



# CAUGHT IN THE HEADLINES

Scottish media coverage of  
**Scottish Gypsy Travellers**

## FOREWORD

### Amnesty International in Scotland

Amnesty Scotland recognises the efforts of journalists in Scotland, and in particular of the National Union of Journalists, in striving towards producing high quality reporting of ethnic minorities.

However, our research into media reporting of Scottish Gypsy Travellers found that a significant number of articles which appear in the print media perpetuate prejudicial views of Scottish Gypsy Travellers. Many reinforce the myths and stereotypes some people have of this already marginalised community.

We would urge the print media to take note of our research findings and recommendations made in this report.

Amnesty Scotland hopes that the media will strive to fully adhere to the NUJ's guidelines on the reporting of ethnic minorities and that journalists and editors will continue to work towards a higher ethical standard of reporting.

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Programme Director  
Amnesty International Scotland

### National Union of Journalists

The National Union of Journalists welcomes the findings of the Amnesty International report and will continue its work to ensure the highest standards of journalism are met.

**Paul Holleran**  
Scottish Organiser  
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## SUMMARY

Amnesty International is concerned at the wealth of evidence showing discrimination against Scottish Gypsy Travellers and the hostility and divisions between Scottish Gypsy Traveller and settled communities. We believe that both groups lose out from the current situation.

Given the low level of meaningful engagement between the two communities, the media has an important role to play in how settled communities gather information and form opinions about Scottish Gypsy Travellers. Yet anyone taking a cursory interest in the issue will quickly become aware of mainly hostile press coverage. To get an overview of the situation, we commissioned a media clippings agency to identify all Scottish coverage relating to Scottish Gypsy Travellers over a four-month period. We received 190 articles which we characterised according to whether each was considered positive, negative or neutral. We also noted the length of each article.

Through that analysis we found:

- With 190 articles in Scotland over four months (or 120 days) there is an average of nearly 1.5 articles a day about Scottish Gypsy Travellers. Given that there is a very small population of Scottish Gypsy Travellers (c. 20,000 people or less than 0.5 per cent of the Scottish population)<sup>1</sup> this group receives a disproportionate level of scrutiny.
- Nearly half (48 per cent) of stories were categorised as presenting an overtly negative picture of Scottish Gypsy Travellers (with 28 per cent positive and 25 per cent neutral).
- The overwhelming majority of this coverage takes place without the involvement of Scottish Gypsy Travellers themselves. Only 6 per cent of the articles presented a community voice so that in the vast majority of cases Scottish Gypsy Travellers were not afforded any right of reply.
- Certain stereotypes regarding Scottish Gypsy Travellers featured strongly in the coverage. In particular 38 per cent of the articles made some connection to criminality while 32 per cent brought in reference to dirt and hygiene.
- While local politicians were frequently called upon to comment on Scottish Gypsy Traveller stories, out of 78 occasions where this occurred, only four were characterised as being positive, and 48 as negative.

On the basis of this evidence we present the following recommendations:

- 1) Journalists and editors should adhere to ethical codes of conduct and ethical standards when writing about Scottish Gypsy Travellers.
- 2) Journalists should build relationships with Scottish Gypsy Travellers to ensure balanced reporting.
- 3) The Scottish Government should take the lead in promoting reconciliation between the settled and Scottish Gypsy Traveller communities. Political parties should act in a respectful and balanced way when dealing with issues involving Scottish Gypsy Travellers.

## INTRODUCTION

Amnesty International has been campaigning on human rights issues around the world for over 50 years. We consider Scottish Gypsy Travellers to be a marginalised community in Scotland and among the sections of the population facing the most discrimination. This discrimination prevents Scottish Gypsy Travellers from realising their human rights to housing, health, education, family and cultural life, and to race equality.

Amnesty International carried out research into media coverage of Scottish Gypsy Travellers, and into the local authority services they receive. The media has an important role to play in how settled communities gather information and form opinions about Scottish Gypsy Travellers. Even a cursory look at the press received by Scottish Gypsy Travellers reveals consistently high levels of hostility towards this community.

To get an overview of media reporting of Scottish Gypsy Travellers, we commissioned a media clippings agency to identify all Scottish coverage relating to Scottish Gypsy Travellers over a four-month period. This is the main basis of our report, which considers press coverage in terms of prevalence, tone, stereotypes and local politics. It concludes with recommendations for journalists, local politicians and the Scottish government.

## TERMINOLOGY

For our research, we used the same terminology as the 2001 report from the Equal Opportunities Committee of the Scottish Parliament and refer to ‘Scottish Gypsy Travellers’ rather than using the term traveller or other descriptions.

We also use the term to ‘settled community’ to refer to the local non-Gypsy/Traveller community.

## BACKGROUND

The 2001 report by the Equal Opportunities Committee of the Scottish Parliament<sup>2</sup> is still the most comprehensive discussion of the situation for Scottish Gypsy Travellers. A research review published by the Equalities and Human Rights Commission in 2009<sup>3</sup> provides evidence relating to the situation for Gypsy Travellers around Great Britain. The July 2010 Scottish Social Attitudes Survey<sup>4</sup> reports:

- 37 per cent of Scottish people would be unhappy if a close friend or family member married or formed a long-term relationship with a Scottish Gypsy Traveller.
- 46 per cent think Scottish Gypsy Travellers would be unsuitable as primary school teachers.
- Older people (55-69) and younger people (16-25) are more discriminatory against Scottish Gypsy Travellers.
- 42 per cent think giving money to organisations that help Scottish Gypsy Travellers find work is a bad use of government money (31 per cent thought it good, 25 per cent were indifferent).

