

## Primary students become cops to raise traffic safety awareness among adults

**LOCATION:** V́icar (Almería)

**DURATION:** 1'52"

**SUMMARY:** Primary students from the Almerian village of V́icar become cops for one day to fine traffic violations committed by adults. "You are giving bad example", is what can be heard before one of these kids virtually fines an adult, so they take conscience about the bad example they are for kids. It is an activity framed in a road safety education programme that is pioneering in Andalusia and implies the whole community.

**VTR:**

**BACKGROUND:** - "You are giving me bad example!" - "Don't you do it again, madam!"

These primary students from the Blas Infante School of the Almerian village of V́icar have become cops for one day. They patrol the streets searching for traffic violations.

**KEVIN LÓPEZ**

**Student**

*"I've fined a madam or a sir who had parked over the sidewalk, because the car wouldn't let people with disabilities cross the street."*

**RABABE AANRI**

**Student**

*"I think that adults aren't very good drivers because they don't know how to park properly."*

This activity is part of a road safety education programme started by the V́icar City Council and its local police eleven years ago. The Spanish Department of Traffic and the Andalusian Government also collaborate in this project according to which children learn traffic rules and raise awareness about the importance of complying with them among adults.

**LAURA LÓPEZ**

**Student**

*"I've learnt the meaning of traffic signs with officer Antonio."*

And from the moment they put on their vests and caps, they take the job very seriously.

**SILAS OMAN**

**Student**

*"He had parked over the sidewalk and asked us to lower the price of the fine, but we couldn't because it was a serious infraction."*

**ANTONIO BELTRÁN**

**Local policeman**

*"It is a consolidated activity that students enjoy, they have fun and are eager to do it. They feel like real police officers."*

This program is unique in Andalusia as it involves the whole community, from pregnant women to people with disabilities, old people or immigrants. Its goal is to avoid traffic accidents. In 2015 there were 97.756 lethal accidents in Spain. The value of the fines imposed by these students is beyond their monetary value, because they make adults take conscience, turning their village into a safer place.