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**The New Right's Employment Impacts on Pacific Peoples within the
Porirua Area and their Responses to the Initiatives set-up to Promote
Education and Ultimately Employment**

A thesis presented in partial fulfilment of
the requirements for the degree of
Master of Philosophy
in
Development Studies at
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James Tavita Elise

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Abstract

This thesis examines the concepts of development encapsulated in the New Right ideological spectrum. More specifically this thesis focuses on the impacts of employment deregulation and responses to these effects on Pacific populations in urban Aotetora/ New Zealand. It investigates the role neo-liberalism has played since the 1984 Labour government and the subsequent 1990 National government, which many have argued coincided with the breakdown and apparently permanent collapse of Keynesian social and economic policies of the post-war era. Neo-liberalism is an economic and political project that is primarily concerned with promoting a free market economy. It is based on the principles of individualism, rationalism, flexibility and supply-side innovation manifested in the following ways: 1.) the liberalisation of competitive market forces; 2.) the abandonment of demand-side intervention in favour of supply-side policy measures; 3.) the rejection of both social partnership and welfarism; and 4.) the rejection of 'full-employment' and the liberalisation of the labour market. Some well-known neo-liberal projects have been Thatcherism (UK), Reaganism (US) and Rogernomics (NZ).

The responses taken from the research participants illustrate the impacts the New Right development approach has had on this community living in New Zealand, and more specifically living in the Porirua area. Unemployment was seen to place socio-economic stress on the individual and Pacific family unit. These broad New Right concepts which underpin a more flexible labour market are reduced-down to the current community-based employment initiatives being used, the responses and benefits of such development projects to this area, and to exemplify the disparities in the employment sector for Pacific peoples.

The impacts: The macro-level results of this thesis have shown that the New Zealand labour market has been transformed into an individualist and flexible labour environment based on contractual agreements. Pacific peoples labour market participation rates have increased in part-time work and in the service sector, however, this has been offset by large decreases in the manufacturing sector. Pacific peoples have higher unemployment rates when compared to other ethnic groups (with the exception of New Zealand Maori). **The responses:** The micro-level findings have shown that Private Training Establishments (in this case TOPEC) provide a 'seamless' education system for an individualist, flexible and contractual labour market. In conclusion, the impacts and the responses from Pacific peoples involved in the New Zealand labour market demonstrate that the path being used to close labour market disparities are based on industry training and student-centred approaches.

In loving memory of my grandmother

Paupau Elise

and to my dear uncle

Levi Masina

With God all things are possible (Matthew, 19: 26).

My child, learn what I teach you and never forget what I tell you to do. Listen to what is wise and try to understand it. Yes, beg for knowledge, plead for insight. Look for it as hard as you would for silver or some hidden treasure. If you do, you will know what it means to fear the Lord and you will succeed in learning about God. It is the Lord who gives wisdom, knowledge and understanding (Proverbs, 2: 1-6).

For I alone know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not harm you, plans to give a hope and future (Jeremiah, 29: 11).

Dedicated to all the people of Porirua

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Acronyms and Abbreviations

ACC	Accident Compensation Corporation
ANZSIC96	Australia and New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification-96
BRT	Business Round Table
CER	Closer Economic Relations (with Australia)
DSW	Department of Social Welfare
EC Act	Employment Contracts Act (1991)
EEC	European Economic Community
EF	Employer's Federation
ETSA	Education and Training Support Agency
FR Act	Fiscal Responsibility Act (1994)
GNP	Gross Domestic Product
GRI	Guaranteed Retirement Income
HLFS	Household Labour Force Survey
HSI	Hospitality Standards Institute
ITOs	Industry Training Organisations
LR Act	Labour Relations Act (1987)
MIRAB	Migration, Aid and Bureaucracy
MPIA	Ministry of Pacific Island Affairs
MVTTPs	Maori Vocational Trade Training Programmes
NQF	National Qualifications Framework
NZ	New Zealand
NZES	New Zealand Employment Service
NZIS	New Zealand Immigration Service
NZQA	New Zealand Qualification Authority
NZSCO95	New Zealand Standard Classification of Occupations-95
OECD	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
OPEC	Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries
PF Act	Public Finance Act (1989)
PMTFE	Prime Ministerial Task Force on Employment
PPTA	Parents, Pupils and Teachers Association
PTEs	Private Training Establishments
SFRITO	Sport, Fitness and Recreation Industry Training Organisation
SNZ	Statistics New Zealand (Te Tari Tatau)
SOEs	State-Owned Enterprises Act (1986)
SS Act	State Sector Act (1988)
SSC	State Services Commission
TEIs	Tertiary Education Institutions
TGRETFM-PGMU	The Government's Response to the Employment Task Force and the Multi-Party Group Memorandum of Understanding
TINA	There Is No Alternative
TOPEC	The Open Pacific Education Centre
TOPs	Training Opportunity Programmes
UK	United Kingdom
US	United States
WINZ	Work and Income New Zealand