Collectively, these reports provide evidence that Scottish Gypsy Travellers face fundamental human rights concerns – particularly the rights to health, education, housing, family life and cultural life, and the requirement to be free from discrimination in the realisation of these rights.<sup>5</sup> Amnesty International agrees that Scottish Gypsy Travellers are among the most marginalised communities in Scotland and among those facing the greatest discrimination. The research available suggests this has been the case for some years.

The rights of settled communities, including to security of property and to family life, must also be considered and a fair balance sought when competing rights come into conflict. Settled communities also lose out from increased tensions and we are mindful of the many media stories of how unauthorised camping can impact on local residents. Meanwhile there is evidence to suggest that costs associated with providing local authority-run transit sites can be offset by savings from reduced unauthorised stopping, as well as reduced community tensions.<sup>6</sup> A human rights approach would seek to promote equality and address the needs and interests of each group.

## ETHICAL REPORTING

The Equalities and Human Rights Commission (EHRC) has produced a Guide for Journalists<sup>7</sup> which provides a wealth of background information and aims to avoid stereotypes or one-sided or inaccurate information.

The Society of Editors has produced a guide<sup>8</sup> *Reporting Diversity, how journalists can contribute to community cohesion*, which highlights reporting on Gypsy Travellers as one area where journalists have a particular responsibility. It raises concern over the use of stereotypes, stressing that ‘to associate all Gypsies and Travellers with the behaviour of some is to create a false and negative stereotype’.

The NUJ Ethics Council ‘works to promote the highest professional standards in journalism through compliance with the union’s Code of Conduct’.<sup>9</sup> This includes an obligation on journalists to do ‘her/his utmost to correct harmful inaccuracies’ and to produce ‘no material likely to lead to hatred or discrimination on the grounds of a person’s age, gender, race, colour, creed, legal status, disability, marital status, or sexual orientation’.

## METHODOLOGY

Amnesty International commissioned the McCallum Media Monitor service<sup>10</sup> to monitor Scottish media outlets for references to Scottish Gypsy Travellers during February, March, April and May of 2011. The aim was to provide a snapshot of media coverage of Scottish Gypsy Travellers. We did not have a sufficiently robust method of categorising online or broadcast coverage so have limited our study to print media.

Our research coincided with the screening of *My Big Fat Gypsy Wedding* on Channel 4 which may account for an increased interest in Gypsies and Travellers generally by the Scottish media, including Scottish Gypsy Travellers.

The clippings were analysed and basic items of information stored to a spreadsheet to give a useful data set encompassing outlet name, journalist, tone (categorising articles as positive, negative or neutral) and prominence (which categorised articles from small to large).

This spreadsheet was then analysed to produce the results set out in this report. Articles which appeared in more than one publication were counted by number of publications.<sup>11</sup>

We also looked at media coverage beyond the four-month analysis period to demonstrate how some prejudicial views still persist. Where we use the analysis from the data set, we make this clear.

## FINDINGS

### PREVALENCE

The Scottish Government's last bi-annual count of Scottish Gypsy Travellers found that in July 2009 there were around 2,120 people living on Council/Registered Social Landlord Sites (RSL) sites, private sites and unauthorised encampments in Scotland.<sup>12</sup> The Scottish Government acknowledges this is an underestimate as there are difficulties in ascertaining accurate figures: the count does not include Scottish Gypsy Travellers who live in ordinary housing and those who live in such accommodation do not always identify themselves as Gypsy Travellers. Also, although travelling is declining for some Scottish Gypsy Travellers, for those who do travel, it makes it more difficult to capture numbers at any given point. Organisations working with Scottish Gypsy Travellers estimate that the figure is closer to 20,000 people.<sup>13</sup>

Even when using the higher figure, Scottish Gypsy Travellers make up a small proportion of the Scottish population – less than 0.5 per cent (0.44 per cent). Given this, the occurrence of 190 articles compiled by our research over 120 days, nearly 1.5 per day, suggests that this community receives disproportionate attention.

The attendant risk is that the newspaper reading public may form the impression that this is a bigger issue than is actually the case. For example, a search for the keyword 'gypsy' in the *Scotsman* newspaper's online archive of news articles returns 82 results of articles published between 1 January 2011 and 1 January 2012.

Similarly, analysis of media coverage mentioning race (rather than reporting in terms of policy) showed the number of articles mentioning the race of Scottish Gypsy Travellers is disproportionate to that of other ethnic minorities.

According to the Scottish Government, the Asian community in Scotland accounts for 1.44 per cent of the Scottish population or nearly 73,000 people. Taking the *Scotsman* newspaper's articles published between 1 January 2011 and 1 January 2012, there were 305 news articles mentioning the Asian community or referring to the subject of the article's race as Asian. This is around 3.7 times the number of articles which refer to Scottish Gypsy Travellers or refer to the subject of the article's race as Gypsy Traveller.

