

## Photographing the invisible: portraying the reality of the homeless

**LOCATION:** Seville

**DURATION:** 1'36''

**SUMMARY:** 'Choose Life' is a non-profit organisation which has spent nearly three decades working against social exclusion in Seville. 'Photographing the invisible' is one of their recent projects. For months, the homeless have been trained in photography to portray their reality. The aim, to put an end to the neglect towards this corner of society. The result of this work is an exhibition that will be displayed in the city's civic centres.

### VTR:

Modou was capturing life on the edge of the Guadalquivir. Senegalese, 24. He's homeless, he lives on the street and takes pictures.

**MODOU LO**

*"Life is not how I imagined it to be."*

And his photos, such as those of other people whose futures have been distorted, make up part of this exhibition; 'Photographing the invisible.'

**PEDRO BLASCO**

**'Choose Life' Volunteer**

*"We discussed it in an assembly, saying, ok, we're invisible. What are we going to do to get out of this situation?"*

What they decided on was to narrate their lives through images.

**BACKGROUND** "We asked you, the people that are on the street, to stay and create a text with a list of needs."

'Photographing the invisible' is a project from the 'Choose Life' association, an organisation which has spent 27 years working in Seville with people who have been socially excluded. The assembly is fundamental to understanding the work they do with the homeless."

**SARA NICOLÁS**

**'Choose life' Social Integrator**

*"It's the lack of identity, of not feeling useful, very low self-esteem, and suddenly you're offering them the possibility of having their own space, where they have the keys."*

To avoid being ostracised, to make a statement with these images, as they're doing in this exhibition which is now being displayed in Seville's civic centres. With it, they want to raise awareness in society. According to the non-profit organisation Cáritas, in Spain there are 40,000 homeless people.

**PEDRO BLASCO**

**'Choose Life' Volunteer**

*"They've realised that they're really their neighbours, that they're here and that those close to them, are much closer than they think."*

**ROCÍO GARCÍA**

**'Choose Life' Volunteer**

*"Modou, for example, is really good, because he tells things differently."*

And what about Modou? What are his photos about?

**MODOU LO**

*"They're about living on the street, it doesn't mean you're a bad person, right?"*