



# Māori and Diversity Acceptance

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# Setting the context

## Fair Borders? Migration Policy in the Twenty-First Century

*Edited by*  
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BWB Texts

From mainstream to manaaki:  
Indigenising our approach to immigration



# Te Tiriti: Our first immigration policy

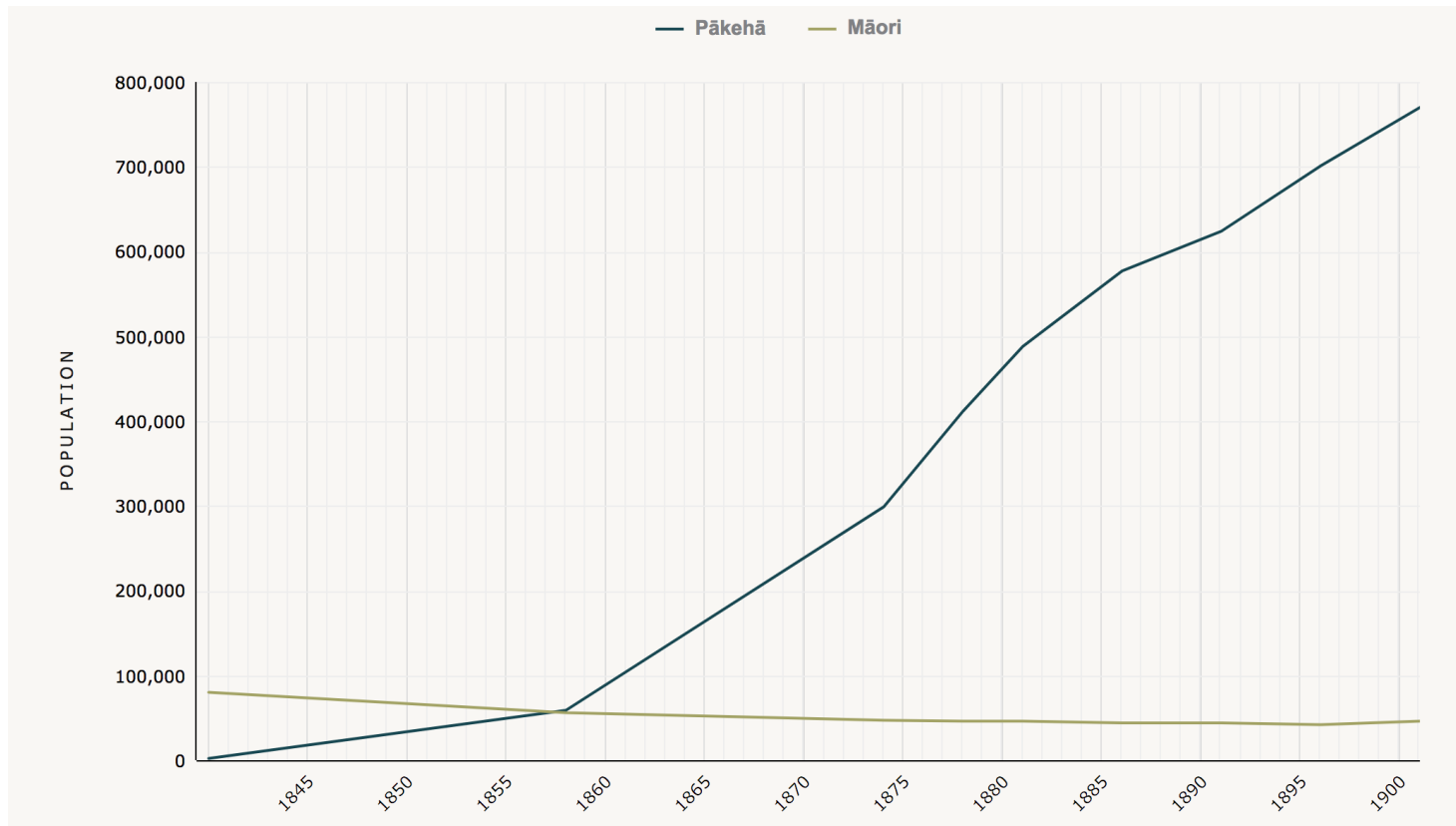
## Preamble

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



Source: <https://teara.govt.nz/en/graph/36364/maori-and-european-population-numbers-1840-1881>



# But MIA in Immigration Policy + Practice

## Oath of Allegiance

"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.**

Policy settings: No transparent and meaningful mechanism for Māori/iwi influence over decision-making relating to immigration – nationally or sub-nationally

Something missing here??

