

University of the Third Age



The changing place of Pacific people in New Zealand – a personal view

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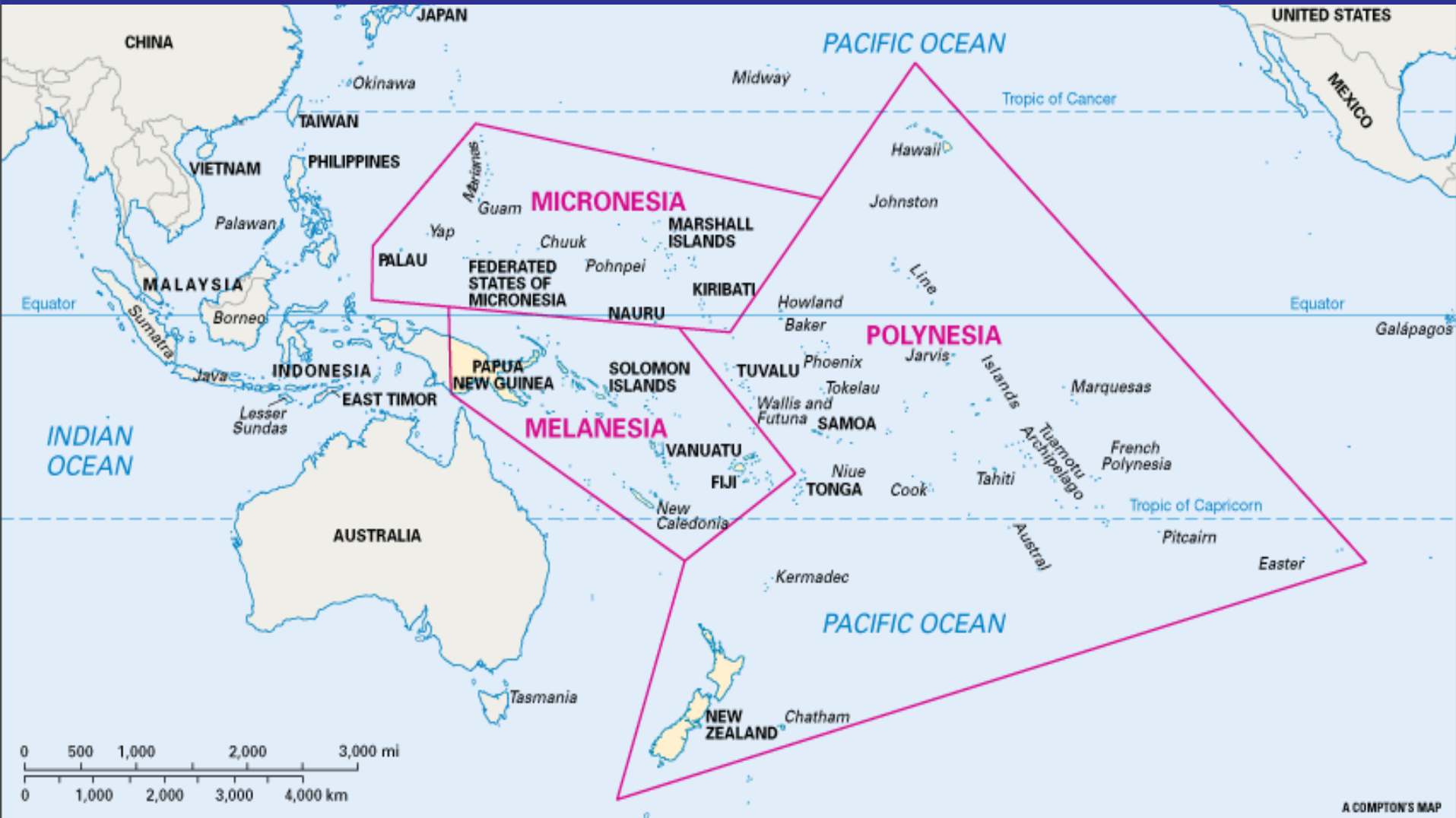
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A vibrant tropical beach scene. In the foreground, a large palm tree trunk stands on the right, with its fronds arching over the scene. The ocean is a deep blue with white waves breaking on a sandy beach. The sky is clear and blue. The text is overlaid in a bold, yellow, sans-serif font.

