Māori and Diversity Acceptance

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Setting the context

From mainstream to manaaki: Indigenising our approach to immigration
Te Tiriti: Our first immigration policy

Preamble

HER MAJESTY VICTORIA
Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland regarding with Her Royal favour the Native Chiefs and Tribes of New Zealand and anxious to protect their just Rights and Property and to secure to them the enjoyment of Peace and Good Order has deemed it necessary in consequence of the great number of Her Majesty’s Subjects who have already settled in New Zealand and the rapid extension of Emigration both from Europe and Australia which is still in progress to constitute and appoint a functionary properly authorised to treat with the Aborigines of New Zealand for the recognition of Her Majesty’s Sovereign authority over the whole or any part of those islands - Her Majesty therefore being desirous to establish a settled form of Civil Government with a view to avert the evil consequences which must result from the absence of the necessary Laws and Institutions alike to the native population and to Her subjects has been graciously pleased to empower and to authorise me William
Te Tiriti: Our first immigration policy

But MIA in Immigration Policy + Practice

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Oath of Allegiance</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>&quot;I, [full name], swear that I will be **faithful and bear true allegiance to Her (or His) Majesty [specify the name of the reigning Sovereign, as thus: Queen Elizabeth the Second, Queen of New Zealand,] Her (or His) heirs and successors, according to law, and that I will faithfully observe the laws of New Zealand and fulfil my duties as a New Zealand citizen.&quot;</td>
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<tr>
<th>Includes reference to Te Tiriti</th>
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<td>Policy settings: No transparent and meaningful mechanism for Māori/iwi influence over decision-making relating to immigration – nationally or sub-nationally</td>
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<tr>
<th>Citizenship Act 1977</th>
<th>Immigration Act 2009</th>
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|--------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------|
Māori positioned as anti-immigration/migrants

Maori more important?

SIMON DAY  •  15:36, May 25 2014

Maori dislike Asian immigrants more than any other group of New Zealanders, a new poll shows.

Asians are blamed for taking jobs from Maori, driving Maori to Australia, lacking understanding of the Treaty of Waitangi and competing for cultural funding.

Asia New Zealand Foundation 2013 survey: Māori (44 percent) were more likely than average (27 percent) to say that New Zealanders felt less warm towards people from Asia compared with 12 months earlier (Māori n=<100)

• Popular ‘Māori vs Asians’ narratives
• Competition for economic resources and jobs
• Competition for political positioning
• Anxieties over demographic ‘swamping’
Shortcomings of ‘separate spheres’

• at odds with our changing demography in Aotearoa
• maintains Anglocentric vision of national belonging
• no recognition of indigenous dispossession, indigenous rights as tangata whenua, ongoing colonialism
• barrier to genuine partnership
Need to redefine the ‘host’

Tangata whenua

mana

Tangata Tiriti

manaakitanga
How do Māori feel about diversity?

There’s much we don’t know – gaping knowledge gaps

• Survey-based research: lack of representative samples; typically very small Māori samples testing very specific hypotheses derived from literature with strong Northern European lens.

• Qualitative research: very little exists

• Theoretical research: critical indigenous studies, settler colonial studies
## How accepting of diversity?

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Acceptance of diversity</th>
<th>Ethnicity (Level 1)</th>
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<tr>
<td>Feeling comfortable/very comfortable about a new neighbour who was...</td>
<td>Euro.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>from a religious minority</td>
<td>75.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gay/lesbian/bisexual/transgender</td>
<td>77.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a racial/ethnic minority</td>
<td>76.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>had a mental illness</td>
<td>53.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a new migrant</td>
<td>75.9</td>
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Source: NZ General Social Survey 2014
i) Full sample (n>8,000); ii) Māori sample (n>1,000)

Socio-demographic:
- Age
- Gender
- Education level

Psycho-social variables:
- Ethnicity (i)
- Strength of ethnic group belonging (i + ii)
- Strength of national identity (i + ii)
- Level of trust
- Importance of multiculturalism & ethnic diversity to defining NZ
- Importance of Māori culture to defining NZ

Acceptance of diversity
(different ethnicity; different language) *no q. new migrant*
Looking ahead

Action Station Petition

Honour Te Tiriti: #changetheoath

https://our.actionstation.org.nz/petitions/honour-te-tiriti-changetheoath