

Copyright is owned by the Author of the thesis. Permission is given for a copy to be downloaded by an individual for the purpose of research and private study only. The thesis may not be reproduced elsewhere without the permission of the Author.

Youth development: Māui styles

Kia tipu te rito o te pā harakeke;
Tikanga and āhuatanga as a basis
for a positive Māori youth
development approach

A thesis presented in partial fulfilment of the
requirements for the degree of

Master of Arts
in
Māori Studies

at Te Kunenga ki Pūrehuroa: Massey
University, Palmerston North, New Zealand.

Felicity Jane Rachel Ware

2009

Abstract

The Youth Development Strategy Aotearoa has been seen as an innovative approach to youth development. The E tipu e rea – Rangatahi Development Package was particularly useful for organisations implementing the strategy with Māori youth. There have been successful Māori youth development initiatives, though these have been ad hoc. Nonetheless, the realities and experiences of Māori youth are still not being fully addressed in national policy. This has implications for the support and resourcing of Māori youth development initiatives.

Māori youth are members of a range of groups including whānau, hapū, iwi and Māori communities in te ao Māori as well as the wider youth population and New Zealand society. The histories, experiences and viewpoints of each distinct group contribute to diversity in the Māori youth population which presents challenges for Māori youth development. Māori development goals do not adequately focus on Māori youth and youth development theory does not fully consider culture. The challenge is to successfully integrate Māori culture and youth culture in a relevant and meaningful manner so that Māori youth can positively contribute to Māori development and wider New Zealand society.

This study examines pūrākau (narratives) about Māui (Polynesian ancestor) as a template for the analysis of Māori youth development. Interviews were undertaken with a group of Māori youth from the Manawatū region. The research showed tikanga and āhuatanga were relevant to the contemporary daily lives of the participants. The study found that positive development and the realisation of potential for Māori youth was affected by individual and environmental influences. This thesis concludes by making recommendations for policy, practice and further research. Finally, it offers a culturally appropriate theoretical approach for positive Māori youth development.

Acknowledgements

Nei te reo mihi ki ngā tini mate kua wheturangitia ki tua o te ārai. Ki ngā mātua tūpuna kua manaaki nei i ngā tamariki, mokopuna kia tipu ake ai i tēnei ao hurihuri, tēnā koutou katoa. Ki a tātou ngā kanohi ora o rātou mā, kia kaha ki te mahi tonu i ngā mahi, tēnā tātou katoa.

Special thanks to the participants: Stevie, Rongomai, Amosa, Sonny, Tiare, Moana, Zenna and Lewis for their contribution to this research project. Without their time, energy, commitment and invaluable insight this project would not have been possible. It was enjoyable to work with them and be a part of their world. They are all fantastic young Māori men and women with so much to offer. I wish them all the best for the future.

To my supervisors Wheturangi Walsh-Tapiata and Julia Taiapa and advisory whānau, thank you for your support, guidance and motivation. I am grateful to Jacob Tapiata who kept it real right to the end and provided honest and invaluable feedback and advice.

To my whānau who sacrificed our time together and allowed me to dedicate myself to my studies - especially mum, Ange, Will and my partner Tanu. Their unwavering support and confidence in my abilities kept me motivated and grounded. I love you all dearly and hope to make it up to you. Dad, bro and the Ware whānau, this is a glimpse into my thoughts and aspirations.

I would also like to acknowledge my work colleagues and friends of Te Rau Puawai and Te Pūtahi-a-Toi / Māori Studies, Massey University. Thank you for being patient and accommodating and supporting me to complete this project. Te Wānaka o Otautahi / Christchurch Polytechnic Institute of Technology and kaimahi must also be acknowledged for planting the seed of mātauranga and providing inspiration.

Lastly, thanks to all the young people that I have the privilege of being connected with. You provide inspiration, motivation and invaluable insight into youth development and the future of our society. You remind me of my own hardcase experiences and help me to understand the complexities and diverse realities that youth experience. To those that will develop into youth after this research has been completed, I sincerely hope that it will positively impact on your development in some way.

