



ASSR News

Te Rōpū Kairangahau Tikanga-ā-iwi o Aotearoa Pānui

September 2010

October Forum

Speakers: Nick Farland (Families Commission) and Teresa Pomeroy (Ministry of Social Development)

Topic: 'It's not OK!' family violence campaign

Date: Wednesday October 6, 2010

Time: 12:15 - 1:15 pm

Place: L1, Department of Internal Affairs, Waring Taylor St., Wellington

Abstract: This month's forum will feature the 'It's not OK!' family violence campaign. Recently awarded the Prime Minister's Supreme Award for Excellence by IPANZ, this campaign continues to mobilise action around physical, emotional and sexual violence.

Nick Farland (Families Commission) and Teresa Pomeroy (Ministry of Social Development) from the campaign team will outline the strategy and ongoing implementation, including formative and monitoring research. They welcome questions from the floor, so please come prepared for an interactive session.

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Convenor's Corner

Nau mai, haere mai and welcome

It has been an eventful month and right across the country we have all been touched by these happenings in some way. We have experienced unseasonably extreme weather conditions, a devastating earthquake (and then some), the passing of cherished kaumātua, Commonwealth Games team drama (and long before the Opening Ceremony no less), political gaffes and goings, and concerns about the impacts of the imminent 2.5 percent GST rise (with a corresponding increase in TV advertising for consumer sales). For those of us in Wellington, Spring Equinox arrived and with it the vigorous (more than usual) gales we can expect in the coming months. All of which is balanced out by our delight at Daylight Savings, and its promise of increased sunlight hours and warmer eves.

At a recent evaluation conference in Wellington, an Australian researcher working in a large commercial research company spoke on the interface between technological advancements and social research and evaluation – in particular, the implications for research ethics. It prompted some thought – both in terms of reflexivity as a researcher, but also as members of a national research organisation with a current and well recognized Code of Ethics. *Read more about this topic on Page 2*

Please invite colleagues, and students in your networks to join ASSR at: <http://assr.org.nz/join.html>

Motivation and time?

Please help us develop ASSR. or to assist in the preparation of the News contact:

the Co-convenors:

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Discussion Piece

Where is technology taking research and are our ethical frameworks keeping up?

The proliferation of new digital technologies is making ever more tools available to us social researchers for collecting information. Some of the newer research methods that are now being used include online panels, disposable video recorders, online focus groups and bulletin boards, portable eye-tracking technology, SMS surveys, and social media web-crawlers.

Need a glossary? I must admit I did – so I turned to Wikipedia and here is what I turned up:

- Online panels: A custom online panel (also known as Internet access panel, customer advisory panel, proprietary panel or online research panel) is a group of pre-screened respondents who have expressed a willingness to participate in [surveys](#) and/or [customer feedback](#) sessions. Respondents become 'panelists' by completing a [profiling questionnaire](#) on [demographics](#), [lifestyle](#) characteristics and media habits, which provides a basis for future survey participation. The panel can range in size from 100 to 100,000 or more people. Unlike renting [sample](#), this is a dedicated group that market researchers can engage with and learn from over time. At a moment's notice researchers can investigate the [attitudes](#), [behaviour](#) and [opinions](#) of existing or potential customers using interactive surveys, discussion forums and 3D retail environments. Results are available instantly and responses can be tracked over time. A growing phenomenon in the [market research](#) industry. These panels bridge the gap between a population that is reluctant to cooperate with telephone surveys and the organizations that need to know their perceptions and attitudes more than ever before. Interestingly, they can include children as young as 14 years of age, with a generic parental consent, to participate in research.
- Disposable video recorders and digital cameras: This one pretty much speaks for itself.
- Online focus groups: A moderator invites prescreened, qualified respondents who represent the target of interest to log on to conferencing software at a pre-arranged time and to take part in an online focus group. In essence, ideal participant numbers, timeframes, the use of visual stimuli, and moderator skill operate as they would with in-person focus groups. As with face to face groups, respondents interact with each other as well as the moderator in real time to generate deeper insights about the topic. Online focus groups may be used for consumer and political research. Interacting over the web avoids a significant amount of travel expense. It allows respondents from all over the world to gather, electronically. Arguably – in a mixed methodology context - it might allow for a more representative sample. Some respondents may open up more online than they would in person, which is potentially valuable for sensitive subjects. In addition to the savings on travel, online focus groups often can be accomplished faster than traditional groups because respondents are recruited from online panel members who are often qualified to match research criteria. There are a variety of software options, most of which offer similar features but can vary significantly in price. Choice of software would require ensuring that it is easy enough to use by both you as a researcher and your participants, and that will meet your research needs effectively - just as choice of facilities are a consideration for face to face groups.
- Online Bulletin boards: [Internet forums](#) are becoming a global replacement for traditional corridor pinboards. The terms bulletin board, message board and even internet forum are used interchangeably, although often one bulletin board can contain a number of internet forums or discussion groups.

3 Discussion Piece Cont...

- Portable eye-tracking technology: Eye tracking is the process of measuring either the point of [gaze](#) (where we are looking) or the motion of an eye relative to the head. An eye tracker is a device for measuring eye positions and [eye movement](#). Eye trackers are used in research on the [visual system](#), in psychology, in [cognitive linguistics](#) and in product design. There are a number of methods for measuring eye movement. The most popular variant uses video images from which the eye position is extracted. Other methods use [search coils](#) or are based on the [electrooculogram](#). A variety of disciplines use eye tracking techniques, including [cognitive science](#), [psychology](#) (notably [psycholinguistics](#), the visual world paradigm), [human-computer interaction](#) (HCI), [marketing research](#) and medical research (neurological diagnosis). Specific applications include the tracking eye movement in [language reading](#), [music reading](#), human [activity recognition](#), the perception of advertising, and the playing of sport. Other uses include in-vehicle research, human research, primate research and commercial (such as web or survey usability, advertising, and marketing).
- SMS (Short message Service) surveys: Surveys conducted where the survey is sent to respondents' mobile phones via text messaging, and responses are returned by text message.
- Social media web-crawlers: A Web crawler is a computer program that browses the [World Wide Web](#) in a methodical, automated manner. Also known as ants, automatic indexers, bots or Web spiders, Web robots, or Web scutters. The process is called Web crawling or spidering. Many sites, in particular [search engines](#), use spidering as a means of providing up-to-date data. Web crawlers are mainly used to create a copy of all the visited pages for later processing by a search engine that will [index](#) the downloaded pages to provide fast searches. Crawlers can also be used for automating maintenance tasks on a Web site, such as checking links or validating [HTML](#) code. Crawlers can also be directed to gather specific types of information from Web pages, such as harvesting e-mail addresses (usually for [spam](#)). In general, it starts with a list of [URLs](#) to visit, called the seeds. As the crawler visits these URLs, it identifies all the [hyperlinks](#) in the page and adds them to the list of URLs to visit, called the crawl frontier. URLs from the frontier are recursively visited according to a set of policies. In the context of research, webcrawler companies offer services to trawl social media sites (like Bebo, MySpace and Facebook) and their webpages for information (yours and mine that is) on defined social and political issues, policy and programme topics. Searches may target specific demographic groups through select websites and pages (where you might expect to find those target groups). A bot might be reviewing your online commentary right this moment.

