

Ghost Gypsy by Sharon Muiruri Coyne

Ghost Gypsy is a short community film looking at how a young Traveller girl 'Violet' finds her way in world. *Ghost Gypsy* came about after working with a group of teenagers at St. Aldhelm's Academy Poole. They made me realise how hard it is for young travellers in the twenty first century, who belong to a rich ancient culture, but at times feel unable to talk about it because of fear of prejudice.

One thing that one girl said stood out in my mind that people say; 'You're not a real Gypsy if you don't live in a caravan.' This became the inspiration of the play. Meeting with other members from the Travelling community, I tried to think of a way of honouring their stories and making it relevant for the young girls at St. Aldhelm's. In particular I heard several stories of how land had wrongly been taken away from people and how it was increasingly difficult for them to live as they would like.

Sharon Muiruri Coyne

Ghost Gypsy Film and Script Teaching Guide

This teaching guide has been designed to help you use the film and its script, largely as part of Drama and Performing Arts lessons but with links to the wider curriculum in RE, Citizenship, PSHE, History, Politics, Sociology, English and whole school SMSC, British Values and Rights-based work.

Here are some links to useful websites which will help you explore the themes listed below:

<https://www.unicef.org.uk/what-we-do/un-convention-child-rights/>

<https://www.globalcitizen.org/en/content/peace-protests-dallas-response/>

<http://www.ukyouthparliament.org.uk/>

https://schools.cityofsanctuary.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/2/2014/02/schools-of-sanctuary-pack_National_printer-friendly-version.pdf

<https://www.parliament.uk/education/>

<https://www.facinghistory.org/resource-library/standing-democracy>

The teaching guide breaks down each scene so you can either study the film/script as a whole or choose scenes for relevant themes and curriculum links.

All accompanying resources are available online for you to download and use for educational purposes, adapting to your needs.

Scene	Themes	Resources	Curriculum Links
1: Wagon Burning	Symbolism, faith, belief, culture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> BBC article on Sara La Kali or Saint Sarah, Patron Saint of Romany Gypsies 	RE, English
2: Before the Fair	Identity, diversity, discrimination, prejudice, bullying, generational differences, appropriate language	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Definitions of equality terms Definitions of Gypsy, Roma and Traveller Language and vocabulary guide Identity maps Ghost Gypsy Scene 2: activity contrasting Violet and Priscilla's reaction to racist bullying on Violet's phone 	Citizenship, PSHE, SMSC, Sociology
3: The Plate is Smashed 4: The Flower Seller	Culture – traditional and contemporary, multiple identities. Why might young Gypsy and Traveller women find it hard to fit in to traditional Gypsy and Traveller culture and female roles? Are they a lost tribe?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aspects of Gypsy and Traveller culture comparison chart exploring cultural diversity, traditions and their importance Photoset contrasting traditional and modern images of Gypsy and Traveller culture BBC article on Sara La Kali 	Citizenship, PSHE, SMSC, Sociology
5: The Suffragettes	Votes for Women, political reform, forms of protest, social class	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Emmeline Pankurst biography, photos, quotes and websites Suffragette posters Extract Scene 5: The Suffragettes Chart comparing Pricilla and Lottie's struggles 	History, Politics, Citizenship, British Values
6: Before the fire and the Gypsy wedding	Hardships of Gypsy and Traveller life, including the Roma Holocaust during the Second World War and land ownership and evictions. Positives of Gypsy and Traveller life – an outdoor wedding - a complete contrast to the media image of a <i>Big, Fat Gypsy Wedding</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aspects of Gypsy and Traveller culture comparison chart exploring cultural diversity, traditions and their importance Photoset contrasting traditional and modern images of Gypsy and Traveller culture Chart comparing Pricilla and Lottie's struggles 	History, Citizenship, Politics, Sociology
7: Things don't change (Eviction Modern)	Human Rights – which are being challenged for Gypsy and Traveller	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Extract Scene 7 with discussion and useful websites 	History, Politics, Citizenship

	children and young people? Peaceful protest and political activism. What difference does voting make at a local and national level? What manifesto might activist Bernadette, or young Violet, or you, write?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UNCRC Articles – especially Article 12, 27 & 30 • Manifesto for GRT communities 	
8: Violet goes to the boxing club 9: The Modern Trailer 10: The Fair	Contemporary Gypsy & Traveller culture, identity and belonging	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aspects of Gypsy and Traveller culture comparison chart exploring cultural diversity, traditions and their importance • Photoset contrasting traditional and modern images of Gypsy and Traveller culture 	Citizenship, PSHE, SMSC, Sociology