### tone

The tone in which Scottish Gypsy Travellers are discussed was largely negative in our data-set analysis, with nearly half (48 per cent) of articles negative compared to 28 per cent positive. Stories of a negative tone included one describing a site as being 'plagued by travellers'.<sup>14</sup> However, stories such as one reporting that hopes for an apology for past abuses against Scottish Gypsy Travellers were being revived in discussions with the Scottish government and that the Church of Scotland was 'also considering apologising to gypsies for centuries of discrimination at the Kirk's hands' were covered in a positive tone.<sup>15</sup>

This media coverage is taking place *about* Scottish Gypsy Travellers rather than *with them*. Only 10 per cent of the printed articles featured a comment from a community spokesperson. We have heard numerous accounts from journalists of the reluctance of Scottish Gypsy Travellers to engage with them. Here we see a vicious circle in which previous negative coverage compounds Scottish Gypsy Travellers' reluctance to engage, resulting in community spokespeople becoming increasingly absent from coverage about them. Notwithstanding this, journalists have a responsibility to accurately represent those who are the subjects of their stories and to provide a right of reply.

### MYTHS AND STEREOTYPES

Certain basic myths, stereotypes and preconceptions repeatedly appear in the coverage. Of the articles in our data set, 38 per cent make some connection to criminality. References to dirt and hygiene appear in 32 per cent of articles, such as 'illegal traveller camp causes a stink with allotment

holders'.<sup>16</sup> This is despite the recommendations in the EHRC Guide for Journalists.<sup>17</sup>

An example from our data set was an article referring to the 'illegal encampment' with the local MP saying: 'They don't care about this disgraceful mess they leave behind when moving on after being allowed to stay until the area stinks like a rotting tip ...'<sup>18</sup>

The media's connection of Scottish Gypsy Travellers with criminality is not only explicit in its coverage but implicit in the language used. The print media habitually uses the term 'illegal traveller sites' rather than the Scottish Government's defined term 'unauthorised traveller sites'. By using the word *illegal* rather than *unauthorised* the media is fuelling a sense of criminality surrounding the Scottish Gypsy Traveller community in the minds of the settled community.

The Scottish Government accepts that there will be unauthorised sites in Scotland as there are not enough council-run and private pitches to accommodate the number of Scottish Gypsy Travellers in Scotland. The Scottish Government has also accepted that 'in many areas, such unauthorised encampments are the only option available'.<sup>19</sup> This demonstrates that the word illegal is misleading as it implies conscious disobeying of the law.

### LOCAL POLITICS

One area of particular concern is the role of local political figures who comment on Scottish Gypsy Traveller issues. Of 78 occasions in the data set where a local politician was quoted, only four of these were categorised as being positive about Scottish Gypsy Travellers, while 48 were categorised as negative.

Examples of positive quotes include: 'No community in society should face a campaign of hatred, intimidation and threats', made by Alex Neil MSP referring to Facebook pages which negatively targeted Scottish Gypsy Travellers.<sup>20</sup> However, there is a clear temptation for local politicians to take a populist approach and speak out against a generally unpopular group, particularly as our research took place in the run-up to the Scottish parliamentary elections.

This comment from Aberdeenshire Councillor, referring to the use of an unauthorised site, is an example: 'I have had a lot of phonecalls and visits from people who are concerned about this encampment. If they are giving the central community in Stonehaven problems, they are giving me problems.'<sup>21</sup>

Again, beyond our data set, these quotes continue to be given and used by the press, as seen in the examples below.

- 'We are disgusted and appalled that this is taking place ... I was told there could be as many as 1,000 travellers.'  
Alan Strachan, the chairman of Nigg Community Council, quoted in the *Scotsman* newspaper in reference to the congregation of Scottish Gypsy Travellers for a religious ceremony.<sup>22</sup>
- 'I support Fife Council's aspiration to make Fife the best place to do business, however as long as we have such illegal encampments that place additional burdens on companies, this will act as a disincentive to new investors and job creation. It is neither right nor fair that businesses or local authorities should face huge bills to evict irresponsible travellers from their land and clear up the mess they leave behind.'  
Lindsay Roy, MP for Glenrothes, commenting on an unauthorised Scottish Gypsy Traveller site.<sup>23</sup>

As well as the responsibility of media to report in a balanced way, politicians have a responsibility to represent all their constituents in a fair and balanced manner.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1) Journalists and editors should adhere to ethical codes of conduct and ethical standards when writing about Scottish Gypsy Travellers.

The reading public needs greater commitment from journalists and editors to adhere to the National Union of Journalists' Code of Conduct and other ethical standards, when writing about Scottish Gypsy Travellers. In particular this would mean avoiding material 'likely to lead to hatred or discrimination', differentiating between fact and opinion, and avoiding stereotyping or judging the whole group based on the actions of certain individuals.

- 2) Journalists should build relationships with Scottish Gypsy Travellers to ensure balanced reporting.

Scottish Gypsy Travellers lack the organised and effective representative bodies such as those associated with other minority groups such as the LGBT community, for example. Therefore, in order to help break down barriers and prejudices, journalists should look to engage with the Scottish Gypsy Traveller community. By building relationships within the community, journalists can turn to contacts for information, background or quotes regarding stories that they run on that community. By building relationships, members of the Scottish Gypsy Traveller community would be more likely to engage with the media. This would help to break down the barriers between Scottish Gypsy Travellers and wider society. It would be an important step forward, given the importance of the right of reply and the importance of communities to be able to speak for themselves and present their own perspectives.

