

3702

**From:** <webmaster@ourconstitution.org.nz>  
**To:** <constitutionalreview@justice.govt.nz>  
**Date:** 19/07/2013 4:51 p.m.

Sent from The Constitution Conversation #link:<http://www.ourconstitution.org.nz/>.

Full Names: Bruce Hesketh Organisation Name: Barrister Email:  
Phone: Postal AddressA: Postal AddressB: Postal City:  
Hamilton Postal Region: Postal Post Code: Postal Country: New Zealand  
Submission: If we are serious about treating all New Zealand equally and upholding the values of a  
free and democratic society then the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act should be entrenched legislation.

Submitted on the 19 July 2013 at 16:50

2282 .

**From:** <webmaster@ourconstitution.org.nz>  
**To:** <constitutionalreview@justice.govt.nz>  
**Date:** 3/07/2013 4:14 p.m.  
**Subject:** <http://www.ourconstitution.org.nz/> form submission

Sent from The Constitution Conversation #link:<http://www.ourconstitution.org.nz/>.

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Full Names: Rachel Heslop Organisation Name: Email: Phone:  
Postal AddressA: Postal AddressB: Postal City: Auckland Postal Region: Postal Post  
Code: Postal Country: New Zealand Submission: The Treaty of Waitangi should not be  
included. It is a flawed document as there are differences between the two translations so should be  
acknowledged but in practice not used, so we can move forward as a people (New Zealander's). If  
part of it is to be  
used then just the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi.

Sent on the 3 July 2013 at 16:12



## Submission to the New Zealand Constitutional Advisory Panel 2013

As a supporter of Amnesty International, I write to add my voice in support of its submission to the current constitutional conversation.

I am concerned that all our human rights are not adequately protected in New Zealand law.

For example, our Bill of Rights Act 1990 only incorporates civil and political rights. Yet, it is widely recognised that human rights are interrelated, interdependent and indivisible; this means that one set of rights cannot be enjoyed in a meaningful way if the other set of rights is not also adequately protected and respected too.

I believe civil and political rights, such as the right to life, cannot truly be achieved without the equal right to work, accessible health care, adequate housing and education, which are enshrined in the concepts of economic, social and cultural rights.

Despite having ratified the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights in 1978, successive New Zealand Governments have failed to fulfill their obligations to respect, promote and fulfil these human rights.

While the Government says economic, social and cultural rights are currently protected by subject specific statutes, current issues involving these rights, such as child poverty, show that the current system is not working to adequately protect our rights. The maze of laws and policies around economic, social and cultural rights make it difficult for New Zealanders to understand and access their rights.

Without a clear framework to guide legislation and policy it also makes it difficult to see if laws policies are actually working to recognise New Zealanders rights. In addition many human rights in New Zealand lack avenues to remedies if they are breached, which limit New Zealanders' access to justice - an essential right of victims of all human rights violations.

I therefore submit the following recommendations:

- The incorporation of economic, social and cultural rights into the Bill of Rights Act 1990;
- The entrenchment of the Bill of Rights Act 1990 so that the weight and importance of these rights is adequately recognised;
- The explicit inclusion of the power for judges to provide remedies when the Bill of Rights Act is violated;
- That New Zealand ratify the Optional Protocol for International Covenant of Economic Social and Cultural Rights, including opting in to its inquiry and inter-state mechanisms, so that New Zealanders have access to an international remedy;
- The establishment of a Human Rights Select Committee to ensure that the impact of legislation on human rights is sufficiently considered;
- The requirement of all levels of Government to take a human rights approach to addressing human rights issues; and
- Increased human rights education initiatives to increase awareness of economic, social and cultural rights.

I believe these recommendations will provide for stronger protections within our constitutional framework for economic, social and cultural rights.



Taking these measures will ensure a strong legal framework in which all rights are equally protected. It will ensure that the Government can take a rights-based approach to addressing rights issues in New Zealand such as child poverty.

New Zealand has an obligation to take steps to progressively realise such rights as the rights to health, education, and adequate housing. Ensuring they are explicitly protected in New Zealand law is a significant step in ensuring that New Zealand is a place where human rights are protected, respected and fulfilled.

