‘Let them grow up here’

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- We are children of undocumented migrants.
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- An undocumented migrant is someone who has no residence permit, even though he or she has been living in France for a long time.
- Like many of you, our parents came here from another country, they fled violence, poverty. They came here to work and give us a better life.
- Some of us were born here, with or without documents, France is our country.
- We live in hotels, flats, rooms, packed together.
- Every day we are afraid.
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- We are afraid that our parents will be arrested by the police when they go to work, when they take the metro.
- We are afraid that they will be put in prison.
- That our families will be separated and that we will be sent back to countries we don’t know.
- We think about this all the time, also while we’re at school. Is it normal to be afraid when you go to school?
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- Last summer, we and our parents, we thought that we were finally going to get our papers.
- We put together files of documents. We queued all night outside the prefecture.
- We signed forms in offices, we thought we would be regularised, that the nightmare would end.
- We met all the criteria.
- But we were told no.
- We came with our faces uncovered, with our names, our addresses. The people who got their papers submitted exactly the same documents as we did. Yet we were told no. For no good reason. And yet we were told no. For no good reason.
- Now we are in danger and we have to hide. What is the reason for this injustice?
- We don’t want to live in fear any more. We want France to adopt us. We want to be regularised. Let us grow up here.
- Let us grow up here.
- Let us grow up here.

Filmmakers’ collective for undocumented migrants.
Film and audiovisual industry professionals supporting the Réseau Education Sans Frontières (Education Without Borders Network) and all the undocumented migrants in France