All of the above technologies are interesting in that they can be used to engage people in research who would be difficult to access, or who would choose not participate through traditional research methods. They can provide information for research not available through other means. If you haven't used these tools in your research yourself yet (I haven't) chances are your more technically savvy social research colleagues have, and these things are becoming commonplace among some of the larger social and market research companies. A shameless aside - if you happen to know someone who is using such tools, let them know we would be very interested to share their insights on this through an ASSR forum or guest column!

The use of such technological tools for research raises many questions. To what extent do we need to review our current codes of ethics and (as suggested in the recent presentation I attended) - our notions of ethics whatsoever? The way the media industry uses some of these technologies would likely not meet the same standards of human ethics that inform social research practice. Is the increasing use of social media online blurring the issues? Should we be concerned?

Consider the case of research that uses information gained from social media web-crawlers or bulletin boards. What happens to the notion of consent? And are we talking about the consent of the webmaster, or the social media users like you and I? Is the privacy issue about privacy per se, or is it just about anonymity? Does it matter that the researcher knows only that a comment was made, or is it important to know that you or I made that comment? Or the context in which we made it, or the meaning we subscribe to it?

Some companies researching with youth are giving young people disposable video and digital cameras with instructions to record their lives and responses to consumer items. Those young people can give their consent to taping their family or friends' activities. They may even be asked to snowball – and pass the camera and instructions on to another young person for the same again. An incentive is paid on return of the camera (high enough to ensure its return). Would the research participants recorded through the lenses of those young people even know they are in the frame? What about their consent?

Given the new and emerging research methods we ought to be thinking more about what technology means for existing human ethics frameworks, and our own personal values (and epistemological, ontological and methodological frameworks) . To what extent is our ASSR Code of Ethics applicable to, and adequate for, future research methods using new technologies? To what extent should we maintain our ethical codes to keep up with ever-changing technology and the multiple ethical questions it might throw up? Which ethical values are most important to us? Protection from harm. Protection of privacy. Social justice. Are these notions being challenged by the advent of new technologies?

To what extent can or should codes be all-encompassing or exhaustive anyway? Where do our personal ethics come into play? Arguably in the necessary process we undertake to deliberate the potential advantages of research (and broader notions of the advancement of human knowledge) against the potential ethical and risks to people of information gathering using particular approaches and methods. To what extent are we as researchers responsible for anticipating what our research might mean for our intended (or unintended) research participants and for undertaking the 'reasonable woman/man test'? Perhaps the overarching premise is that in terms of ethical judgments, a code or framework ought not to be an ideal standard to work towards, rather a base to start from.

Paula White, ASSR Co-convenor

September 2010

Regional Updates

All Regions

- ◆ Make use of the new ASSR bulletin board forums at www.assr.org.nz/forums to make contact with members in other regions; seek assistance and advice; raise issues for discussion, and organise local events.
Register and login using your first and last name and your preferred email address.
- ◆ Motu organises seminars in regional centres: Auckland and Wellington (and occasionally elsewhere). For more information see http://www.motu.org.nz/events#ongoing_seminars .

Auckland

Knowledge Auckland is an Information Community developed by the Auckland Regional Council, New Zealand Trade and Enterprise, and the Department of Labour. It is a place to find and share useful research and data about the Auckland region. At: www.knowledgeauckland.org.nz

- ◆ **Knowledge Auckland** economic [updates](#), In this month's update: • The State of the Auckland Economy • Household Labour Force Survey • The Outlook for Auckland. and • the [Regional Update](#): at: www.knowledgeauckland.org.nz/home/economic/economic_home.cfm.
- ◆ **Monitor Auckland** (<http://monitorauckland.arc.govt.nz>) another Auckland Regional Council initiative, publishes indicators of progress and change in the Auckland region.
- ◆ **Motu Economic and Public Policy Research**, the [Motu Seminar series](#) in cooperation with the University of Auckland Masters in Public Policy Programme, is organising a series of free seminars over the next few months

September Forum Report

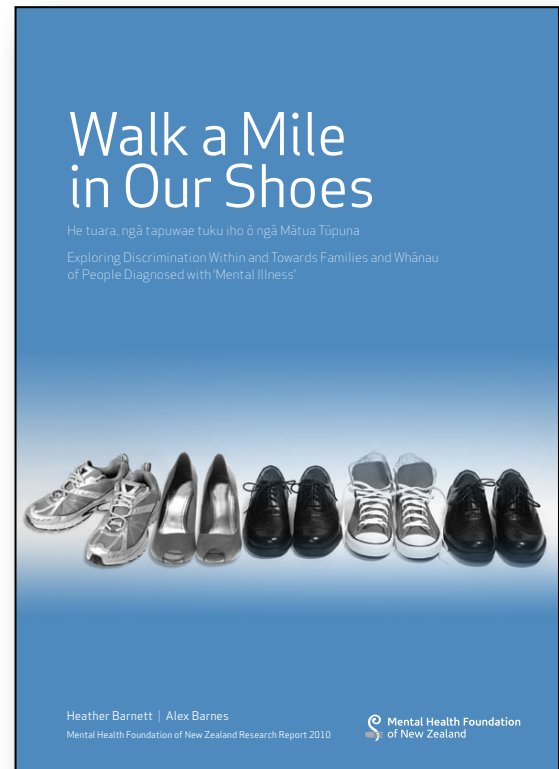
Dr Heather Barnett, Senior Researcher/Policy Analyst, from the Mental Health Foundation of New Zealand gave an overview and discussion of the Foundation's latest research. The research, called *Walk a Mile in Our Shoes He tuara, ngā tapuwae tuku iho o ngā Mātua Tūpuna. Exploring Discrimination Within and Towards Families and Whānau of People Diagnosed with 'Mental Illness'*, was recently launched by the Associate Minister of Health Dr Johnathan Coleman.ⁱ

The Mental Health Foundation is a non-government organisation with a variety of work streams, including mental health promotion, Like Minds Like Mine against discrimination work, policy and research, suicide prevention information, and a national resource and information centre. The Foundation's goal is to make mental health everybody's business.ⁱⁱ

The Research

The following summary provides an outline of the Foundation's research to explore discrimination within and towards families and whānau of people diagnosed with 'mental illness' and to identify strategies to overcome these forms of discrimination. The research is a part of The Like Minds, Like Mine programme which is designed to counter stigma and discrimination associated with mental illness and is funded by the Ministry of Health.

The New Zealand Human Rights Commission states that discrimination occurs when a person is treated unfairly or less favourably than another person in the same or similar circumstances. In accordance with the *Like Minds, Like Mine National Plan 2007-2013* (Ministry of Health, 2007) this research is grounded in a human rights approach and informed by a social model of disability. The Treaty of Waitangi provides a foundational framework for relationships with tāngata whenua and informed the values that underpin the research.



Background

This project emerged from previous research undertaken by the Mental Health Foundation of New Zealand titled *Respect Costs Nothing* (Peterson, Pere et al, 2004). In this research 59% of people with experience of mental illness reported being discriminated against by families and friends. International research also suggests that families are a key source of discrimination. However, families themselves can be subject to discrimination which may impede the family's ability to provide support and enhance recovery.

The presence and meaning of discrimination within families is compounded by the unique nature of families and whānau, family perceptions of the causes of mental illness, issues associated with the family or whānau support role, and a background of childhood adversity, family violence and/or dysfunction within family relationships.

Discrimination towards families reflects a society wide tendency to view mental illness as a source of shame, embarrassment and/or fear. This view is often fuelled by a lack of appropriate information about mental illness and recovery. Mental health services have also been identified as a key source of discrimination towards families.

