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The situation of the ESLs and drop outs in Romania

Best practices to combat marginalisation of ESL and young drop-outs

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Situation of ELS and drop outs in Romania

- Romania ranks third in the EU 18.1% among the countries with the highest dropout rate after Malta, with a rate of 18.6%, and Spain, with a rate of 18.3%, according to the data published by Eurostat – 2017

About 300.000 children are outside the school system

- 100.000 are have functional illiteracy (can read and write but cannot manage employment tasks beyond basic skills)
- 40.000 are illiterate

Figures

- **Huge disparities in the dropout rates when comparing urban and rural communities**
 - the school dropout rate is **26.6% in rural areas, 17.4% in small towns and suburbs** and decreases to **6.2% in big cities**- *Save the Children Romania May 2018*
 - 45% of the Romanian school population (primary and secondary) lives in the rural areas.

Roma population

- 23% of Roma respondents have no education whatsoever
- 27% attended primary school
- 33% graduated from secondary school without going further – as opposed to 2%, 11% and 24% respectively among other ethnic groups taken as a whole.
- 95% of Roma have no high school education, compared to 60% among the other respondents.

Refugee population

- no official data available on the dropout rates

Economic challenges to school drop out

- Financial difficulties

Large, resource-free families having problems in ensuring adequate food and clothing for all children and sometimes are constrained to send the older children to work or look after their younger siblings



Source: <http://cursdeguvernare.ro/raport-unicef-bunastarea-copilor-romania-pe-locul-39-din-41.html>

“For households that have teenagers between 15 and 18 years old, 96% of them have declared they are in high school, 27% of them have a job, 55% work in the household, 17% that they are day labourers, and 1% that they are attending a qualification course.”

World Vision Report on Child Wellbeing, 2018, p.66

Social and cultural challenges to school drop out

- Family/ friends role model effect'
- Parents/ older siblings/friends who dropped out of school at a very young age.
- Domestic violence, alcohol addiction, divorce.

- Compared to non-Roma students, Roma children are six times at risk of dropping out of school based on their family's unfriendly or unfamiliar perception of school and education

Most dropouts come from families where parents have completed secondary education. However, there are quite often young people students in drop out situations who want to complete their education "at least up to 10th grade" in order to have a qualification, so that they do not reach out to parents, become simple day-laborers, without great chances of success in life"