- 3) The Scottish Government should take the lead in promoting reconciliation between the settled and Scottish Gypsy Traveller communities. Political parties should act in a respectful and balanced way when dealing with issues involving Scottish Gypsy Travellers.

Scottish Gypsy Travellers are unlikely to develop confidence in the political system when they continually encounter negative attitudes from local politicians in the print media. The Scottish Government has a strong track record of bringing Scottish Gypsy Travellers into race equality schemes, through the One Scotland Many Cultures programme. Political parties now need to take a leading role in promoting reconciliation between settled and Scottish Gypsy Traveller communities. The Scottish government should work to ensure local political voices are balanced in the needs and interests of all their constituents.

## APPENDIX

Scottish print media news clippings referring to Gypsy Travellers from February-May 2011.  
Courtesy of McCallum Media Monitor.

ARTICLE	DATE	AUTHOR	PUBLICATION	TONE	SIZE OF ARTICLE
<b>New area forum constitution approved</b>	01/02/2011	No byline	Banffshire Advertiser	Neutral	Large
<b>Cash pledge to ease travellers' disputes</b>	03/02/2011	Cameron Brooks	P&J	Positive	Small
<b>Travellers blamed for disrupting trade</b>	03/02/11	Abbey Rogerson	Moffat News	Negative	Medium
<b>Travellers blamed for disrupting trade</b>	03/02/11	Abbey Rogerson	Annandale Herald	Negative	Medium
<b>Where is the scope for mediation? (Letter)</b>	05/02/2011	Jim G	AEE	Negative	Small
<b>School's a write-off for girl gypsies</b>	06/02/2011	Charlie Catchpole	Sunday People	Negative	Small
<b>When it comes to a gypsy wedding, not all of us are Chavellers</b>	06/02/2011	John Ward	Daily Star on Sunday	Positive	Large
<b>Why fat gypsy weddings are a feminist issue</b>	06/02/2011	Vicky Allan	Sunday Herald	Positive	Large
<b>Write all the gypsy wrongs</b>	07/02/2011	Martell Maxwell	Scottish Sun (SS)	Negative	Medium
<b>Anger at travellers [sic] call</b>	08/02/11	Roisin McGroaty	Troon & Prestwick Times	Neutral	Medium
<b>Anger at travellers [sic] call</b>	08/02/11	Roisin McGroaty	Carrick Herald	Neutral	Medium
<b>Anger at travellers [sic] call</b>	08/02/11	Roisin McGroaty	Ayr Advertiser	Neutral	Medium
<b>Travellers move in at Enterprise Park</b>	09/02/11	Tanya McLaren	Forres Gazette	Positive	Medium
<b>Travellers' site is given the council thumbs up</b>	09/02/11	No byline	Wishaw Press	Neutral	Medium
<b>Amnesty critical gypsy treatment</b>	09/02/11	Calum Corral	Largs & Millport News	Positive	Large
<b>Travellers letter</b>	09/02/11	No byline	Cumnock Chronicle	Positive	Small
<b>200 residents slam plans for Travellers' halting site</b>	10/02/2011	Rush Warrander	AEE	Negative	Medium
<b>Why Big Fat Gypsy Weddings betrays us real Romanies</b>	10/02/2011	Jake Bowers (ed. Travellers' Times)	SS	Positive	Medium
<b>Gypsy Anger</b>	10/02/11	Katherine Elliot	Moffat News	Negative	Small
<b>Gypsy Anger</b>	10/02/11	Katherine Elliot	Annandale Herald	Negative	Small
<b>Human rights charity blasts treatment of travellers</b>	11/02/2011	Jennifer Buchanan	Irvine Herald	Positive	Small
<b>South Ayrshire Council challenged by humans rights group</b>	11/02/2011	Stuart Wilson (Ed.)	Ayrshire Post	Positive	Small
<b>Community council suggest changes to travellers draft policy</b>	11/02/11	Jenny Rush	Mearns Leader	Neutral	Medium
<b>Community council suggest changes to travellers draft policy</b>	11/02/11	Jenny Rush	Kincardineshire Observer	Neutral	Medium
<b>Amnesty: You need more traveller sites</b>	11/02/11	Jennifer Buchanan	Irvine Herald	Positive	Medium
<b>Traveller challenge to council from Amnesty</b>	11/02/11	Stuart Wilson	Ayrshire Post	Positive	Medium
<b>EAC respond to Gypsy fears</b>	11/02/11	No byline	Kilmarnock Standard	Positive	Medium
<b>Travellers set up camp at Stonehaven</b>	12/02/2011	No byline	P&J	Negative	Medium
<b>Gypsy wedding series 'whips up hatred and discrimination'</b>	13/02/2011	Marc Horne	Scotland on Sunday	Positive	Medium
<b>Cultural rights don't trump human ones</b>	13/02/2011	John Watson/ Pauline Nolan (Amnesty)	Sunday Herald	Positive	Medium