Strategies to reduce discrimination are diverse. However, strategies tailored to the unique nature of families and whānau, and the particular nature of families' relationships and roles have rarely been explored. This research is based on the premise that discrimination *towards* families and whānau can impact on discrimination *within* families and whānau.

Methodology

Grounded in a qualitative methodology, this research involved nine focus groups and one multi-region discussion forum. Separate focus groups were held with consumers,ⁱⁱⁱ tāngata whai ora,^{iv} families and whānau. One focus group included Pacific families and consumers together. There were also specific focus groups for Māori, Chinese, two general (non-specific ethnicity) focus groups and young adults. Participants were recruited through a range of organisations and networks connected to the mental health sector. The discussion forum, based on a dialogue approach, brought together a sub-group of families, whānau, consumers and tāngata whai ora. A total of 85 adults participated in the focus groups, and 19 adults participated in the discussion forum.

Meanings of Discrimination

Participants generally agreed about the meaning of discrimination as it relates to mental illness. Participants identified derogatory language used to talk about mental illness. They also identified the biomedical model, an imbalance of power, clinician's negative attitudes and limited knowledge base, and mental health service practices as a key source of discrimination. Multi-dimensional discrimination was also identified. While there was general consensus about the meaning of discrimination at an abstract level, participants varied in their interpretation of the meaning of discrimination as it related to their own families or whānau.

Discrimination Within Families and Whānau: Consumer and Tāngata Whai Ora Perspectives

Consumers and tāngata whai ora spoke of the diverse nature of discrimination within their families and whānau. Discrimination was often associated

with shame. They reported that many families hid or denied mental illness, refuted environmental causation, and used derogatory language and/or called the family member offensive names. Families were perceived as having significantly reduced expectations of the consumer or tāngata whai ora, pathologising 'ordinary' emotions and behaviours, and appraising realistic needs (e.g. the need for time out, rest, quietness) in a negative way. Only one participant reported that there was *no* discrimination within their family or whānau. Many of the tāngata whai ora reported that overt discrimination and adverse relationships had resulted in alienation or estrangement from whānau of origin.

Some consumers noted that attitudes and behaviours within their families had improved with increased knowledge and awareness. Many consumers, and especially tāngata whai ora, held hope that their families or whānau would gain greater awareness of mental illness, be better able to understand consumer or tāngata whai ora needs and experiences, and increase their capacity to engage in more healthy and respectful relationships.

Discrimination Within Families and Whānau: Family and Whānau Perspectives

Pacific and Chinese families reported the presence of discrimination within their families. The general focus groups, whānau and young adults groups initially reported that there was little if any discrimination within their families or whānau. Subsequent discussions revealed that discrimination was present within the general and young adults' families. The whānau group spoke of the presence of discrimination in others whānau.

Families and whānau responded in diverse ways to the presence of mental illness within the family and often experienced an array of conflicting feelings. Families often reported fear and blame. Some treated the consumer or tāngata whai ora differently from others in the family. Some wanted the family member to change their behaviour or ways of living. Families were often keen to differentiate negative behaviours they associated with mental illness from negative behaviours associated with a family member's 'personality'. Difficulties associated with recreational drug taking were addressed. Many families spoke of communication and relationship difficulties. Families also reported challenges associated with adapting to a family member's progress and recovery. A minority spoke of calling the family member derogatory names and some assumed decision making authority irrespective of the family member's consent.

Stress and pressure associated with providing primary support sometimes resulted in frustration and aggression towards the family member. Sometimes families excluded a family member from social events, or distanced themselves, to avoid embarrassment or potential disruption. A minority sought legal or compulsory medical intervention when the behaviour of a family member became too harmful or difficult for the family to manage.

Discrimination Towards Families and Whānau

Participants identified three key sources of discrimination. These included: a) mental health services; b) extended family and whānau; and c) societal norms, media stereotypes and the general social milieu. Other less common sources of discrimination were also identified.

Participants across all focus groups (except the Chinese group) identified mental health services as the most prominent source of discrimination towards families and whānau. The dominance of a biomedical approach, the absence of a holistic conceptual framework and lack of endorsement of cultural worldviews was regarded as discriminatory. Discrimination also reflected negative staff attitudes and behaviours such as not providing information, not consulting or including families or whānau, and blaming and/or criticising parents or parent figures. Chinese participants viewed New Zealand mental health services favourably but did not like the lack of consultation and inclusion of families.

Participants from all focus groups identified extended families and whānau as a key source of discrimination. Discrimination towards families and whānau took various forms including disparaging comments, hiding or ignoring mental illness, judging or blaming the family or viewing the family member as 'bad' or behaving 'badly'. Most participants thought this reflected a lack of awareness, information and knowledge about mental illness, shame and embarrassment, fears of being 'contaminated' and fear related to beliefs about the genetic nature of mental illness.

Participants identified societal norms, media stereotypes and the general social milieu as perpetuating discrimination. The label 'schizophrenia' was regarded as particularly stigmatising and a key source of discrimination. A minority of participants reported discrimination from friends, social networks, churches and clergy, employers and colleagues, and police.

Friends, social networks, churches, clergy, employers and colleagues, and police were also identified as a source of discrimination.

Understanding Discrimination – Complexities and Tensions

This research highlighted how the notion of discrimination in relation to families and whānau is complex. Several contextual factors impact on discrimination within the family or whānau. These include: the unique nature of the family or whānau; challenges associated with being a primary support person; and difficulties associated with dealing with challenging behaviour associated with a family member's mental illness. Issues relating to severe family dysfunction, child abuse and other childhood adversity were emphasised in terms of understanding 'mental illness'. Recognizing consumer and tāngata whai ora rights to determine family or whānau involvement in treatment processes was also addressed. Participants across focus groups identified staff attitudes and behaviours as a source of discrimination and recognised that contextual variables impact on staff practices and interactions with consumers and families. There were widespread calls for a fundamental shift in thinking about mental illness from a dominant biomedical approach to one which is holistic and embodies cultural worldviews. The research identified how the terminology used to talk about discrimination in relation to families and whānau may require a more critical approach. The unique context of families and whānau also requires a particular lens with which to understand discriminatory attitudes and behaviours.

Strategies to Counter Discrimination Within and Towards Families and Whānau

Participants in this research identified an array of strategies that they believed would reduce discrimination relating to families and whānau. Strategies identified by participants cohere around seven key themes. These include:

- ✓ mental health services
- ✓ public education
- ✓ peer support and other support groups
- ✓ primary and secondary schools
- ✓ utilising cultural leaders and promoting communication and traditional Māori values across communities
- ✓ modelling other successful initiatives or campaigns
- ✓ media and social networking.

Concluding Comments

The nature and range of attitudes and behaviours participants identified as discriminatory suggest that the terminology used to talk about discrimination may require more critical appraisal. The unique context, dynamics, histories and relationships within families and whānau also mean there is a need for a particular lens with which to understand family and whānau related discrimination.

Many participants reported difficulties knowing if the attitudes they held, or the way they behaved, were discriminatory. Extended families, staff in mental health services and others may also experience similar difficulties. Explicitly naming the behaviours participants identified as discriminatory may lead to better identification of discrimination. The five Ds includes behaving in ways that are:

- Derogatory
- Disrespectful
- Dismissive
- Demeaning and/or
- Degrading

A key conclusion that can be drawn from this research is that issues relating to power dynamics, relationships and communication underpin discriminatory behaviour. It is well known that healthy, respectful and empowering relationships are critical to healthy family functioning (Ministry of Social Development, 2009) and recovery (Mental Health Advocacy Coalition, 2008). It seems prudent that strategies to reduce discrimination attend to the broader context of relationships, address power imbalances and the quality of communication.