## Includes reference to Te Tiriti

Citizenship Act 1977



Immigration Act 2009



Fisheries Act 1983 | State Owned Enterprises Act 1986 | Conservation Act 1987 | Resource Management Act 1991 | Crown Minerals Act 1991 |





# Māori positioned as anti-immigration/migrants

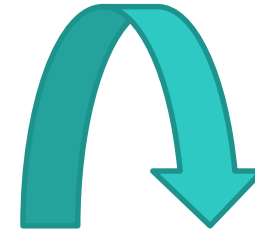
## Maori more important?

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’

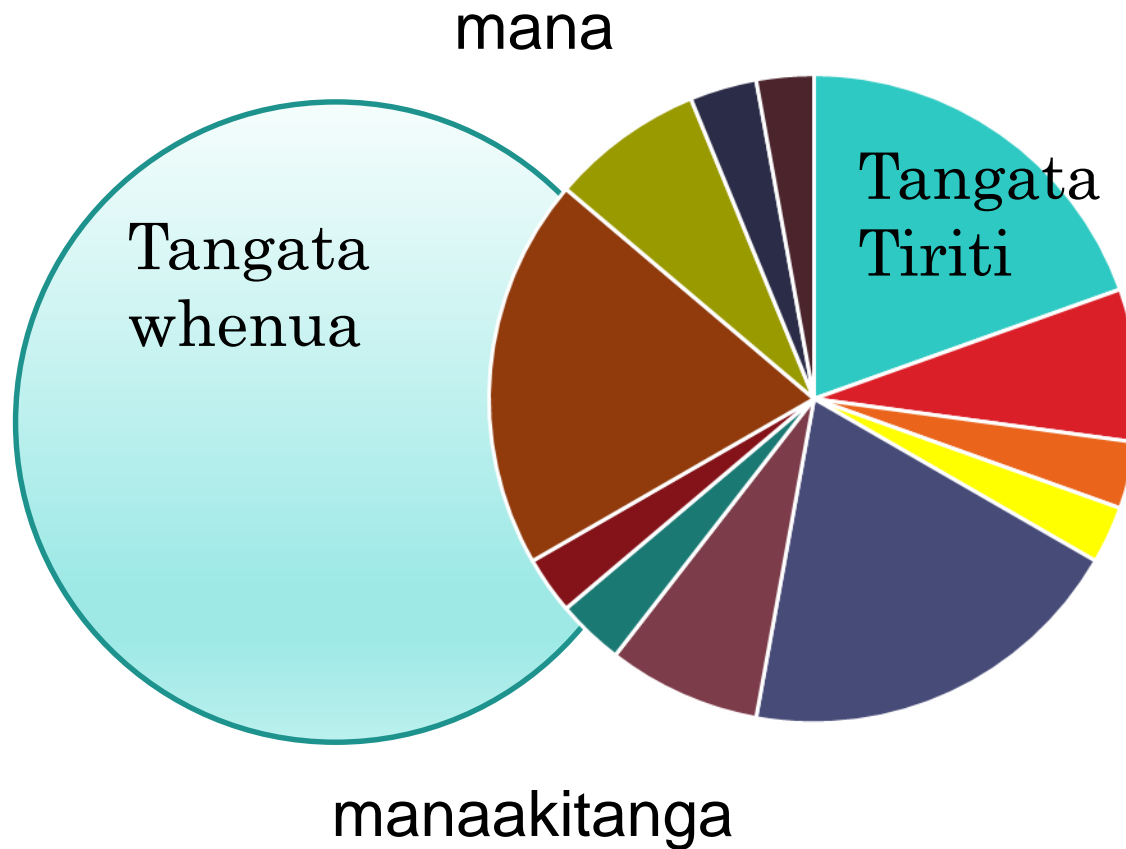


# Shortcomings of 'separate spheres'

- 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'







# 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?

Acceptance of diversity	Ethnicity (Level 1)			
	Euro.	Maori	Pacific	Asian
Feeling comfortable/very comfortable about a new neighbour who was ...				
from a religious minority	75.9	74.8	79.9	75.6
gay/lesbian/bisexual/transgender	77.1	77.9	67.4	66.1
a racial/ethnic minority	76.3	69.8	67.8	73.6
had a mental illness	53.4	59.2	49.6	39.6
a new migrant	75.9	73.3	74.7	81.6



# GSS 2016

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>

