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He Huarahi Kua Takahia – The Trodden Pathways

Kaupapa Maori Initial Teacher Education

Pedagogy and Practice – One Teacher’s Story

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

Doctor of Education

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ABSTRACT

This thesis examines the early career teaching experiences and reflections of a graduate teacher from Te Whare Wananga o Awanuiarangi and draws on recent developments within Aotearoa New Zealand tertiary education to highlight the impact of Kaupapa Maori-based education, taking into account the outcomes of one of those developments, Kaupapa Maori initial teacher education.

The study investigates the special attributes and professional practice of a Maori graduate teacher working in a primary school. The aim is to understand the ways in which this beginning teacher undertook initial teacher education within a Maori-centred programme that was grounded in the principles, values and practices of ako and tikanga. This examination of the graduate teacher’s classroom practice focuses on preparation for a Kaupapa Maori programme leading to an investigation of the perceptions of those responsible for mentoring and supervision support in an identified school. The recording of Maori student voices within this context, highlights the significance of culturally based and informed pedagogy and practice in classrooms, creating positive educational outcomes for Maori.

Authentic accounts of the teacher’s lived experiences and professional life also provides positive feedback about the Maori-initiated and driven Kaupapa Maori initial teacher education programme. Such reflections are indicative of the revolutionary changes made by Maori since the language and culture revitalization initiatives of the 1970-1980s. This period cites Maori initiating and taking charge of their own destiny and creating new pathways, therefore contributing directly to the well-being of New Zealand society. This thesis further contextualises issues of cultural diversity, cultural pluralism and cultural engagement with the education of indigenous minority peoples of a First World country.
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Ko Matawhaura te maunga  Ko Taranaki te maunga
Ko te Rotoiti i kite ai e Ihenga te moana Ko Matanehunehu te awa
Ko Te Arawa te waka  Ko Kurahaupo te waka
Ko Ngati Pikiao te iwi  Ko Taranaki te iwi
Ko Ngati Hinekura te hapu  Ko Nga Mahanga a Tairi te hapu
Ko Houmaitawhiti te marae  Ko Puniho te papakainga
Ko Tarawainuku te marae
Ko Tarawera te maunga  Ko Taranaki te maunga
Ko Puarenga toku awa  Ko Waitotoroa te awa
Ko Te Pakira te marae
Ko Te Arawa te waka  Ko Kurahaupo te waka
Ko Tuhourangi ī Ngati Wahiao toku hapu  Ko Taranaki te iwi
Ko Ngati Moeahu te hapu
Ko Parihaka te papakainga
Ko Parihaka te papakainga
Ko Takitutu te marae
Ko Te Whiti o Rongomai raua ko Tohu
Kakahi nga tangata
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