*Talofoa lava,
Kia orana,
Ni sa bula vinaka,
Malo e lelei,
Fakalofoa Lahi Atu,
Halo olaketa,
Ia orana,
Kam na mauri,
Malo ni,
Warm Pacific Greetings*

Pacific region – The Aquatic continent



Pasifika Peoples in New Zealand



- ✧ Seven main island groups – Samoa, Cook Is, Tonga, Niue, Fiji, Tokelau, Tuvalu
- ✧ Cook Is, Niue, Tokelau constitutional relationship with NZ
- ✧ Migration in 60s -70s in response to NZ demand for labour
- ✧ Majority in South & West Auckland, Wellington, Christchurch
- ✧ Majority NZ born (62 per cent)
- ✧ Young population

We share a common bond



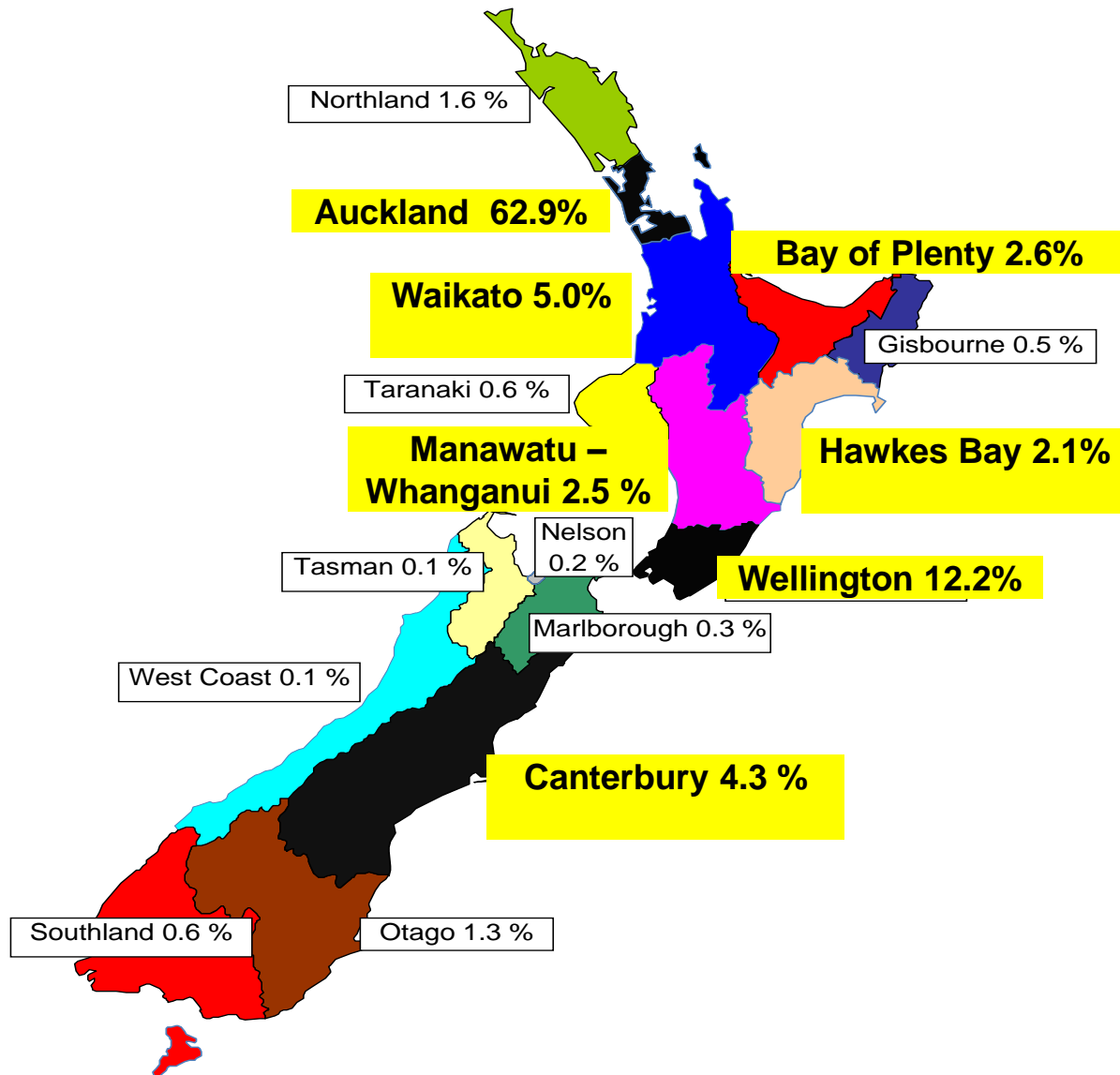
*In a country inhabited for a mere one thousand years, everybody is an immigrant or a descendent of an immigrant.”
(...and here for a better life)*