Whānau Ora provides a holistic and overarching framework that locates the whānau at the heart of health and wellbeing. This approach offers an integrated and holistic way to enhance the collective strengths of whānau. Whānau Ora embodies the principles necessary to create thriving relationships, to generate empathy and correct behaviour, and to nurture the kinds of relationships necessary to build family or whānau capacity.

The concepts underpinning Whānau Ora can be applied to all types of relationships in ways that can reduce discrimination within and towards families and whānau. Whānau Ora provides a conceptual and service implementation framework for endorsement of a holistic understanding of mental illness and its causes, family and whānau inclusive practice, and multi-faceted approaches necessary to recovery, healing and wellbeing.

This research has highlighted the power of dialogue in increasing self awareness and acknowledging discriminatory attitudes and behaviours within families

and whānau. The discussion forum revealed power imbalances, and facilitated awareness of unhealthy patterns of communication and relationships that may impede recovery and/or exacerbate mental illness. The implementation of a series of dialogue forums (comprised of a mix of consumers, tāngata whai ora, families, whānau, extended families and staff from mental health services) could be an effective strategy for facilitating a shift in understanding about mental illness, thereby reducing discrimination within and towards families and whānau.

Many of the strategies participants recommended to reduce discrimination are currently provided as part of the Like Minds, Like Mine programme. Participants expressed a strong demand for these services but called for greater reach, more availability and the provision of services and/or resources tailored to different demographic groups. Participants emphasised the need for information about these kinds of services and resources to be made available as part of routine practice and at various points of contact with mental health services. The Like Minds advertisements were highly commended and suggestions were made to extend the advertisements to target discrimination relating to the label of 'schizophrenia'.

The role of healthy functioning families and whānau in reducing discrimination, as well as in reducing the development of mental illness, cannot be overstated. There is significant potential for future research to explore the ways a broader analytical framework can be utilised to reduce discrimination and increase family and whānau capacity and wellbeing.

One man who participated in the research quoted a kaumatua he had spoken to about traditional perceptions of mental illness and the way tāngata whai ora should be regarded.

He ōrite te mana o tena o tena o tena.

Mana is the same of that person, of that person, of that person.

Everyone is the same. Everyone has the same mana regardless

of who or what they are.

These words capture the essence of the Mental Health Foundation and Like Minds, Like Mine work to counter discrimination.

References

Mental Health Advocacy Coalition (2008). *Destination: Recovery: Te ūnga ki uta: Te o oranga*. Auckland, New Zealand: Mental Health Foundation of New Zealand

Ministry of Health (2007) *Like Minds, Like Mine National Plan 2007-2013. Programme to Counter Stigma and Discrimination Associated with Mental Illness*. Wellington, New Zealand: Ministry of Health *continues*

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Ministry of Social Development (2009) *The Social Report 2009 Te Pūronga Oranga Tāngata 2009*. Wellington, New Zealand: Ministry of Social Development. <http://www.socialreport.msd.govt.nz/social-connectedness/index.html> Retrieved 30 March 2010

Peterson, D., Pere, L., Sheehan, N. & Surgenor, G. (2004) *Respect Costs Nothing*. Auckland, New Zealand: Mental Health Foundation of New Zealand.

Research Report

A PDF of the research report *Walk A Mile in Our Shoes* can be found at the Mental Health Foundation's web Resource Finder. Select the search term 'discrimination' and select 'report' <http://www.mentalhealth.org.nz/resourcefinder/index.php?c=listings&m=results&topic=21&type=19&publisher=&keywords=Keyword%28s%29> or try: http://www.mentalhealth.org.nz/file/downloads/pdf/file_293.pdf

A free printed copy of the *Walk A Mile in Our Shoes* report can be obtained by ordering online at the Foundation's Shop <http://www.mentalhealth.org.nz/shop/> or by emailing the Foundation's Resource and Information Service resource@mentalhealth.org.nz and requesting the research report.

Citation: Barnett, H. & Barnes, A. (2010) *Walk a Mile in Our Shoes He tuara, ngā tapuwae tuku iho o ngā Mātua Tūpuna. Exploring Discrimination Within and Towards Families and Whānau of People Diagnosed with 'Mental Illness'*. Auckland, New Zealand: Mental Health Foundation of New Zealand

Endnotes

- i. See LMLM Quarterly Newsletter <http://www.likeminds.org.nz/file/Newsletter-Archive/PDFs/lmlm-newsletter-41.pdf>
- ii. Some attendees at the forum were keen to know the difference between the Mental Health Foundation and the Mental Health Commission. The latter is a crown entity established under an Act of parliament. The Commission's role is to lead and influence the implementation of The National Mental Health Strategy ([Te Tahuhu](#)) with a key focus on mental health services. Both the Foundation and the Commission work to reduce stigma and discrimination, and promote the rights of people who experience psychological distress or are diagnosed with 'mental illness'.
- iii. The term consumer is used to refer to people who have experience of mental illness.
- iv. The term tāngata whai ora is used to refer to Māori who are seeking wellness.



The Foundation relies on donations to continue its work to improve the mental health of all people and communities in Aotearoa New Zealand. We welcome donations which can be made by visiting:

Donate Now at: <http://www.mentalhealth.org.nz/forms/show/donate-online/>

Social Science News

from the Royal Society of New Zealand

The recently reconfigured Royal Society Social Sciences Advisory Panel details available: <http://www.royalsociety.org.nz/organisation/panels/social-science/members/>

The Panel's terms of Reference are here: <http://www.royalsociety.org.nz/organisation/panels/social-science/terms-of-reference> The Panel publishes a Pānui reporting on the panels work program and committee meetings on the RSNZ website found here: <http://www.royalsociety.org.nz/organisation/panels/social-science/panui> (note the June 2010 Pānui download URL is labeled *Social Science Panui May 2010*)

Invitation to attend Royal Society New Fellows' Seminar – Wellington, Wednesday 6 October 2010 from 1 pm - public welcome

The Academy of the Royal Society of New Zealand is holding its 2010 New Fellows' Seminar. At this seminar, Eight Fellows elected to the Royal Society of New Zealand in November 2009 will each give 15 minute presentations on their research. The talks will be pitched at a general audience. **All interested people are invited to attend.** The speakers and their topics, in order, are:

- Professor Raylene Ramsay: Writing a Cultural History of the French-Speaking Pacific. The Case of Kanaky-New Caledonia
- Professor Hamish Spencer: Explaining genetic variation in natural populations
- Dr Philippa Gander: Managing sleep, safety, and health in a 24/7 world
- Professor Alistair Gunn: Saving babies' brains: timing is everything
- Professor Andrew Mercer: Viruses and us: it's not all bad news
- Professor David Norton: An accidental Bible scholar
- Professor Andrew Pullan: Modelling, mapping and manipulating electrical activity of the stomach
- Professor Margaret Tennant: A 'Lost Continent on the Social Landscape of Our World'? Historical Encounters with the Voluntary Sector.
- Enquiries to: gill.sutherland@royalsociety.org.nz