Table of Contents

Abstract	ii
Acknowledgements	iii
Chapter One: Introduction	1
Introduction	1
Research Objectives	1
Definitions of Youth	2
Māori Definitions of Youth	3
Attitudes to Youth Development	5
Research with Māori Youth	6
Issues for Māori Youth Development	7
Colonisation and Urbanisation	7
Cultural Revitalisation	8
Globalisation	9
Māori Youth Demographics	9
Rights to Māori Youth Development	10
Government Approach to Māori Youth Development	11
Thesis Structure	12
References for Chapter One	14
Chapter Two: Māui and Youth Development	20
Introduction	20
Māui	20
Pūrākau	21
Āhuetanga - definitions	22
Tikanga – definitions	23
The Effects of Colonisation on Cultural Ideologies	24
Contemporary Application of Cultural Ideologies	25
Key Social Grouping Concepts	26
Relevant Tikanga: Values	27
Whanaungatanga: Relationship Building	28
Mana: Integrity	28
Manaakitanga: Responsibility	29

Tapu: Prohibitions	29
Ngā Momo Āhuatanga: Characteristics	30
Māia: Potentiality	30
Ahu Whakamua: Foresight	30
Manawanui: Resilience	31
Ihumanea: Innovation	31
Māhaki: Humility	32
Conclusion	32
References for Chapter Two	33
Chapter Three: Contemporary Development	36
Introduction	36
Section One: Māori Development	36
Issues for Youth	37
Māori Development Approaches	39
Māori Youth Development Approaches: E Tipu e Rea	41
Section Two: Youth Development	41
Issues for Māori Youth	42
Positive Youth Development	44
Resilience	44
Cultural Resilience	45
Conclusion	47
References for Chapter Three	48
Chapter Four: Methodology	52
Theory: A Māori Youth Approach to Research	52
Introduction	52
Research with Māori	52
Research with Youth	53
Tikanga: Methodology	54
Incorporating Action Research Theory	55
Hui: Method	56
Incorporating Focus Group Method	57
Practice: Research with Māori Youth	58
The Sample Group	58
My Influence in the Research	59

He Korowai Rangahau: Research Advisory Group	60
Whakawhanaungatanga: The Recruitment Process	60
Kei te Hui: Data Collection	61
Ngā Patapātai: The Questions	62
Mahi Whakawhanaungatanga: Team-building	63
Data Analysis	64
Ethical Considerations	64
Ethics for Research with Māori	64
Ethics for Research with Youth and Groups	65
Conclusion	66
References for Chapter Four	68
Chapter Five: Results	73
Introduction	73
The Participants	73
Findings	74
Ngā Momo Tikanga	74
Whanaungatanga: Relationship building	75
Mana: Integrity	78
Manaakitanga: Responsibility	79
Tapu: Prohibitions	80
Ngā Momo Āhukatanga	82
Māia: Potentiality	82
Ahu Whakamua: Foresight	82
Manawanui: Resilience	83
Ihumanea: Innovation	85
Māhaki: Humility	86
Conclusion	86
Chapter Six: Data Analysis	88
Introduction	88
Cultural Capacities	88
Āhukatanga: Individual Characteristics	89
Māia: Potentiality	89
Ahu Whakamua: Foresight	90
Manawanui: Resilience	90

Ihumanea: Innovation	91
Māhaki: Humility	91
Tikanga: Cultural Values	92
Whanaungatanga: Relationship Building	92
Mana: Integrity	93
Manaakitanga: Responsibility	93
Tapu: Prohibitions	93
Development Environment	94
Summary of Implications for Māori Youth Development	95
A Māori Youth Development Approach: Kia Tipu Te Rito o Te Pā Harakeke	97
Conclusion	101
References for Chapter Six	102
Chapter Seven: Conclusion and Recommendations	105
Summary of Chapters	105
Recommendations	106
Māori Youth Development Approach: Discussion	106
Recommendations	107
Policy and Practice: Discussion	107
Recommendations	108
Further Research: Discussion	108
Recommendations	108
Conclusion	109
Glossary	111
Appendices	114
Appendix 1: Figure 1. Age structure of the Māori population	114
Appendix 2: Information sheet	115
Appendix 3: Participant consent form (English and Māori)	116
Appendix 4: Confidentiality agreement (English and Māori)	118
Appendix 5: Transcribers confidentiality agreement (English and Māori)	120
Appendix 6: Participant questionnaire	122
Appendix 7: Interview schedule	124
Appendix 8 Table 1: Collation of questionnaire	125
Bibliography	126
Index	142