Dr Michael King



Dr Martin Luther King Jr

Pacific Population in New Zealand



Median Age

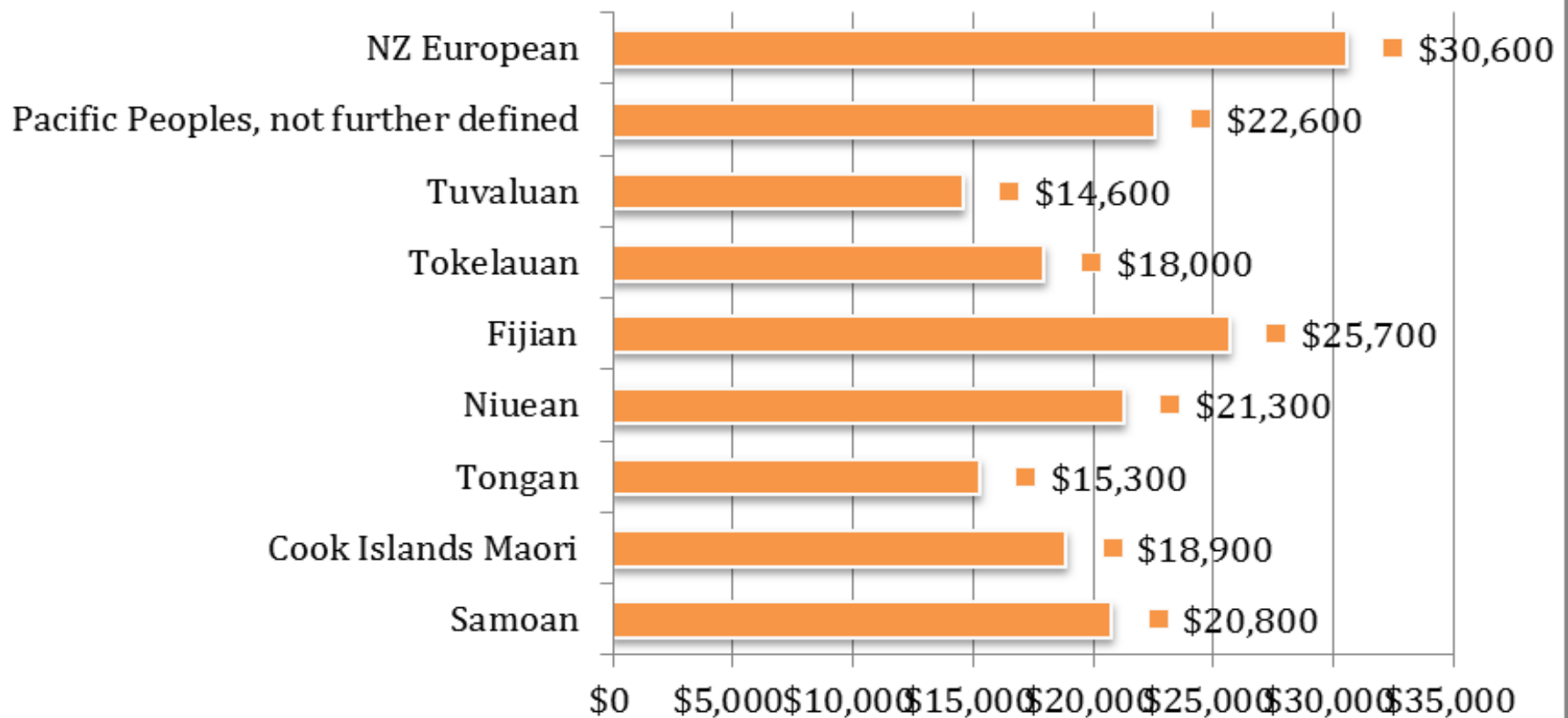


Māori & Pacific peoples are youthful populations

- The median age (50% are younger & 50% are older, than this age) was lower for Māori and Pacific peoples than for European & Asian ethnic groups.
- The median age for each ethnic group:
 - European – 41.0 years
 - Māori – 23.9 years
 - Pacific peoples – 22.1 years
 - Asian – 30.6 years.