Source: UNICEF Romania
website <http://www.unicef.ro/>

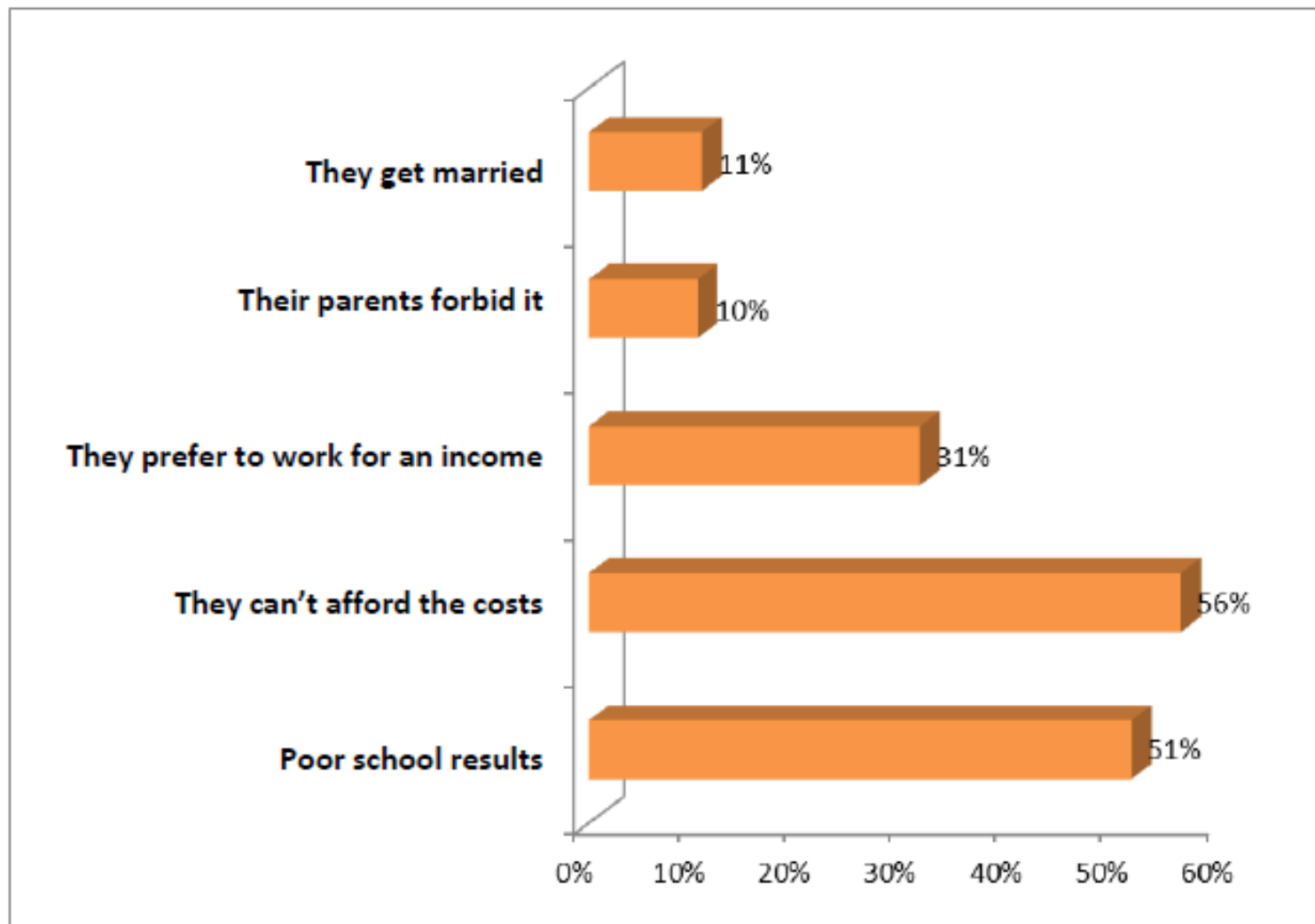


Source:
https://adevarul.ro/locale/buzau/video-unicef--ajuta-comunitate-buzau-lupte-abandonului-scolar-rezultatele-uimitoare-1_523af368c7b855ff569f63f4/index.htm
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Other challenges to school drop out

