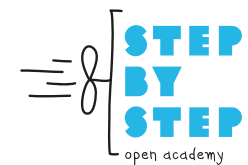
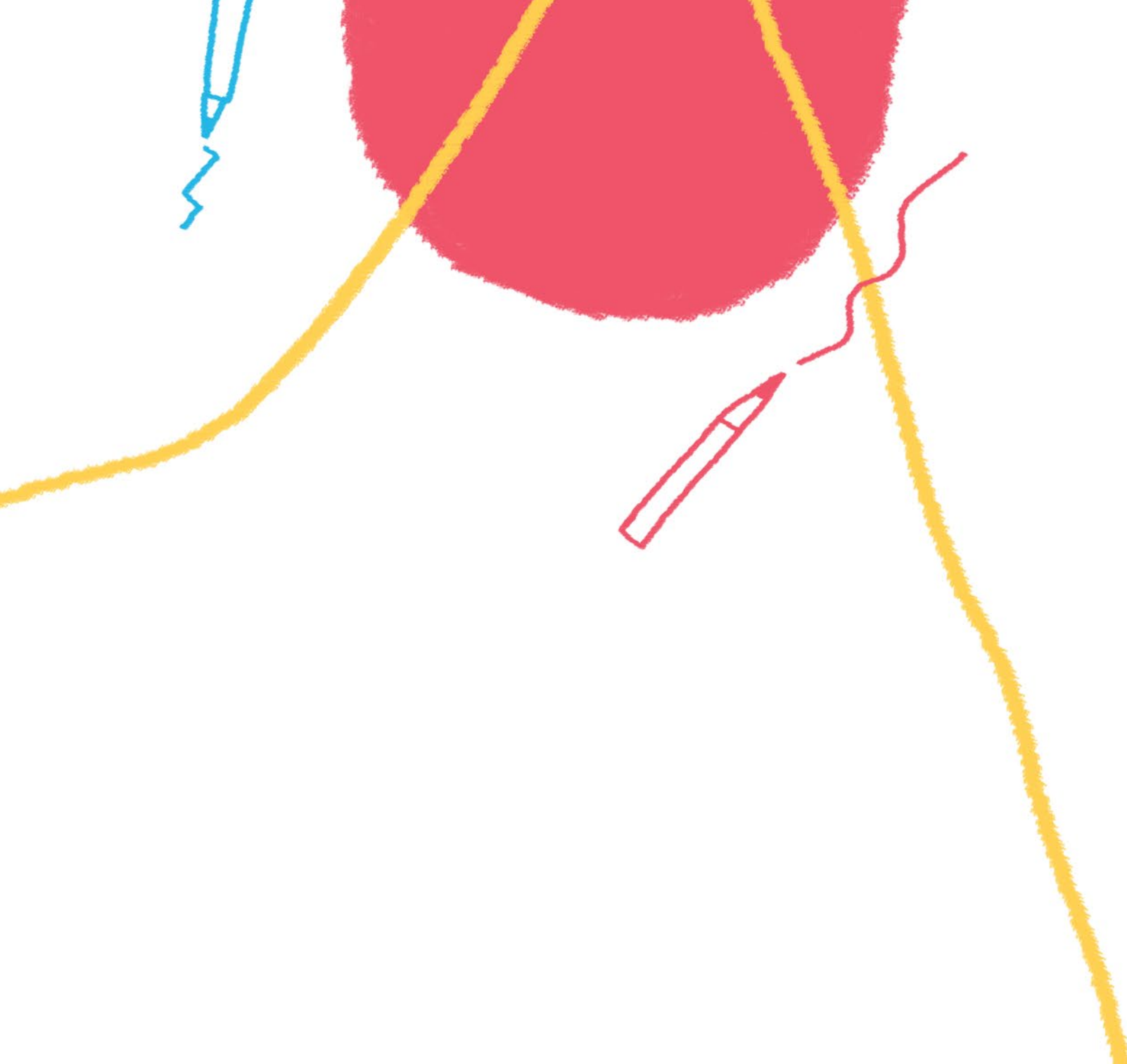


WHY
DID GOR
DRAW
A TOOTH?





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About included communities

With this picture book created as part of the “Included Communities” project, we tried to raise the awareness of parents and children regarding difficulties and emotions that children of (former) prisoners may experience, such as shame, sadness, or loneliness. The purpose of the picture book is to serve as an additional tool to parents (educators, guardians, foster parents) in developing the compassion and empathy of their children towards children whose parents are (were) imprisoned.

The project was implemented during 2019 and 2020 with the general goal of creating conditions in social communities for the re-socialization of perpetrators of criminal offenses through increased capacities of civil society organizations.



“My name is Gor. I am... No!
No, no, no, I am not a cat.
I am a bit too long for that.
I am a lynx! My name is Gor Lis.
I am special because of my tuft
that changes colour.

My tuft is
sometimes orange,
and sometimes blue,
depending on my mood.”