ARTICLE	DATE	AUTHOR	PUBLICATION	TO NE	SIZE OF ARTICLE
Complaints over Travellers' camp	14/02/2011	No byline	AEE	Negative	Small
Doing nothing is not option over Travellers (Letter)	14/02/2011	B Watson	AEE	Neutral	Small
Travellers remain at unofficial site	14/02/2011	Graeme Scott	P&J	Negative	Medium
My big fat gypsy shredding	15/02/2011	Lucy Bannerman/ Daisy Greenwell	The Times (Scotland)	Positive	Medium
This portrayal of traveller life shows ignorance...	15/02/2011	Roxy Freeman (GT)	Independent (and 'I')	Positive	Large
Ending in tears – family booted out	15/02/2011	Peter Dyke/ Katie Begley	Daily Star (Scotland)	Positive	Small
Unwanted camp	15/02/2011	Letter	Courier and Advertiser	Negative	Small
My not very big and fat gypsy dress	15/02/2011	Mark Jefferies	Scottish Daily Mirror (SDM)	Neutral	Small
Travellers [sic] worries	15/02/11	Roisin McGroaty	Troon & Prestwick Times	Positive	Medium
Travellers [sic] worries	15/02/11	Roisin McGroaty	Ayr Advertiser	Positive	Medium
Travellers [sic] worries	15/02/11	Roisin McGroaty	Carrick Herald	Positive	Medium
Elma: travellers services okay	16/02/11	Craig Nisbet	Ardrossan & Saltcoats Herald	Positive	Medium
Ellon hits out over travellers site plan	17/02/11	Dionne Abloghassen	Ellon Times	Negative	Small
Traveller camp site clean-up underway	17/02/11	Katherine Elliot	Moffat News	Negative	Medium
Traveller camp site clean-up underway	17/02/11	Katherine Elliot	Annandale Herald	Negative	Medium
Minorities at most risk from poverty	18/02/2011	No byline	Herald	Positive	Small
Travellers return to Baird Park site	18/02/11	Rachel Campbell	Mearns Leader	Negative	Medium
Travellers [sic] site 'wrong' (Letter)	24/02/11	Norman Fraser	Ellon Times / Inverurie Herald	Negative	Medium
Policy on traveller encampments	25/02/11	No byline	Huntly Express	Neutral	Large
Plans for travellers' site refused	25/02/11	No byline	Northern Scot	Neutral	Medium
Police have had complaints about Baird Park camp (Letter)	25/02/11	No byline	Mearns Leader / Kincardineshire Observer	Negative	Large
Amnesty delight with report (Letter)	25/02/11	Arthur West (Amnesty)	Ayrshire Post	Positive	Large
Council forks out £80,000 to tackle Travellers' sites	25/02/11	David Ewen	AEE	Negative	Medium
Expanding travellers' camp causes outrage amongst residents	25/02/11	Jenny Rush	Mearns Leader	Negative	Medium
Call for direct action against travellers in town	26/02/11	Gary Cruden & Shona Gossip	P&J	Negative	Small
Lost in translation	27/02/11	Peter Ross	Scotland on Sunday	Positive	Small
Councils have refused to deal with Travellers (Letter)	28/02/11	J Hunter	AEE	Negative	Medium
Tour backs Roma rights	28/02/11	No byline	Edinburgh Evening News	Positive	Large
Facebook page about travellers removed	28/02/11	No byline	P&J	Neutral	Large
Facebook page about travellers removed	28/02/11	No byline	P&J - Latest	Neutral	Large
Real action not works needed over Travellers	01/03/11	Scott Begbie	AEE	Neutral	Medium
Protesters call for swift action over Travellers	01/03/11	Jennifer McKiernan / Neil Evans	AEE	Negative	Medium
Football players being 'put in danger'	01/03/11	No byline	P&J	Negative	Medium
Probe into comments on travellers	01/03/11	Gary Cruden	P&J	Positive	Medium