Median Income

Pacific Peoples & NZ European ethnic groups' median income



Socio-Economic Context for Pasifika



DomPost Mon Jan 19, 2015

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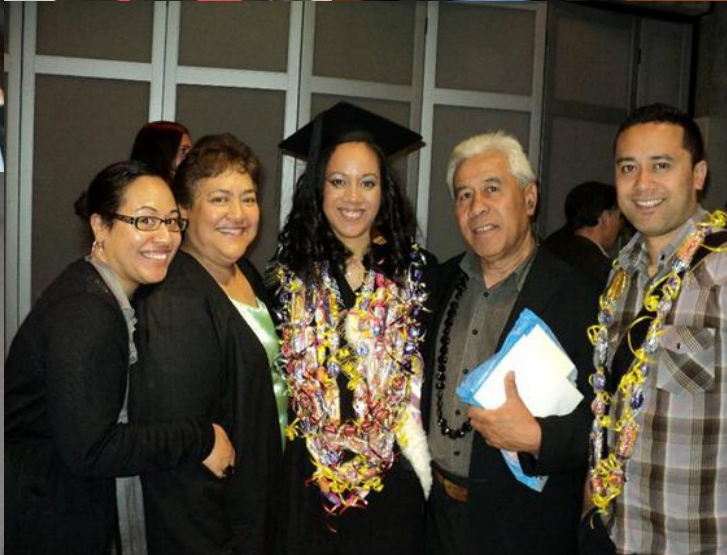
Median Income – What this means for most Pasifika families

- ✧ Transport to VUW – can be a challenge both by car and public transport
- ✧ Fewer families own their own homes
- ✧ Families and generations living in houses designed for smaller families – cost of rental housing – lack of quiet study space
- ✧ Lower decile schools pre-tertiary education
- ✧ Cost of Heating, Clothing, Nutrition & Health
- ✧ Less access to internet and broadband
- ✧ Tuition fees and Text books
- ✧ Access to technology