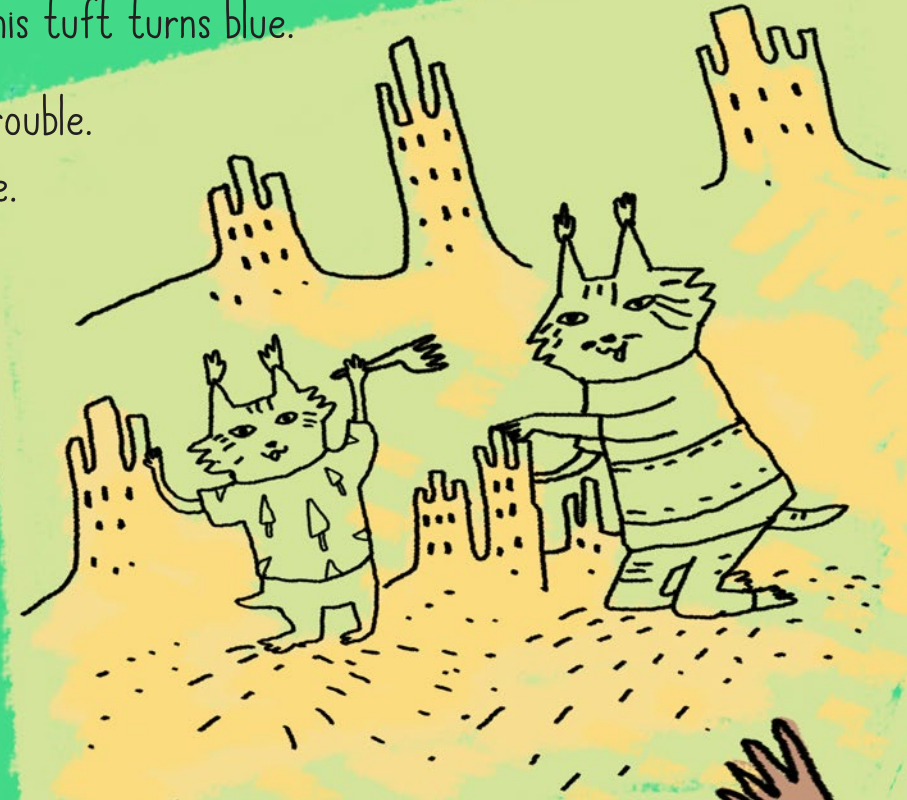
"This is my family.
Mother, my older sister Rory, grandfather.
Except for my brother,
in the drawing you can also see my father.
I love hiking with my entire family,
digging holes and seeking treasures,
playing in a sandbox with my father
is one of my special pleasures."



"Do not ask where my dad is."

When Gor thinks about his dad, he becomes
very upset. It weighs heavy on his heart, his
eyes tear up and his tuft turns blue.

"Trouble, trouble, trouble.
My mind is a jumble.
I miss my dad."



"This is Mor, my best friend.
He is difficult to comprehend.
He is of a boar breed.
Very fast, indeed."



Mor ran to Gor's house in the woods, yelling
at the top of his lungs,

"I lost a tooth! I lost a tooth!"

Gor remembered he too lost a tooth while
they played in the sand yesterday.
He thought how similar they are, both
missing a tooth. Gor proposed to Mor to go
and search for his tooth in a sandbox.



While playing, Mor remembered that he built the best sand castles with his dad.

"We are building a sand castle, but today that is such a hassle. If only my dad were here, he can build anything."

"And where is your dad?" Mor asked Gor.

Gor lowered his head and pretended not to hear.

"Trouble, trouble, trouble.
My mind is a jumble."

Mor continued to explain about the job his seafaring dad has and how much he misses him. Suddenly, Gor's tuft waned and turned blue.

"I also miss my dad," said Gor.



“Hm, how about we send them all our stones and treasures we found today?” asked Mor.

Mor and Gor decided to surprise their fathers, who are far away and whom they will not see for a long time, with presents. At that moment, Gor saw his tooth in the sand.

“Let’s send them our teeth too, a gift to warm a heart while we are apart.”

Upon hearing that, Gor’s tuft turned bright orange.





Gor and Mor raced home to share the news as soon as possible and prepare presents to send to their dads.



“Trouble, trouble, trouble,
My mind is a jumble,” Gor felt. “I miss my dad.”

They were both silent for a while, Gor’s tuft
became ever more blue. Gor cried,

“I was so happy to send my tooth to dad.”

He started drawing to keep the
tears away. Then he remembered!
His tuft rose up and turned orange.

“I’ve got it!” he exclaimed.

“I’ve got it! I will draw my tooth for
dad, that way it will surely reach him.”




"My package is reaaaaady!"
yelled Mor as he ran into the house.

"Mine is almost ready, I haven't packed it
yet," answered Gor. "My dad's in jail and you
cannot send a tooth there so I will draw it on paper."