ARTICLE	DATE	AUTHOR	PUBLICATION	TO NE	SIZE OF ARTICLE
Inquiry into Facebook claim over travellers	01/03/11	Gary Cruden	P&J	Positive	Medium
Firebomber threats to gypsy camp	01/03/11	Stuart Patterson	Daily Star (Scotland)	Negative	Medium
Vigilante alert for camp	01/03/11	No byline	Daily Record	Negative	Medium
Vigilante fear at gypsy camp	01/03/11	Stuart Patterson	SS	Negative	Medium
Concerns over young football team playing next to camp	01/03/11	Gary Cruden	P&J - Latest	Negative	Medium
Facebook comments no reflection of Mearns town	02/03/11	No byline	P&J	Positive	Medium
Evicted Travellers set up camp at park and ride	04/03/11	Jennifer McKiernan	AEE	Negative	Medium
Council takes action to move Stonehaven travellers on	04/03/11	Jenny Rush	Mearns Leader	Negative	Medium
Gypsies ordered to move	04/03/11	No byline	The Scotsman	Neutral	Small
Time to act on Traveller issue	04/03/11	A Gordon - letter	AEE	Negative	Large
£150,000 for upgrade at Travellers' campsites	04/03/11	No byline	Scottish Daily Mail	Negative	Large
Moving on (Ed.)	04/03/11	No byline	Courier and Advertiser	Neutral	Small
Workmen move in after caravans depart	04/03/11	Gary Cruden & Cameron Brooks	P&J	Negative	Very Large
Bid to make beauty spot no-go zone for Travellers	04/03/11	Neil Evans	AEE	Negative	Medium
Putting me into care didn't stop me being gypsy	04/03/11	Victoria Raimes	Edinburgh Evening News	Positive	Small
Top-level talks planned over traveller tensions	04/03/11	No byline	P&J	Neutral	Large
Talk with travellers in bid to ease community tension	05/03/11	No byline	P&J	Neutral	Medium
Barriers' cash was well spent'	05/03/11	Neil Evans	AEE	Neutral	Medium
Travellers invited to high-level crisis talks	05/03/11	Calum Ross	P&J	Neutral	Medium
Author gets lift from TV show	05/03/11	No byline	Courier and Advertiser	Neutral	Large
Action to stop Travellers camps at site is overdue'	07/03/11	Jennifer McKiernan	AEE	Negative	Medium
Stop playing cat and mouse with Travellers	07/03/11	C McDonald - letter	AEE	Negative	Medium
Terror at fair	08/03/11	No byline	Daily Record	Negative	Medium
'Frustration' over travellers in talk	09/03/11	No byline	Irvine Times	Positive	Large
Police set to share data on traveller camps	10/03/11	Gary Cruden	P&J	Negative	Small
Traveller summit to be held in Inverurie	10/03/11	No byline	Inverurie Herald	Neutral	Large
Police to share data on traveller camps	10/03/11	Gary Cruden	P&J	Neutral	Small
Call for traveller's [sic] site shake-up	11/03/11	No byline	Inverness Courier	Neutral	Large
Amnesty have real cheek (Letter)	11/03/11	Jimmy Millar	Ayrshire Post	Negative	Large
Travellers discussions	11/03/11	No byline	Mearns Leader	Negative	Large
Delay for Travellers' pitch	23/03/11	Neil Evans	AEE	Neutral	Large
Travellers hit out over lack of services	23/03/11	Kaye Nicolson	P&J	Neutral	Medium
Gypsies shun council 'concentration camp'	24/03/11	Charlotte Thompson	Scottish Daily Mail	Negative	Medium
We're doing this for all our big fat gypsy pals	25/03/11	Shelly Matheson	SS	Positive	Small
Praise for gypsy relationship	30/03/11	No byline	Clydebank Post	Positive	Large
Bid to stop travellers at park and ride	30/03/11	No byline	Aberdeen Citizen	Negative	Small

ARTICLE	DATE	AUTHOR	PUBLICATION	TO NE	SIZE OF ARTICLE
Travellers living in fear after washing set alight	30/03/11	Duncan Bick	Forres Gazette	Positive	Medium
MP welcomes travellers move	31/03/11	No byline	Central Fife Times	Negative	Large
'Thought for the week'	31/03/11	Bill Landale - letter	Berwickshire News	Neutral	Large
Treatment of travellers	05/04/11	No byline	Dumbarton & Vale of Leven Reporter	Positive	Large
Burgh's Miss Scotland finalist	05/04/11	No byline	Dumbarton & Vale of Leven Reporter	Positive	Large
Travellers blamed for Craighall bypass mess	07/04/11	No byline	Blairgowrie Advertiser	Negative	Medium
Travellers should stick to their sites, says Tolson as new arrivals set up camp	07/04/11	No byline	Dunfermline Press	Negative	Medium
Travellers' site at Findon refused	08/04/11	Rachel Campbell	Mearns Leader	Neutral	Large
Difficult to feel positive about Traveller talks	08/04/11	C Mathieson - letter	AEE	Neutral	Medium
Your emails...	08/04/11	R Strachan - email	AEE	Negative	Large
Council cuts housing grants	08/04/11	No byline	Musselburgh News	Neutral	Large
Council cuts housing grants	08/04/11	No byline	East Lothian News	Neutral	Large
A tale of two travelling families	9/4/11-15/4/11	Paul English	Daily Record Saturday magazine	Positive	Medium
Blame it on Leo - Television review section	09/04/11	Andrea Mullaney	The Scotsman	Positive	Medium
TV Pick of the Day - Travellers	11/04/11	No byline	Glasgow Evening Times	Negative	Large
TV Gypsies' hare hunt slaughter	12/04/11	Gordon Tait	SS	Negative	Small
Town beauty makes Miss Scotland finals	12/04/2011	Robert Moore	Dumbarton and Vale of Leven Reporter	Positive	Medium
Travellers camps on park site	13/04/11	Tim Sculthorpe	AEE	Negative	Medium
Travellers leave mess behind	13/04/2011	No byline	Forres Gazette	Negative	Medium
Keeping it real	14/04/11	Paul English (Column)	Daily Record	Positive	Medium
Is there no way to cure Haudagain headache	14/04/11	Frank Gilfeather	AEE	Negative	Medium
Councillors cleared of pushing officials to take action	15/04/11	No byline	P&J	Neutral	Medium
Letters' page	15/04/11	Alexander Burke (Scottish gypsy) and Ewen Blanc	SS	Positive	Large
North-east is a soft touch - letter	15/04/11	J Gibson - letter	AEE	Negative	Large
Bid to half Facebook race hate	16/04/11	Cameron Brooks	P&J	Positive	Medium
Petition on Facebook anti-traveller pages	16/04/11	Cameron Brooks	P&J - Latest	Positive	Medium
Special Kaye	16/04/11	Matt Bendoris	SS	Neutral	Large
Bailiffs face a big fat confrontation at field that 86 families call home	16/04/11	Steve Bird	The Times (Scotland)	Positive	Small
Cyprus for gypsy battlers	17/04/11	No byline	Daily Star on Sunday	Negative	Medium
Show's big fat deal	17/04/11	No byline	Sunday Mail	Neutral	Large
Gypsy rose glee	17/04/11	No byline	Sunday Mail	Negative	Large
Pick of the day - Travellers	17/04/11	No byline	Scotland on Sunday	Neutral	Large
Cops find it's all about fun at the fair	17/04/11	James Douglas	News of the World	Negative	Medium
Calls for council to evict Traveller camp at park	19/04/11	Jennifer McKiernan	AEE	Negative	Medium