Two Cultures, One Society

A series of lectures

Each year, RSNZ focus some events around an annual theme. In 2010, the Royal Society of New Zealand extended its Academy to include researchers from the Humanities. With the increasing specialisation in the generation of knowledge, we have realised that the use and transfer of this knowledge can only be achieved through cross-disciplinary dialogue. There are differences in the ways in which the arts and the sciences produce knowledge and in the bodies of knowledge on which they draw. But these differences point to interdependence rather than exclusivity, to connectedness rather than separation. [The New Zealand Aronui Lecture Series](#) will be considering this connectivity in the lecture Two Cultures 50 Years On by Baroness Onora O'Neill from UK. All lectures are free and open to the general public. More information can be found [online](#)

- **Auckland**, Wednesday 15 September- "Two Cultures Fifty Years On" 6.30pm, Lecture Theatre WA220, WA Building, Wellesley Street entrance, AUT City Campus, Auckland [Register Here](#)
- **Hamilton**, Thursday 16 September - "Grasping Freedom of Speech" 7.30pm, Gallagher Concert Chamber, Academy of Performing Arts, University of Waikato [Register Here](#)
- **Auckland**, Friday 17 September - "Grasping Freedom of Speech" 6.00pm, Old Government House Lecture Theatre, cnr Princes Street and Waterloo Quadrant, The University of Auckland [Register Here](#)
- **Palmerston North**, Monday 20 September - "Two Cultures Fifty Years On" 5.30pm Japan Lecture Theatre, University House, Massey University Campus [Register Here](#)
- **Wellington**, Tuesday 21 September - "Two Cultures Fifty Years On" 7.30pm, Ilott Theatre, Wellington Town Hall [Register Here](#)
- **Christchurch**, Wednesday 22 September - "Two Cultures Fifty Years On" 6.00pm, The Great Hall, Arts Centre [Register Here](#)
- **Dunedin**, Thursday 23 September - "Perverting Trust" 5.30pm, St David Lecture Theatre, cnr St David and Castle Street, University of Otago [Register Here](#)

*RSNZ opportunities***Sarah Beanland Memorial Scholarship - call for applications**

A prestige scholarship for PhD study in the areas of earth, physical, biological and social sciences. Applications Deadline 20 October 2010. Eligibility and to applications: <http://www.gns.cri.nz/news/fellowships/sarahbeanland.html>

Marsden Fund Council vacancies – nominations close 8 October 2010 Eminent scientists are sought to fill three vacancies on the Marsden Fund Council and to convene a funding panel in their relevant academic area. The positions will convene the following panels:

- Biomedical Sciences
- Physics, Chemistry and Biochemistry
- **Social Sciences**

More detailed descriptions of the subject areas covered by each panel are shown on the Royal Society's website at <http://www.royalsociety.org.nz/programmes/funds/marsden/>

Casting the net

*also see the **Calendar***

BRCSS Building Research Capability in the Social Sciences Network website is back up.

Please note that previous bookmarked URLs lack the “.nz” portion of the address, e.g., www.BRCSS.net will take you to a german website, whereas, the url www.BRCSS.net.nz will get you to where your intending.

SPEaR: www.spear.govt.nz/. [Job opportunities](#), [Funding](#), [Events and sector news](#), International and [NZ Research Centre links](#). Very useful and updated regularly.

Royal Society of New Zealand Social Sciences: http://www.royalsociety.org.nz/Site/About/Our_structure/advisory/social_science/default.aspx - *Recently updated!* and the

RSNZ Social Sciences Pānui: <http://www.royalsociety.org.nz/organisation/panels/social-science/panui>

Websites to monitor:

- * American conferences: <http://www.aeaweb.org/RFE/conferences.php>
- * UK Conferences: <http://www.intute.ac.uk/socialsciences/>
- * General conference search engine: http://socialsciences.academickeys.com/conf_main.php
- * Australia and Asia: <http://coombs.anu.edu.au>
- * EU conferences: http://ec.europa.eu/research/social-sciences/events_en.html
- * OECD: [Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development](http://www.oecd.org/)
- NZ community hui, conferences, and events: [CommunityNet Aotearoa New Zealand](http://www.community.net.nz/communitycentre/events/Default.htm?Region=default) <http://www.community.net.nz/communitycentre/events/Default.htm?Region=default>
- Footprint Books – some of the latest publications www.footprint.com.au
- Knowledge Auckland: www.knowledgeauckland.org.nz
- ANGOA: Association of NGOs of Aotearoa: www.angoa.org.nz/pages/news.php A very useful resource, with an wide regional, and organisational base.
- [Good Practice Participate](http://www.goodpracticeparticipate.govt.nz/): From the Office of the Community & Voluntary Sector. Helping government employees follow good community engagement practices – case-studies, useful links and further reading. <http://www.goodpracticeparticipate.govt.nz/>
- Tertiary Research Online: The [Kiwi Research Information Service](http://www.kiwiresearchinformation.org.nz/), National Library of NZ, A selection of research articles and theses produced in NZ universities and polytechnics.

- [The Clearing House](#) Clears research and other resources for Tangata Whenua, Community and Voluntary Sector. Sharing your research. Resources and (162) researchers available for your projects. www.communityresearch.org.nz/
- [CommunityNet Aotearoa](#) View the events calendar on [CommunityNet Aotearoa now...](#)
- [Database of New Zealand Mental Health Research](#) - published, unpublished or research currently in progress that relates to mental health and addiction. <http://www.tepou.co.nz>

Funding Resources on the web

- [Dept. Internal Affairs Grants Online](#): <http://www.cdgo.govt.nz/>
- [Funding Information Service](#): A subscriber based funding database: <http://www.fis.org.nz/>
- [Community Net's](#) funding page: <http://www.community.net.nz/how-toguides/funding/>
- Also look at [Ngatahi: Newsletter of Hutt City Council Community and Youth Development](#). The March issue has very accessible list of annual funding options.
- Royal Society of New Zealand list of funders: <http://www.royalsociety.org.nz/Site/funding/>
- [Health Research Council \(HRC\)](#) The major NZ government-funded agency purchasing and co-ordinating health research and fostering the health research workforce. Mission is "Benefiting New Zealand through Health Research" [Funding Events Calendar](#).
- [Fullbright NZ](#): Promotes educational and cultural exchange between NZ and the US. Education services include advice and reference guides on studying at universities in the US. Also prestigious Study and research awards for [NewZealanders](#), www.fulbright.org.nz/
- [HRC – Health Research Council of New Zealand](#): Funding Opportunities, publications and ethics links.

Funding Available

Asia:NZ [NZASIA Postgraduate Research Awards \(up to \\$5,000\)](#) In early 2010, Asia:NZ announced deeper collaboration with the New Zealand Asian Studies Society through a joint postgraduate research award.

Asia:NZ [Emerging Researcher grant \(\\$6,000\)](#) A grant for emerging researchers in areas relating to Asia:NZ's work, including doing business in Asia, preparing New Zealand for a future with Asia, increasing New Zealand's Asia literacy, Asia in the media, Asian cultural expressions and New Zealand's international relations with Asia. Preference given to post-graduate researchers, new academics and those who have not already received significant funding from other sources. *Next deadline: 20 February 2011.*

Asia:NZ [Big Issues grant \(\\$10,000\)](#) This grant is awarded for research on important contemporary or emerging issues relating to New Zealand's future with Asia. Research may address culture, business, public policy, international relations, education or the media. The grant is intended to support timely, innovative and original research, which will promote debate and discussion on matters relating to Asia and New Zealand, or that has implications for policy and/or business. This is an open research grant for which new or established researchers may apply. *Next deadline: 16 October 2010*

Asia:NZ [Conference Support grant](#) to assist New Zealand institutions in hosting a New Zealand-based conference on a theme related to the work of Asia:NZ. Preference will be given to applications where the grant is to support costs associated with bringing international speakers to New Zealand. The grant will be awarded to an organisation or the host institution, not an individual. It is a requirement that Asia:NZ be acknowledged in all conference materials and publicity. *Next deadline: 15 March 2011.*

International Mobility Fund – call for applications Funding for New Zealand researchers to travel overseas or for overseas researchers to travel to New Zealand to work on joint research projects.