"Great idea, I can help!"



Gor's tuft turned bright orange as he
realized that his friendship with Mor
is yet another of his treasures.



Gor cannot wait for his father to come back home because he loves him no matter where he is. He misses him a lot. He is happy his father will come home when the forest becomes full of leaves again.



It is estimated that in the Republic of Croatia there are approximately 12,500 children whose parents are in prison. This especially vulnerable group many call "invisible children" and "orphans of justice", because they are often not recognized as children who need support and assistance.

Children whose parents are in prison are confronted with very strong emotions, such as sadness, guilt, shame, fear, and anger. They worry about the way the surroundings will react to the fact that their parent is in prison, they could be scared for their parent's safety, overwhelmed with grief because they are separated from their parent, feel guilty because their parent is in prison or be mad at their parent, the police, the court... Younger children like our hero Gor most often feel sadness due to separation from their parents, and they are not aware of what prison means and what limitations it constitutes. Contact between imprisoned parents and their children is limited by established and rigorous procedures that often make it difficult to establish intimacy. Gor's tooth is a symbol of restrictions placed between a parent and a child regarding their contact that other children whose parents are far away do not have to think about.

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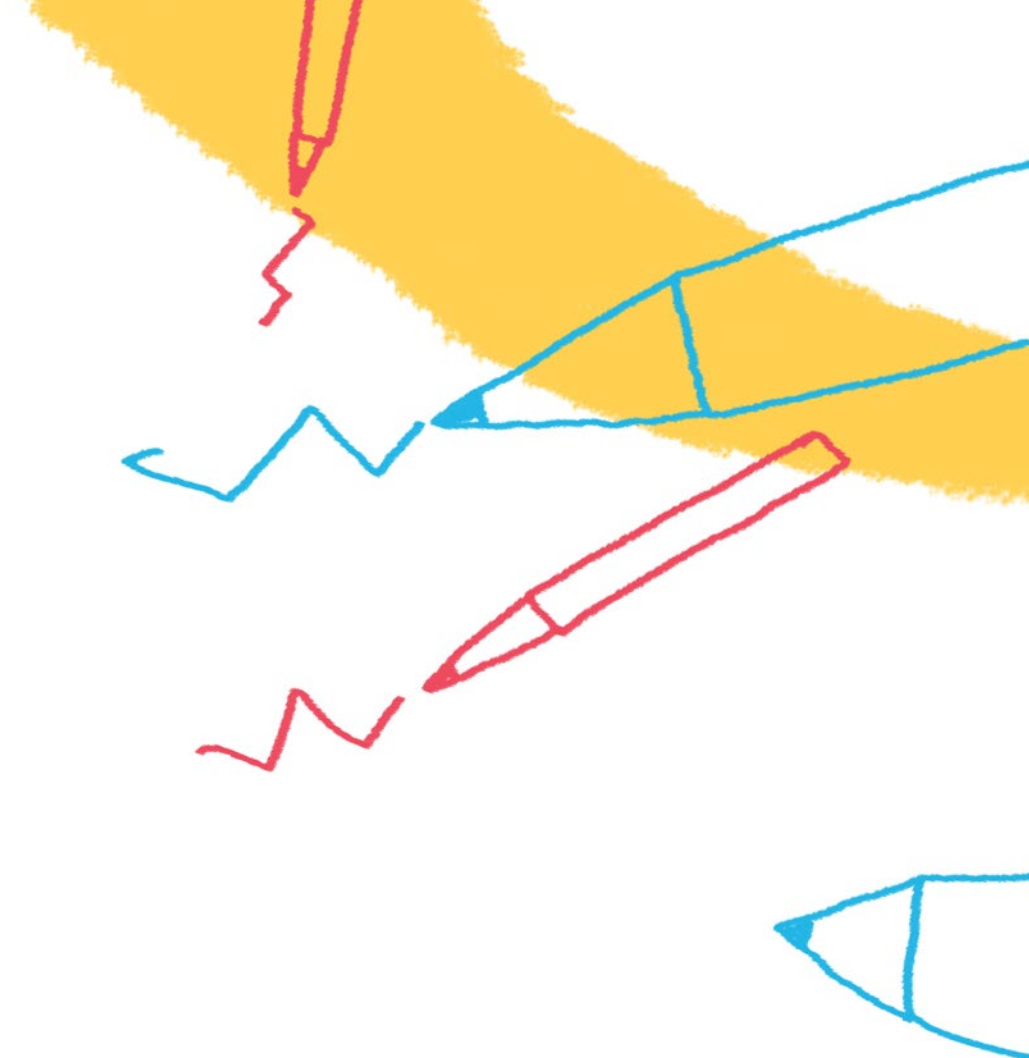
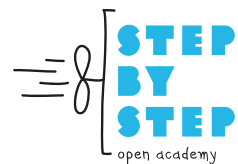
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