state.gov/reports/2023-country-reports-on-human-rights-practices/>
Included this link under **Systemic Racial or Ethnic Violence and Discrimination**
European Roma Human Rights Center: <http://www.errc.org/>

2024. San Francisco Mayor asks the transit authority to pass *SFMTA 7.2.54* which empowers themselves to ban RV parking anywhere in the City from midnight to 5 am; this was a law for only two months (Oct + Nov) before the Board of Supervisors killed it upon appeal by advocates. Take note that it would have empowered HSOC (acronym for “Healthy Streets Operation Center” an aggressive impound team that consists of the police, firefighters, Dept of Public Works trash collectors, and HOT outreach workers) to arrive between midnight and 5 am, wake you up, tell you that you could keep your RV from being towed if you agreed to receive services from the City via the Dept. of Homelessness. If not, your RV would be seized. Let's just imagine how often they have to ask themselves, “Is this a poor one?”. Because we know they not knocking on the doors of the rich with their \$100,000 rigs, or the retirees headed to warmer climates or the tourists in their rented vans. No, they, the City employees, are out looking for a certain TYPE.

Going back a year, to **2023**, I found a City document on a public records search that shows how much more extreme the plan in San Francisco originally was. I'll simply share the document as the final two pages of this pamphlet and ask you to judge for yourself if it's “anti-roma racism”.