The IMF supports all new, emerging and existing international relationships, specifically with – Australia; Canada; China; Europe (Europe being those countries within the European Union); India; Korea; Latin America; and the USA. - financial support for other countries is limited. *Applications close at 4.00pm on Tuesday 5th October 2010.* Guidelines and application forms download at <http://www.royalsociety.org.nz/programmes/funds/international-relationships/mobility/>.

Weaving Connections

SPEaR: Social Policy Evaluation and Research (SPEaR) Committee Linkages Funding Programme at: <http://www.spear.govt.nz/funding/linkages/apply/linkages-funding.html>. This programme includes: The Social Science Research Award and the Social Science Capability Building Award. Linkages Funding Rounds are on hold. Updates to be posted on the SPEaR website.

Publication: *Mother Pelican* - Vol. 6, No. 10, October 2010, Pelican Web's Journal of Sustainable Development. Current Status of the Millennium Development Goals and links to Key UN and MDG Documents and Resources www.pelicanweb.org/solisustv06n10page1.html

Publication: Characteristics of Chinese service users in an old age psychiatry service in New Zealand (Cheung, G. 2010) The profiles of Chinese service users in a community based old age psychiatry service were recently examined.

Publication: *Walk A Mile in Our Shoes, He tuara, ngā tapuwae tuku iho o ngā Mātua Tūpuna. Exploring Discrimination Within and Towards Families and Whānau of People Diagnosed with 'Mental Illness'* (Heather Barnett & Alex Barnes) Research Report 2010, Mental Health Foundation. http://www.mentalhealth.org.nz/file/downloads/pdf/file_293.pdf

Publication: Outcome evaluation of a community alcohol and other drug intervention programme for offenders serving community sentences in Auckland, New Zealand (Wheeler, A., Websdell, P., Wilson, P., and Pulford, J. 2010). Recidivism and self reported substance use (and impact use) were examined using the Alcohol and Drug Outcome Measure (ADOM) at treatment entry and three and six months post-programme.

Publication: Suicide and the Media research report Te Pou The National Centre of Mental Health Research. Information and Workforce Development, released 1 July 2010. This research (2009) by a team led by Brian McKenna, Centre for Mental Health Research, at the University of Auckland is the first comprehensive baseline of the extent and nature of the reporting of suicide by media in New Zealand. [Signup](#) for the Te Pou E-bulletin.

Publication: Family resilience: The settlement experience for asian immigrant families in New Zealand The Families Commission, released 15 May 2010 by. An innovative Qualitative rather than psychological look at acculturation and resilience. Families Commission [Latest research reports](#); [Archived published research reports](#); [Research funding](#) (current round closed). Excellent [Links to other agencies](#).

Publication: E-newsletter from the Office for the Community & Voluntary Sector (36), 23 September Features news about the community-government relationship, together with sector-related activities, events and publications – that especially promote community engagement, participation and collaboration. Click [here to read](#) the full e-newsletter onscreen or to [print it out](#).

Publication: New Zealand Population Review Vol. 33 & 34 2007/2008 (combined issue) has just been released (Sept 2009) by [PANZ \(Population Association of New Zealand\)](#). PANZ [Membership enquires](#).

Publication: Journal of the Sociological Association of Aotearoa/ New Zealand 25 (1) 2010 is free online.

Publication: Kōtuitui, New Zealand Journal of Social Sciences Free online, Royal Society of New Zealand.

Youth Developments Online data resource responding to the need for better national and sub-national data about young people: <http://www.youthstats.myd.govt.nz/>

Immigrant Selection and the Returns to Human Capital in New Zealand and Australia reports findings on the economic dimensions of the decision to work in Australia or New Zealand for New Zealand-born and Australian-born persons as well as immigrants.

Calendar

Forthcoming Local and World Events

NZ seminars, workshops and lectures are also listed at:

- www.spear.govt.nz/events/index.html
- www.royalsociety.org.nz/tools/events/list.aspx?SECT=Public_Events
- www.community.net.nz/CommunityCentre/Events/default.htm
- [Events | Motu Economic and Public Policy Research](#)

*an asterisk * marks New Zealand events, and local awards to help you find them.*

October

***5th Iwi Social Services: A Māori Perspective, PhD Full Proposal Seminar 2010 Shannon Pakura, VUW School of Government, Rm 501, Railway West Bdg west wing, Wellington. 12.30 - 1.30pm** The Children Young Persons and Their Families Act, 1989 provides a mechanism which confers statutory powers upon Iwi to deliver social services to their members. An Iwi Social Service provides culturally responsive child welfare services to Māori whanau. Despite the proactive intentions of the Act's developers, and the internationally acclaimed elements of the Act, Māori children continue to be over-represented in all categories of care or protection interventions. This research seeks to offer a Māori perspective on the implications of the Act's Iwi Social Services provisions. Māori understandings of Iwi Social Services in practice, and of child welfare, have remained submerged below official discourse, even though that discourse entailed 'cultural responsiveness'. Surfacing and examining Māori voices offers new knowledge in retrospect and new understanding of relevance for improving the delivery of social services to Māori families more generally.

***6th ASSR Forum: 'It's not OK!' family violence campaign.** Nick Farland (Families Commission) & Teresa Pomeroy (Ministry of Social Development) **DIA, Level one Waring Taylor Street, Wellington 12:15 - 1- 15pm**

***6th Invitation to attend Royal Society New Fellows' Seminar – Science House, 11 Turnbull St, Thorndon, Wellington, 1 pm - public is welcome.** The Academy of the Royal Society of New Zealand is holding its 2010 New Fellows' Seminar. At this seminar, 8 Fellows elected to the Royal Society of New Zealand in November 2009 will each give 15 minute presentations on their research. The talks will be pitched at a general audience. All interested people are invited to attend. *Details on page 8.* Enquiries to: gill.sutherland@royalsociety.org.nz

***6th Royal Society Annual General Meeting and Group meetings, Holiday Inn, Featherston street, Wellington.** Constituent Organisations, Regional Constituent Organisations, and Companions will all be holding meetings beginning at 1 pm and concluding about 3.30 pm so that all membership groups can come together for the Members' Annual General Meeting starting at 4 pm. The Annual General Meeting will be followed by Cocktails from 5.30 until 6.30 pm. to be followed by a fellows meeting at 7:30pm. Note: ASSR will have a representative at the constituent organisation meeting.