ARTICLE	DATE	AUTHOR	PUBLICATION	TO NE	SIZE OF ARTICLE
Travellers' site to reopen after refit	20/04/11	No byline	Kirkintilloch Herald	Neutral	Medium
Travellers' site to reopen after refit	20/04/11	No byline	Bishopbriggs Herald	Neutral	Medium
Travellers' site to reopen after refit	20/04/11	No byline	Springburn Herald	Neutral	Medium
Travelling persons' site	20/04/11	Marilyn Pegg - letter	Kirkintilloch Herald	Negative	Medium
Travelling persons' site	20/04/11	Marilyn Pegg - letter	Bishopbriggs Herald	Negative	Medium
Travelling persons' site	20/04/11	Marilyn Pegg - letter	Springburn Herald	Negative	Medium
Turn-off	20/04/11	Fergus Wyllie (Letter)	Daily Record	Negative	Large
Dismay as travellers return to Stonehaven	20/04/11	Stacey Horne	P&J	Negative	Medium
Travellers face eviction at Dyce camp	21/04/2011	No byline	P&J	Negative	Large
Councillors set to discuss barrier for Baird Park road as travellers pitch up again	22/04/2011	Jenny Rush	Mearns Leader	Negative	Medium
Allotment member's anger over Baird Park encampment	22/04/2011	No byline	Mearns Leader	Negative	Medium
Scheme to stop illicit campsites	23/04/2011	No byline	AEE	Neutral	Large
Fast £130k keeps out travellers	24/04/2011	Stian Alexander	Sunday Mirror	Negative	Large
Illegal traveller camp causes stink with allotment holders	25/04/2011	Graeme Scott	P&J - Latest	Negative	Small
Illegal traveller camp causes stink with allotment holders	25/04/2011	Graeme Scott	P&J	Negative	Medium
March of the gypsy camps	25/04/2011	Jamie Beatson and Andrew Picken	Scottish Daily Mail	Negative	Small
Travellers anger allotment group	26/04/2011	No byline	AEE	Negative	Medium
Travellers set up camp again on walkway	26/04/2011	No byline	Inverness Courier	Negative	Large
Row over free laptops for Travellers' scheme	27/04/2011	Jennifer McKiernan	AEE	Negative	Small
Accusation sparked by pitch plan	27/04/2011	No byline	AEE	Neutral	Small
Woman claims she saw kitchen waste being dumped at illegal camp	27/04/2011	Gary Cruden	P&J	Negative	Small
Bid to solve problem of car park used as unauthorised site by groups of travellers	27/04/2011	No byline	P&J	Negative	Medium
Outcry as gypsy pupils get free laptops	28/04/2011	Alan Roden and Stuart Patterson	Scottish Daily Mail	Negative	Medium
Big fat laptop storm	28/04/2011	Stuary Patterson	SS	Negative	Medium
Travellers site decision deferred	28/04/2011	No byline	Ellon Times	Neutral	Medium
Picnic Site	29-Apr	Letter - E.R. Thirkell	St Andrews Citizen	Negative	Large
Controversial applications deferred by councillors	29/04/2011	Nicola Prise Porter	Ellon and District Advertiser	Negative	Medium
Quit being a soft touch and get tough, says MP	29/04/2011	No byline	Ayrshire Post	Negative	Medium
MP raps 'wishy washy' approach to travellers	29/04/2011	Lex Brown	The Irvine Herald	Negative	Medium
Equality is at heart of debate on free laptops	29/04/2011	T Shaw - letter	AEE	Negative	Medium
Tayside force in talks on how to handle traveller camps	02/05/2011	Gary Cruden	P&J - Latest	Negative	Medium
Council in talks over Travellers	03/05/2011	No byline	AEE	Neutral	Large
Travellers strike fear into tourists, claims caravan park manager	03/05/2011	No byline	Inverness Courier	Negative	Medium
Challenge over travellers' site	05/05/2011	No byline	Central Fife Times	Negative	Medium

