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Arts-based research and self-identity awareness in educators for ethno-communities.

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ABSTRACT

The main objective of our university teaching in training teachers is that the students can build by themselves an identity as teacher of art education. The question is what kind of teachers they want to be; what kind of art education teachers they want to build. In all subjects that we teach, we propose this position. One of the most significant examples is the direction of Degree Projects. In them we see examples of the teaching practices of the future teachers when they are proposed to bring the arts to their concept of education.

In this article, we begin with a theoretical contextualization, then to present a concrete example of arts-based research conducted in a school in Jaén (Spain). It was the Degree Project of Guillermo Abolafia González, which was directed by María Isabel Moreno Montoro, and together they are co-authors of this paper. We are talking about a school context with a social-exclusion situation caused by three major factors: (1) Cultural factor: gypsy families, for the most part, value formal education in a different way; (2) Institutional factor: the operation of the school is based on the values and norms of the dominant culture; (3) Socioeconomic factors: the social and economic position of the gypsy population is poor compared with the rest of society.

The article continues with a description of the development of the project. In this description, we will see which were the problematics of both the social situation, as relations with the school. Also It will be reflected how starts the process of arts-based research, in such complicated context by the two problematic situations mentioned.

The article ends with a reflection of how it is perceived acting artistic practice, in this context and situations. Also it is ended with a relation of benefits to the community with which it is worked. This is done using the conclusions drawn from the evidence provided by the project of arts-based research in question in this article.