***8th How Good is Your GP?, Nokuthaba Sibanda. Easterfield LT206, VUW, Wellington. 4:10 - 5:00pm.** The talk focuses on how methods for measuring and comparing performance among healthcare providers have evolved over the last few decades. Quality control techniques that were designed to monitor product quality in manufacturing have been adapted for: 1) continuous monitoring of patient care outcomes to enable timely detection of deterioration in performance, and 2) comparing hospitals to identify those that give the best and worst quality of care. I will discuss the adjustments required to make quality control methods suitable for use with

Calendar

September cont...

healthcare data. I will also review the latest developments in this area. Any queries about this seminar, please email Rob.Goldblatt@msor.vuw.ac.nz

***20th WORLD STATISTICS DAY**, On 20 October 2010, the World will celebrate the first World Statistics Day, to raise awareness of the many achievements of official statistics premised on the core values of service, professionalism and integrity. <http://unstats.un.org/unsd/wsd/> The celebration of the World Statistics Day will acknowledge the service provided by the global statistical system at national and international level, and hope to help strengthen the awareness and trust of the public in official statistics. It serves as an advocacy tool to further support the work of statisticians across different settings, cultures, and domains. On World Statistics Day, activities at national level will highlight the role of official statistics and the many achievements of the national statistical system. International, regional and sub-regional organizations will complement national activities with additional events. In a letter to World Leaders, July 2010, Ban Ki-Moon Secretary-General said "Let us make this historic World Statistics Day a success by acknowledging and celebrating the role of statistics in the social and economic development of our societies and by dedicating further efforts and resources to strengthening national statistical capacity." More info: http://unstats.un.org/unsd/wsd/docs/SecGen_LetterOnWSD.pdf Details of World Statistics Day in New Zealand at <http://unstats.un.org/unsd/wsd/Country.aspx?id=NZL> Statistics New Zealand is launching a 2011 Census education resource kit on http://www.stats.govt.nz/methods_and_services/schools_corner/census.aspx

***21st New Zealand Science and Innovation in the next 20 years, New Zealand Association of Scientists, Wellington Town Hall** The New Zealand Association of Scientists acknowledges that the research community is only a part of New Zealand's innovation system. We want to tease out the various roles, impediments to successful application of knowledge, and how to arrive at a policy language that communicates equally well with all sectors in the innovation system. Hon Dr Wayne Mapp, Professor Sir Peter Gluckman, and Dr Garth Carnaby have agreed to speak, as well as a number of others from all parts of New Zealand, science and innovation system. Speakers include Hon. Dr Wayne Mapp and Professor Sir Peter Gluckman. The full programme is available here: http://nzas.rsnz.org/conference_programme.html Registration is \$180 for members and \$245 for non-members. To register, please complete the registration form. Further details contact Janet Grieve, conference organising committee at j.grieve@niwa.co.nz

25th – 26th International Association for Impact Assessment (IAIA) Climate Change Symposia (1 of 2) in 2010, Aalborg, Denmark. The two events (see also November) will have different presenters and highlight different aspects of climate change and impact assessment, both will bring together climate change experts and impact assessment professionals to address key questions such as: What effects will climate change have on the feasibility, viability and long-term sustainability of policies, plans, programs and projects? · What tools does impact assessment offer for understanding, assessing risk and responding to climate change? · How can impact assessment apply climate change projections to site-specific projects? Also offering a "Nordic Research Day" on 27 October. Info at: <http://iaia.org/iaia-climate-symposium-denmark/> A third symposium is tentatively being planned for Asia. Continue to check www.iaia.org for updates.

***26th - 29th From Discovery to Delivery: Science, Policy, Leadership and Action. 2010 EIANZ Conference, Te Papa, Wellington.** Focused on sound environmental management and biodiversity, streams also include: community action; business leadership, natural resource governance, assessment and monitoring. Call for papers (June 4) from economists, policy analysts, urban designers, and community development specialists. Info: <http://www.confer.co.nz/elanz2010/programme.html>

November

***1st – 3rd Runninghot! 2010 Workshop, Te Papa, Wellington,** Confident and vibrant research communities help drive the world's most successful economies and societies. Creativity and vision are required to undertake and

Calendar

October cont...

invest in research that improves New Zealand's knowledge, wellbeing, wealth and environment. The immediate challenges, both in New Zealand and globally, are to address the different forms of value that can be derived from our current research, and to identify practical ways of enhancing and realising the benefits of future research. Connecting emerging and established researchers from the sciences, humanities and creative arts with leaders from the government, business and community sectors. Providing a unique opportunity for participants from different disciplines and institutions to: Engage with varied perspectives on the different forms of value generated by research; explore the benefits across the continuum from basic to applied research; discuss how commercialisation should best influence New Zealand's research activities; identify innovative ways of conducting research to enhance its value; understand how research informs and frames evidence-based policy. Information from: <http://www.runninghot.org.nz/>

*3rd ASSR Forum

- **10 2010 NZ Research Honours event - 10 November, Christchurch** With the inclusion of the Humanities Council into the academy of the Royal Society of New Zealand, the Science Honours awards evening has been renamed the New Zealand Research Honours from 2010. The event is held to present and celebrate the top research awards and medals in New Zealand. This year it will be held in the Town Hall in Christchurch on Wednesday 10 November 2010. The evening will comprise a banquet dinner and awards ceremony with the theme of Knowledge and the Mind, focusing on current New Zealand research. Table bookings are available now by contacting Faith Atkins on 04 470 5781. Tickets will be available for sale online from August.

- **15th –16th International Association for Impact Assessment (IAIA) Climate Change Symposia (2 of 2) in 2010, Washington, D.C.** The two events (see also November) will have different presenters and highlight different aspects of climate change and impact assessment, both will bring together climate change experts and impact assessment professionals to address key questions such as: What effects will climate change have on the feasibility, viability and long-term sustainability of policies, plans, programs and projects? · What tools does impact assessment offer for understanding, assessing risk and responding to climate change? · How can impact assessment apply climate change projections to site-specific projects? Also offering a special SEA and Climate Change course on 17-18 November: <http://iaia.org/iaia-climate-symposium-dc/> A third symposium is tentatively being planned for Asia. Continue to check www.iaia.org for updates.

- **17th - 19th 3rd Asia and Pacific Regional Health Impact Assessment Conference: Health, wellbeing, and HIA: Working better, working smarter, replacing the [NZAIA New Zealand Assn. for Impact Assessment 2010 Conference](#) University of Otago.** Main themes is the relationship between HIA and other forms of impact assessment (esp. SIA, Cultural IA, Ecological IA, SEA. *Extended the deadline for submitting an abstract of a paper or poster until 6th Septmeber.* Online registration and abstract submissions: go to the conference website for details: http://www.nzaia.org.nz/Conference/2010/NZAIA_2010_Conference_Flier.pdf Contact: Professor Richard Morgan On behalf of the HIA2010 organising group email: hia2010@otago.ac.nz

- **17th - 19th Into uncharted territory, the 3rd Australasian Mental Health Outcomes Conference, hosted by Te Pou and the Australian Mental Health Outcomes Classification Network (AMHOCN), Rendezvous Hotel, Auckland.** The conference is a great way to share how innovation and IT systems are evolving to meet the challenge of providing clinically driven data. Service users, clinicians, managers, funders and planners are invited to register their interest in attending on the conference website www.amhoc2010.com, to be updated as keynote speakers and the conference programme are confirmed. Pre-conf. wrokshops are on the 17th. Registrations are now open.

- **19th - 21st Connecting Women: Respecting Differences, Womens Studies Assosiation conference 2010, University of Waikato, Hamilton.** Aoetearoa/ NZ in the 21st century is 'diverse'. Ethnicity, indiegeneity, sexuality, age, health, occupation, income, religion, & disability all define the experiences of women. How does this diversity shape 'women' & 'womanhood' today? Do differences divide women? How, and what strategies

Calendar

November cont...

build stronger connections while respecting and celebrating diversity? Info: www.wsanz.org.nz/. or email: c.michelle@waikato.ac.nz. Membership enquiries to: kath@boswellconsulting.co.nz.

