



# Qualitative early childhood education for Roma students: Research design

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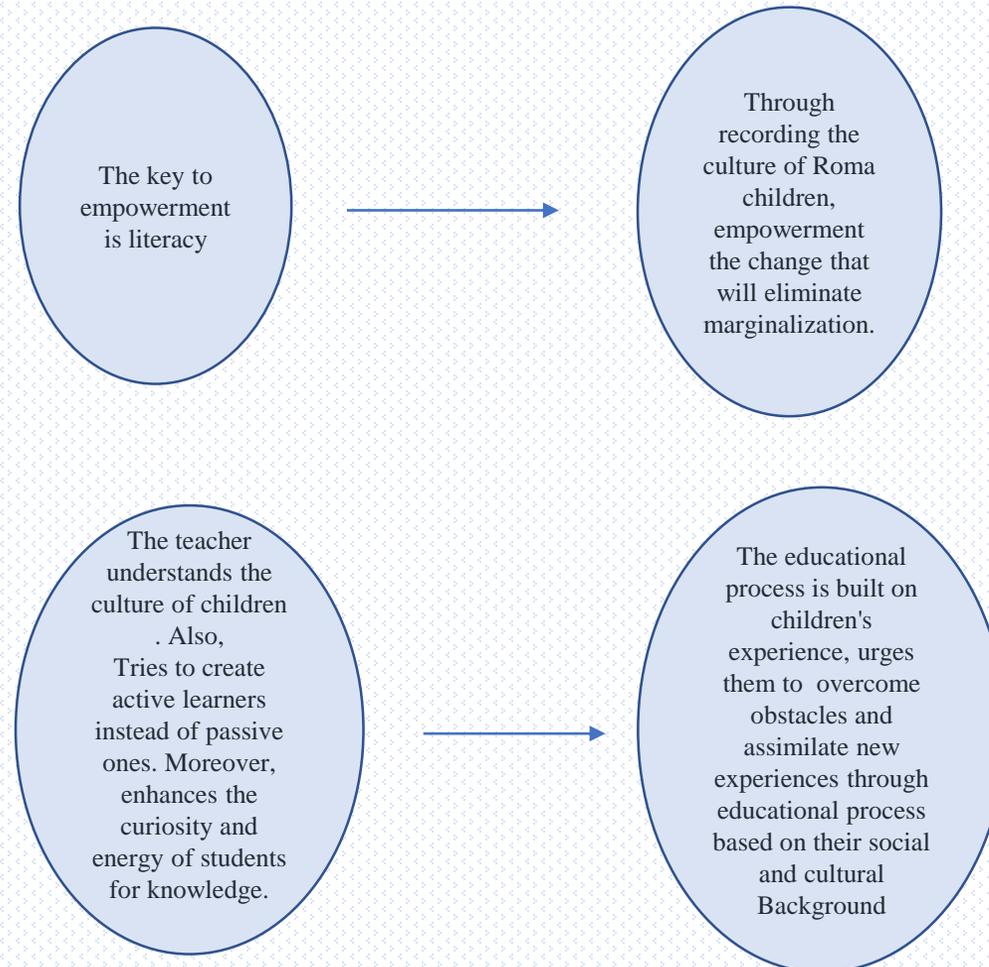
## 1. Background

Undoubtedly, in recent years the situation, the issues and the problems that Roma are usually facing are constantly at the center of political interest in Europe. The Roma are very often victims of racism, the majority of them lives in absolute poverty and the major part of the children has no access to education, in addition they live on the road instead of a house. The European Union has created a wide range of legal, political and economic means. So in 2011, the European Commission issued the document "Framework of the European Union for National Roma Integration Strategies by 2020", calling on the Member States to set up or review their relevant national strategies in order to more effectively address the challenges posed by integration of the Roma in order to improve the situation in a concrete way until the end of the current decade. One of the characteristics of Romani culture is that they are great value to the institution of the family, a family strictly patriarchal and insists on values such as family cohesion, large family members and the fact that we see women and men getting married prematurely. They also do not have their own characteristic religion. This paper explores the current state of education of Roma students but much more focuses on a different side, on which early childhood education can be also based, but also the whole institution of education in Greece and more particularly about the integration of children from disadvantaged social groups such as the Roma students. The starting point was the way that Roma students are mal treated and lead to marginalization, whereas there are official texts from European Union which ensure the right to education.

## 2. Aim

The present work aims to show that the present situation in Roma education can be changed based on the notion of empowerment as it is presented in Freire's theory as well as in the official texts of the European Union. The teacher's contribution is also important and for this reason the work involves interviewing teachers to express their own knowledge about the situation.

Educational Practices with Roma students - the notion of empowerment (Freire)



## 3. Method

The method of the current study is qualitative, the research is focused on teachers' beliefs about the situation in education with Roma students and how they use the notion of empowerment in their practices with students. The data collection in the present study would be collected through interviews

## 4. Sections of interview

- Section 1 – ( Questions 1-4) based on demographic status, years of experience in the certain school and the level of education
- Section 2 (Questions 5-8) are comprised of information about how significant her/his position is. Also, how he/she perceives the situation and what problems they encounter.
- Section 3 (Questions 9-12) –does she consider that the teaching method she/he uses that empowers the students' interests in learning.
- Section 4 (questions 13-15) based on sentences about which aspect would she/he focus on in a future further education.

## 5. References

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