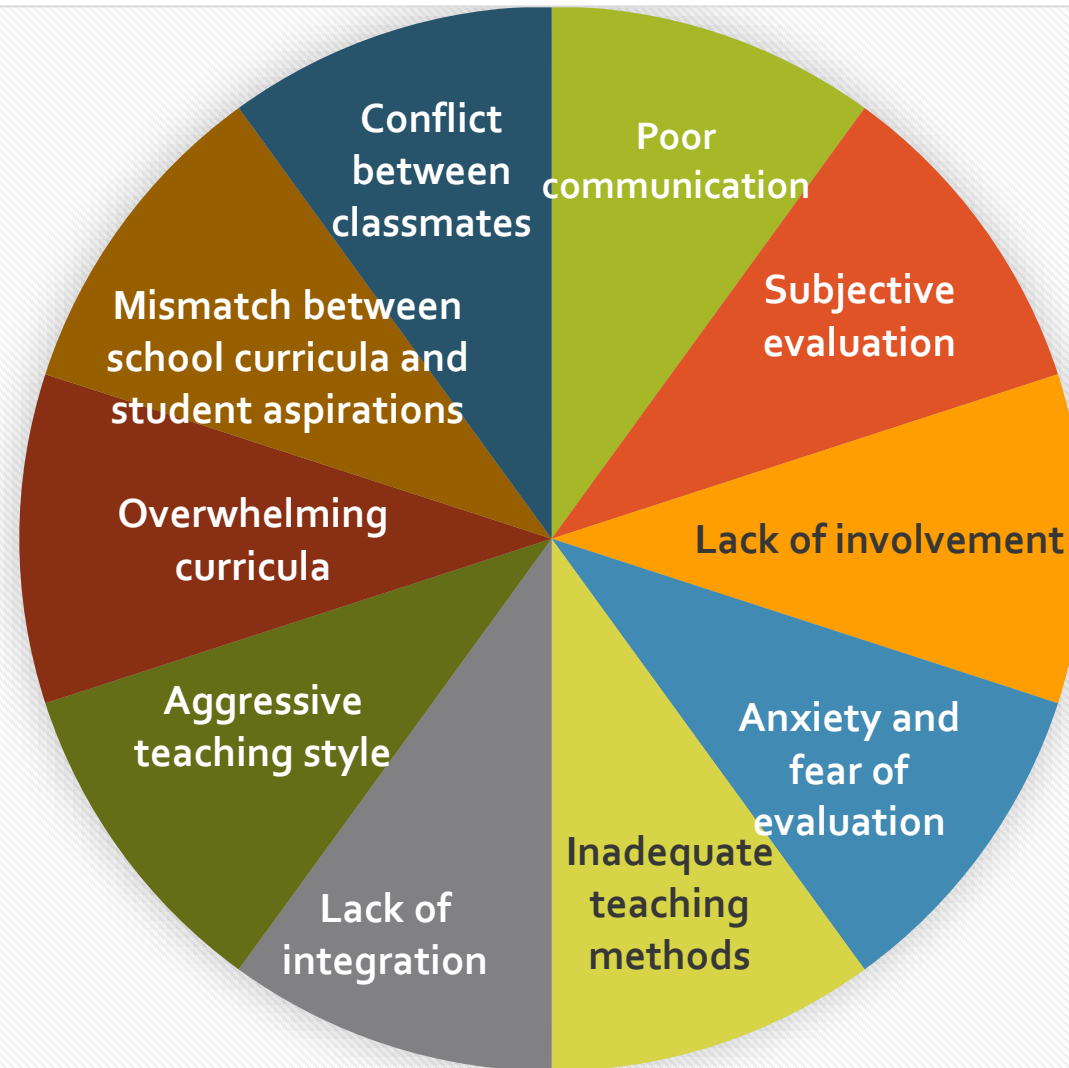
- Engagement in fast income generating activities to have pocket money :
beginning , prostitution, criminal activities
- Early marriage, childbirth <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=teBNayYboPI>
- Lack of safety and security
- Frequent repeating of grades
- Mental health conditions/disabilities
- Lack of evidence of school records, birth certificates etc. in case of refugees

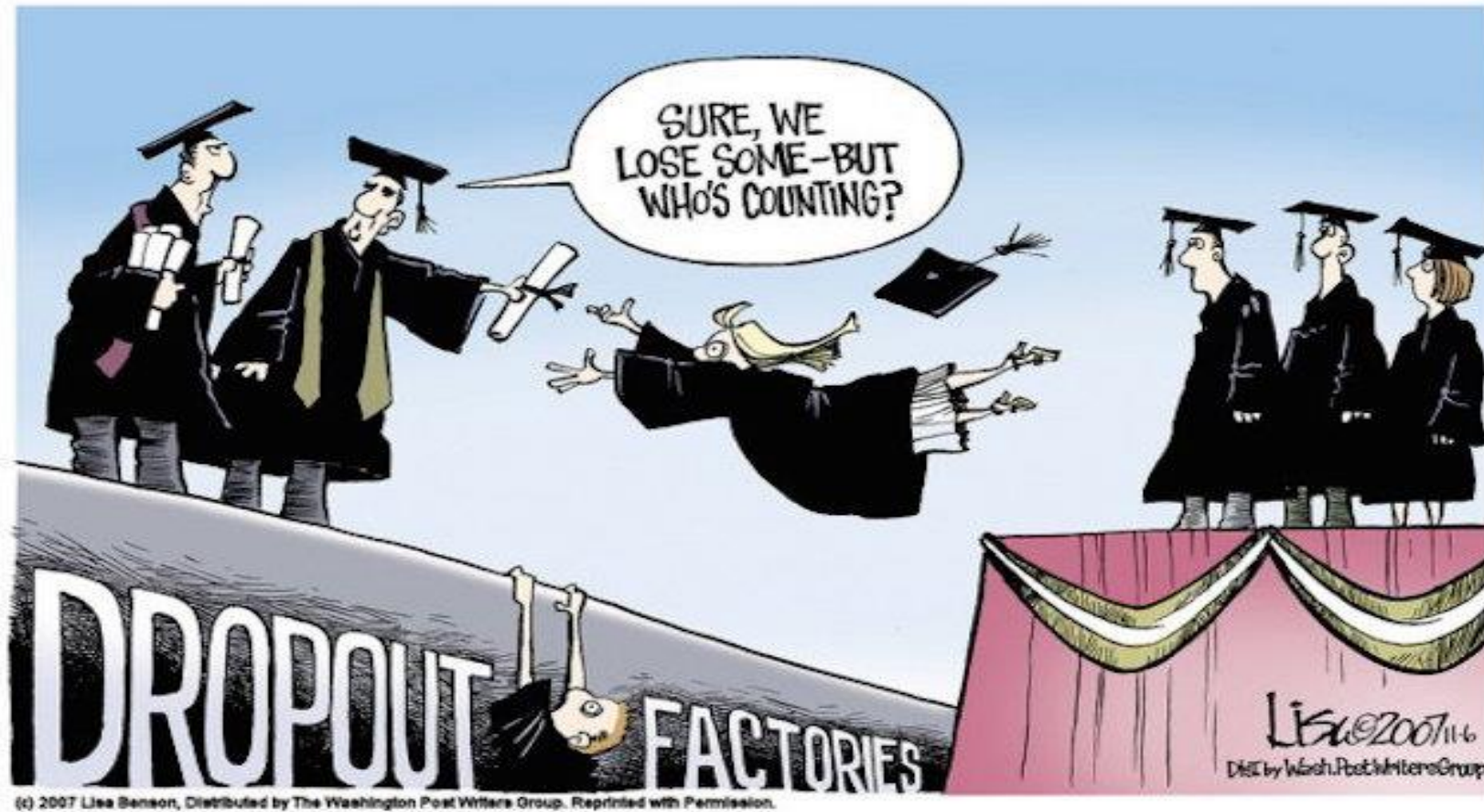
Main triggers for school drop out in rural areas