ARTICLE	DATE	AUTHOR	PUBLICATION	TO NE	SIZE OF ARTICLE
Churches reaching out to travellers	06/05/2011	No byline	P&J - Latest	Positive	Large
Churches admit to failings with gypsy travellers	06/05/2011	Cameron Brooks	P&J - Latest	Positive	Medium
Travellers warned to move on	09/05/2011	Sandra Gray	Courier and Advertiser	Negative	Medium
Travellers are moved on from Perth's Western edge	10/05/2011	No byline	Perthshire Advertiser	Neutral	Medium
Bught	10/05/2011	No byline	Inverness Courier	Neutral	Large
Travellers victim of health and safety rules	11/05/2011	Letter - Jess Smith	Courier and Advertiser	Positive	Large
Travellers move back to former supermarket site	11/05/2011	No byline	Forres Gazette	Negative	Large
Glenrothes jobs boost 'under threat' claim	11/05/2011	Kevin Quinn	Glenrothes Gazette	Negative	Medium
Eyesore	11/05/2011	Ewan McInnes	Barrhead News	Negative	Small
Councillor denies prejudice claim over travellers' site	12/05/2011	No byline	Central Fife Times	Neutral	Medium
Sick-leave lawyer has another job	12/05/2011	No byline	P&J - Latest	Neutral	Large
Real travellers were no nuisance	14/05/2011	Letter - A.T. Geddie	Courier and Advertiser	Positive	Large
Kirk admits it persecuted Travellers	15/05/2011	Billy Briggs	Scotland on Sunday	Positive	Medium
Kirk admits persecution of travellers	16/05/2011	No byline	Courier and Advertiser	Positive	Medium
Eviction threat for Travellers camped at beach	17/05/2011	No byline	AEE	Negative	Large
Action urged over travellers	17/05/2011	Craig Smith	Courier and Advertiser	Negative	Small
'Starting point' on travellers welcomed	19/05/2011	Calum Ross	P&J	Positive	Medium
Mess Fury	20/05/2011	Eric Baxter and David Goodwin	Greenock Telegraph	Negative	Small
Travellers may gain temporary stop sites	20/05/2011	No byline	Inverness Courier	Negative	Medium
Travellers expected to move out of town	21/05/2011	David McKay	P&J - Latest	Negative	Medium
'The voice of Scotland'	22/05/2011	Anna Smith	News of the World	Negative	Large
Kirk supports more help for travellers	25/05/2011	No byline	P&J - Latest	Positive	Large
'Deplorable' failure of churches to help gypsies	25/05/2011	Cameron Brooks	P&J - Latest	Positive	Medium
Traveller's book signing	26/05/2011	No byline	Courier & Advertiser	Positive	
Woman pledges to battle illegal travellers' sites	27/05/2011	Graeme Scott	P&J - Latest	Negative	Medium
Rustlers prey on horses	29/05/2011	Paula Murray	Scottish Sunday Express	Negative	Medium
Fairground Attraction	29/05/2011	Peter Ross	Scotland on Sunday	Positive	Small

## ENDNOTES

- Scottish Government (2010) *Gypsies/Travellers in Scotland: The Twice Yearly Count - No. 16: July 2009*. Available from: <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2010/08/18105029/0> and Article 12 research (available from <http://www.article12.org/pdf/GYPSY%20TRAVELLER%20NUMBERS%20IN%20THE%20UK.pdf>) notes that "According to The Gypsy Media Company [<http://www.englishunlimited.co.uk/GMC/>], owned and run by Romani journalist Jake Bowers, there are approximately 300,000 Gypsy/Travellers in Britain today. Indeed, the report *Common Ground* (2006) [[http://83.137.212.42/sitearchive/cre/pubs/cat\\_gandt.html](http://83.137.212.42/sitearchive/cre/pubs/cat_gandt.html)], for the Commission for Racial Equality [<http://83.137.212.42/sitearchive/cre/index.html>] estimates this number to be between 200,000 and 300,000." A Scottish population extraction of this would equate to c.20,000 which is the figure commonly used by the Scottish Gypsy Traveller community. The EHRC estimated it to be 15,000 in their 2010 report *Gypsy Travellers in Scotland: a Resource for the Media*, available from: [http://www.equalityhumanrights.com/uploaded\\_files/Scotland/gypsy\\_travellers\\_in\\_scotland\\_-\\_a\\_resource\\_for\\_the\\_media\\_word\\_doc](http://www.equalityhumanrights.com/uploaded_files/Scotland/gypsy_travellers_in_scotland_-_a_resource_for_the_media_word_doc)
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- [www.equalityhumanrights.com/uploaded\\_files/research/12inequalities\\_experienced\\_by\\_gypsy\\_and\\_traveller\\_communities\\_a\\_review.pdf](http://www.equalityhumanrights.com/uploaded_files/research/12inequalities_experienced_by_gypsy_and_traveller_communities_a_review.pdf)
- [www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2010/07/01091850/0](http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2010/07/01091850/0)
- From Universal Declaration of Human Rights – [www.un.org/en/documents/udhr/index.shtml](http://www.un.org/en/documents/udhr/index.shtml)
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- [www.press-cuttings.com/](http://www.press-cuttings.com/)
- See Appendix
- Scottish Government (2010) *Gypsies/Travellers in Scotland: The Twice Yearly Count - No. 16: July 2009*. Available from: <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2010/08/18105029/0>
- Article 12 research, see endnote 1
- [www.scotsman.com/news/gypsies\\_move\\_in\\_on\\_park\\_and\\_ride\\_for\\_second\\_time\\_1\\_1309721](http://www.scotsman.com/news/gypsies_move_in_on_park_and_ride_for_second_time_1_1309721)
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