December

*1st ASSR Forum

***1st – 3rd MASS Conference “Ka ora ai te iwi” - Working with Māori Communities, AUT University, Auckland** builds upon two earlier national events, a hui in Rotorua in 2006 and the inaugural conference, "Critical MASS", at Victoria University of Wellington in 2008, that established a national Māori Association of Social Scientists. This year's conference will be hosted by AUT University in association with Whariki Research Group at Massey University (Auckland), and will explore the practices, outcomes and potential of the work of Māori social scientists with Māori communities. Themes for the conference: Working with Māori communities & Māori social science practice. **Early Bird Registrations on or before 30-09-10.** Subscribe to the MASS Pānui to keep informed. Inquiries: Conference Coordinator - Dee O'Carroll 021 658 341. acushla.ocarroll@xtra.co.nz
Website: http://www.vu.conferenceonline.com.au/index.cfm?page=details_conference&pg=24&id=15321

***1st – 3rd DevNet Conference: Making Development Sustainable: Connecting, Learning, Committing, Massey University, Palmerston North.** Suggestions sought for paper presentations, panels, and workshops from NGO and NZAID staff, development consultants, researchers and students of Development Studies. Announced April 2010 here: <http://www.devnet.org.nz/updates/>

1st - 4th Studying Food Choices: the ACSPRI Social Science Methodology Conference, Sydney.

Food Standards Australia New Zealand (FSANZ) is convening a stream to provide an opportunity for social scientists from across the disciplines to discuss issues central to the methodological approaches and techniques used to understand human responses to food. Potential topics are wide and varied and could include: Research & regulation making, Qualitative issues; Assessing the quality of social research; Collecting data about food behaviours; Measuring the actual use of food labels; Integrating social sciences information with economic information; Consumers vs purchasers; Economic approach to studying food choices; Studying complex systems e.g. obesity; Measuring commitment to diet change, sustained eating patterns... . work in Progress & peer reviewed papers will be welcomed. For conference details and paper submissions go to: <http://conference.acspri.org.au/index.php/conf/2010> for info on this stream please contact: Dr Trevor Webb at FSANZ email: trevor.webb@foodstandards.gov.au

***3rd Transitions to Sustainability, NZ Society for Sustainability Engineering and Science (NZSSES) 2010 Conference. Faculty of Engineering, University of Auckland.** Before 2050, our global civilisation faces one of its greatest challenges - to match our demands to the limited resources of the planet. Business as usual will not be enough to ensure the ongoing viability of our community. Themes include, limits to growth; new economics of sustainability; resilient societies; beyond today's infrastructure; and embedding sustainability, providing plenty of scope for social science contributions. Email: Vicky Adin vicky@nzsses.org.nz, Phone (09) 479 9113. Info: <http://www.nzsses.auckland.ac.nz/conference/index.htm>

***15th - 16th Mobilities Symposium: towards a Movement Driven social Science in Aotearoa/ New Zealand, University of Otago, Dunedin.** A multidisciplinary symposium invites researchers examining questions of im/ mobilities research and practice within and across disciplines to talk about their work. Keynote Monika Büscher, from Centre for Mobilities Research and mobilities.lab, Lancaster University UK. Papers and Themed Panel Sessions. Themes are wide ranging and deal with all aspects of individual and social movement and im/ mobility. The mobilities paradigm brings together researchers interested in the movement of people, ideas, information or objects, and how social, economic, technological and political practices and ideologies can promote or limit specific kinds of movement. Access more info from: Transitions, Connections and Mobilities Collaborative

Research Group <https://mobilities.wiki.otago.ac.nz> or contact Martha Bell, Department of Anthropology, Gender & Sociology, Gender & Sociology, University of Otago, email: martha.bell@otago.ac.nz

February 2011

•7th - 1st March The 15th Public Health Summer School, University of Otago Wellington (UOW) includes numerous short courses of interest to social science researchers. Summer School is also a great way to extend the toolbox, to sharpen the existing toolset, and to meet others with shared interests. Qualitative researchers will be delighted that the programme includes two days of competitively priced NVivo training, taught by Dr Lyn Lavery of Academic Consulting. Lyn comes recommended by QSR International, the software vendors for Australia and New Zealand. She also led the course for us at Summer School earlier this year and received fantastic reviews from everyone who attended. The Summer School website includes a comprehensive list and description of all the short courses, from Epidemiology all the way to Sustainability. The registration form and fees schedule are also on-line. Take a look via the link below, and get in touch if you'd like to know more. www.uow.otago.ac.nz/summerschool.html

October 2011

23rd - 27th Ageing Well Together: Regional Perspectives: The Asia/Oceania Regional Congress of Gerontology and Geriatrics 2011, Melbourne, Australia. This congress is run every four years, on behalf of the Asia/Oceania Regional Council of the International Association of Gerontology and Geriatrics (IAGG). The Australian Association of Gerontology, in partnership with the New Zealand Association of Gerontology (NZAG), will host this significant congress. Register your interest early at www.ageing2011.com

Save these dates NOW

Is the Calendar missing an event? *Send a note of your recent publication, forthcoming event, websites of interest, or project details...*

Send to: ASSR News Editor: fnow@paradise.net.nz

Errata:

An error crept into the last months ASSR News, August 2010.

Reference was mistakenly made to 'the governments' 'Whānau Strategy'" (page 2, August ASSR News): this reference was incorrect: and should read : 'the Families Commission's "Whānau Strategy"'

**Thank you for your contributions,
comments, and active participation.**

Please send submissions to [ASSR News at
fnow@paradise.net.nz](mailto:ASSR News at fnow@paradise.net.nz)

Or share them in the new ASSR online forums
www.assr.org.nz/forums

Note: The ASSR website was hosted on the Royal Society of, this link no longer works (www.assr.rsnz.org/).

The new ASSR Website address is:
<http://www.assr.org.nz>

[Go to ASSR website](http://www.assr.org.nz)

VACANCY:

ASSR needs a replacement forum writeup facilitator/ minute taker. If you are interested in this (Wellington) position, for which there is a small koha,

Position would suit a student/ or early career person seeking an opportunity to interact with a broad cross-section of social science professionals on a regular basis. Please contact: [Ngairie Bennie](#).

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- management or project management experience
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To find out how we can help you, contact us on 04 473 6699 or email: info@thejohnsongroup.co.nz

www.thejohnsongroup.co.nz

Phone 04 473 6699

About ASSR News

ASSR News is published monthly by the Association of Social Science Researchers.

Contributions are very welcome and can be on any topic of interest to social science researchers: book reviews, conferences, Scholarships offered and vacancies, items off the Internet, notices of upcoming events.

Send your contributions to the [ASSR Newsletter Editor](#) at fnow@paradise.net.nz by the 18th of the month. Electronic copy, e.g., email, or MS Word (.doc, or .rtf) is preferred.

New members are welcome to apply to join ASSR. The membership fees are \$25 waged, or \$10 unwaged per annum. To apply, please complete and post the prescribed form (downloadable from <http://assr.org.nz/join.html>) to The Secretary, ASSR, PO Box 5043, WELLINGTON.

Members receive the ASSR News as part of their membership, forum announcements, and adhere to the ASSR Code of Ethics (see <http://www.assr.org.nz/ethics.html>).

Address correspondence to: [The Secretary](#), ASSR, P O Box 5043, WELLINGTON.