

“Young (Roma) thieves: offenders or victims of exploitation?”

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*Hugo van Meeuwen, Projectleader of the Salvation Army
Child Protection and Probation Services*

The Salvation Army

Headquarter in London

Present in a lot of European countries

In most countries with an integrated mission between church and Social Work



Salvation Army in the Netherlands

Church Salvation
Army

Private Foundation
Welfare- and
healthcare

Private Foundation
Youth Protection &
Probation Service



bijzondere mensen voor bijzondere situaties

Missions and focus

We provide adults, adolescents and children in vulnerable situations a new perspective on a meaningful life and an accepted position in society; for now and in the future.

We focus on people who are (threatened to be) excluded and live on the margins of society, mostly with multiple problems (housing, finance, education, addiction, crime and such).

This also includes Roma families

Roma families and those who work with them, have something in common

- In order to survive generations of discrimination, prosecution, exclusion and poverty, you must be very resilient
- In order to work with people who exclude themselves, do not comply with rules and are suspicious of (our) authority, you must be very resilient



Resilience

bijzondere mensen voor bijzondere situaties



From offender to victim



Jeugdbescherming
& Reclassering

bijzondere mensen voor bijzondere situaties

Target group

- Minors on the move, primarily from Eastern Europe with Roma background
- Characteristics of the target group
 - *Potential dangers in home country*
 - *Potential dangers because of exploitation*

‘Exploitation is making children vulnerable, but it is not the cause. The vulnerability is based on the circumstances in which children live, causing children to become a victim of exploitation’



Integral approach of Care and Safety

Arrest



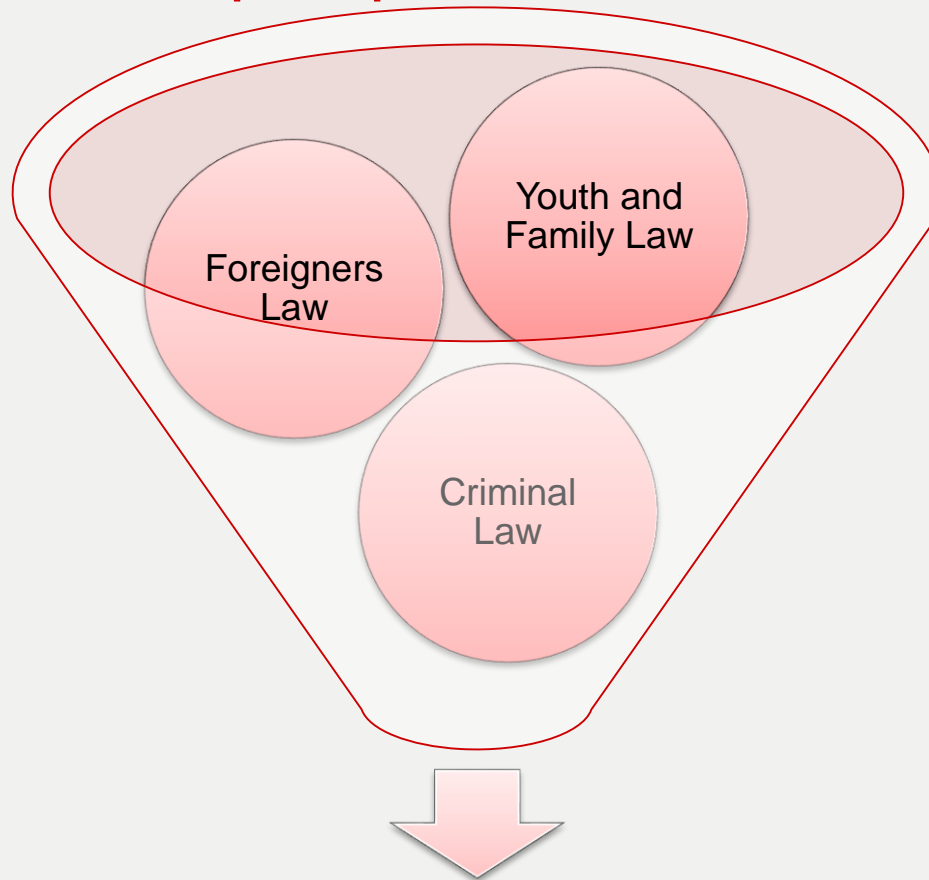
Placement in a closed youth care center

Care for protection and safety

Parallel procedures focused on research on perspectives



Parallel procedures focused on research on perspectives



Looking for a sustainable solution for the minor





Reconnection
to their
parents in
home country

New perspectives
in target country



Return to home
country in Social
Services



Jeugdbescherming
& Reclustering

bijzondere mensen voor bijzondere situaties



Jeugdbescherming
& Reclassering

bijzondere mensen voor bijzondere situaties



Thank you for your attention

**Hugo van Meeuwen
Project Leader Roma
Salvation Army, The Netherlands
00316-83168204
hugo.van.meeuwen@legerdesheils.nl**