Source: *World Vision, Child well being Report 2018*, p.65
https://worldvision.ro/media/presa/studii-si-rapoarte/RO_WVR_Child%20Well-being%20Report%20eng.pdf

Psycho-pedagogical triggers to student dropout





Source: <https://poetsandquants.com/2015/09/04/why-these-harvard-mbas-dropped-out/>

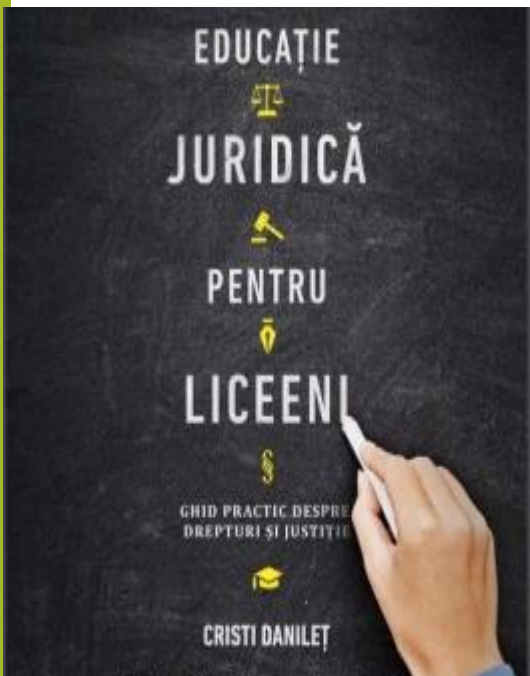
Combating marginalization of ESL and dropouts- public initiatives

- After –school programmes
- Second chance programme
- Milk and croissant national programme...+apple... +lunch based on fruit and vegetables
- Counseling services for parents
- Dual vocational learning

Combating marginalization of ESL and dropouts- initiatives of civil society/NGOs



PARADA Foudation <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2ct3TebEzX8>



- **EDUIURIS- Vedem Just Association**
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IJStbvxkEVI8>

Combating marginalization of ESL and dropouts- initiatives of civil society/NGOs

World Vision Romania

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NWCHq4luxT8>



UNICEF Romania



Save the children Romania



Combating marginalization of ESL and dropouts- initiatives of civil society/NGOs

- Hands Across Association



- The Schottener Foundation



Thank you!



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