Vibrant, dynamic communities



And Smart ... Celebrating Family Success



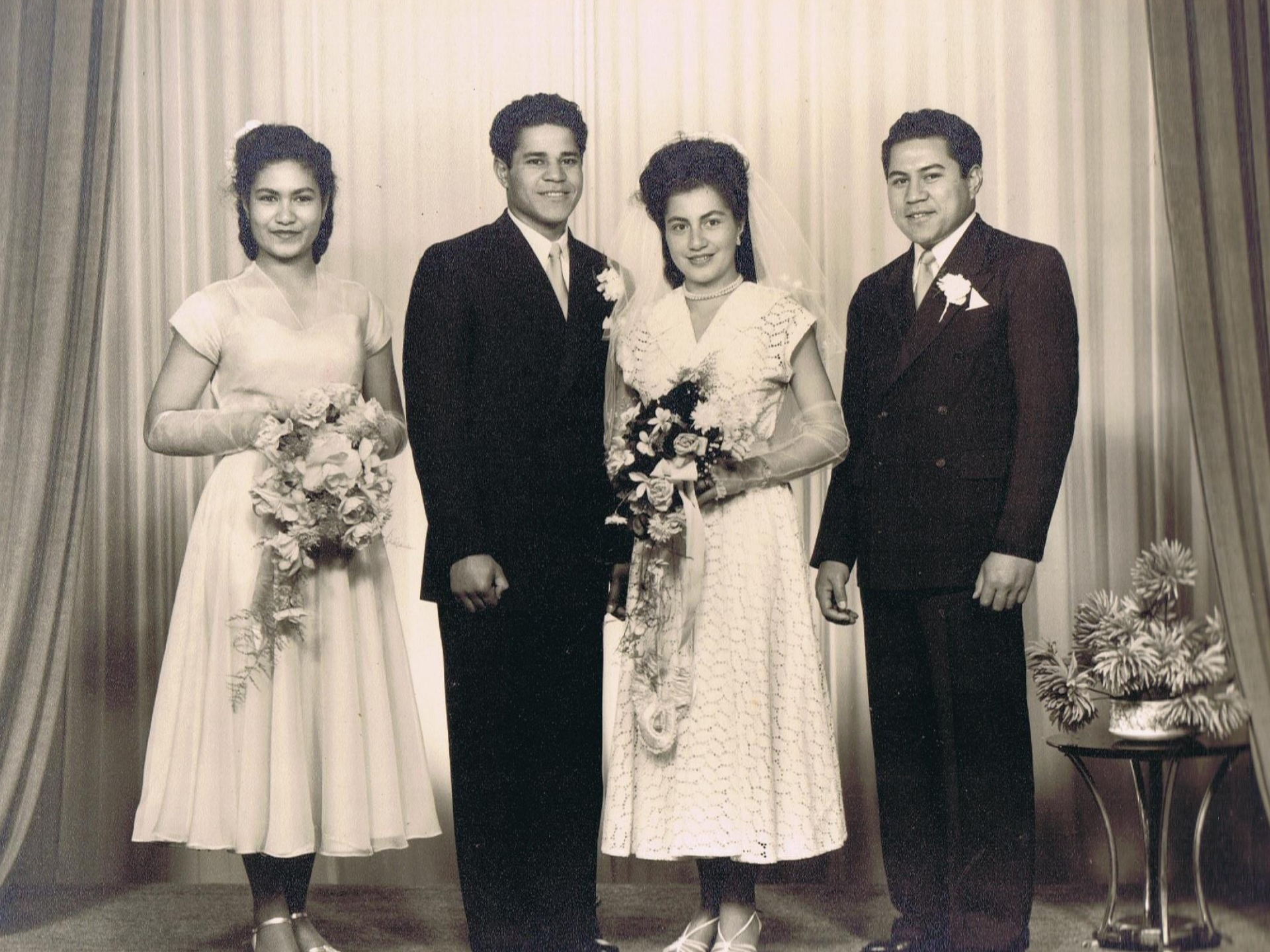
And Smart ... Celebrating Family Success



What do we know about Pacific cultures generally?



- ✧ Relationships are the societal glue
- ✧ Diverse groups
- ✧ Similar but different cultural values and protocols
- ✧ Reciprocity & Obligation are key core values
- ✧ Place high value on 'Family', Spirituality, Church and Pastor
- ✧ Take time to understand & come to a consensus
- ✧ Motivated by individuality within a wider sense of communitarianism
- ✧ May pay greater respect to the authority & status specific to their nation (Matai, Aiga, Wantok)













What Pasifika young people say works for them



- ✧ Need a responsive environment
- ✧ Make sessions stimulating, enjoyable, 'cool'
- ✧ Good if we get to know everyone in the group
- ✧ Some people need ideas to be brought out of them. Louder ones share their ideas anyway
- ✧ Need tutors/lecturers to be affirming –
'That idea is good, have you thought about'
- ✧ We know we need to expand our borders beyond the Pacific 'world'
- ✧ We still need to tell our own stories, to see people we can identify with, relate to

A few useful thoughts



- Their dreams, not yours*
- Attitude, Expectation, Support*
- Your belief in the person's ability to succeed*
- I don't care how much you know, until I know how much you care*

What are 'typical' Kiwi values?



- ✧ **Friendly**
- ✧ **Generally egalitarian**
- ✧ **Fairness is very important**
- ✧ **Low – Power distance**
- ✧ **Informal, laid back**
- ✧ **Transparency**
- ✧ **Accept people at face value**
- ✧ **Independent, determined**
- ✧ **Innovative, entrepreneurial**



Pasifika Greetings



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Malo e lelei

Fakaalofa Lahi Atu

Halo olaketa

Ia orana

Kam na mauri

Malo ni

Gud be Tru

- Samoa

- Cooks Is

- Fiji

- Tonga

- Niue

- Solomon Is Pidgin

- Tahiti

- Kiribati

- Tokelau

- Pidgin