Denise Hetet  
Great Barrier Island  
New Zealand

2593

**From:** JOHN NOEL GEORGE HETHERINGTON ,  
**To:** <constitutionalreview@justice.govt.nz>  
**Date:** 4/07/2013 4:29 p.m.  
**Subject:** Submission to Principle of Electorates / seats in Parliament / and / or - retention or entrenchment of Maori seats in Parliament.

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RE : As within the current factors of submission , pertaining to  
abolishment / retention / or entrenchment of Maori seats in Parliament  
. As a New Zealander , and when considerring some issues involved ,  
However as understandable Fairly complicated factors involved as  
within the principles of Parliament , or in fact how the country  
becomes concerned , in any true sense , But as within my individual  
and un-biased point of view , I would apply within submission - That  
no difference whatsoever should be the True Mandate of the Country as  
a whole . Therefore I would not at any point of time consider or  
support retention or entrenchment of the differing context of Maori  
seats & electorates , and prefer a point of view as un-biased in any  
way - New Zealand to the benefit of all New Zealanders . Abolishment  
is a fairly harsh word in use . recognition is decent . From JNG  
Hetherington Bay of Plenty .

4118

**From:** <webmaster@ourconstitution.org.nz>  
**To:** <constitutionalreview@justice.govt.nz>  
**Date:** 29/07/2013 10:33 p.m.  
**Attachments:** Constitutional AdvisoryPanel.docx

Sent from The Constitution Conversation #link:<http://www.ourconstitution.org.nz/>.

Full Names: Grant Hewison Organisation Name: Grant Hewison & Associates Ltd Email:  
Phone: Postal AddressA: Postal  
AddressB: Postal City: Auckland Postal Region: Postal Post Code:  
Postal Country: New Zealand Submission: Submission Upload: Constitutional Advisory  
Panel.docx

Submitted on the 29 July 2013 at 22:32



29 July 2013

**Submission to the Constitutional Advisory Panel:  
Local Government should be recognised in the Constitution Act 1986**

In my view, there is a strong case for recognising local government in the New Zealand Constitution. This must be part of the Constitutional Conversation.

Local government is a critical part of the structure of New Zealand democracy. It deserves constitutional protection in its own right as much as any other entrenched components of democracy such as Parliament and the Judiciary.

The right of local participation and self-government is a civil right of all citizens in a democracy.

Local government should be given special status in a democracy because of its historic and continuing role as the most accessible site of democracy, as a check against excessively centralised power, and to ensure that the different needs and resources of different localities are properly represented in the country's governance arrangements.

Local government is constitutionally recognised in most democracies.

While the New Zealand Constitution Act 1986 brings together a number of provisions of constitutional significance, including an articulation of the general functions and powers of the Sovereign, the Executive, the Legislature and the Judiciary, it does not mention local government.

Arguably consideration should be given to the inclusion of a new Part V in the New Zealand Constitution Act 1986 that articulates the role of local government and its relationship to central government.

Building on the expressions in the constitutions of other nations, the following might be suggested as a modest proposal for a new Part V of the New Zealand Constitution Act 1986:

1. *There shall continue to be in New Zealand a nation-wide system of democratically elected local authorities through which collective decisions can be made and acted upon locally by and on behalf of citizens.*
2. *The Executive and Legislature, by legislative and other measures, must support and strengthen the capacity of local authorities to manage their own affairs, to exercise their powers and to perform their functions.*
3. *Draft legislation that affects the status, institutions, powers or functions of local government must be published for public comment before it is introduced in Parliament, in a manner that allows organized local government and other interested persons an opportunity to make representations with regard to the draft legislation.*

Finally, it is important that the relationship between central and local government be guided by a set of principles. These might be adapted from the *European Charter of Local Self-Government*.

I wrote a PhD Thesis on Local Government at the University of Auckland. Chapter 6 concerns the Partnership Relationship between central and local government. For further information on the submission made above, I refer you to that PhD Thesis.

Should you require any further information, please let me know.

Yours sincerely,

Dr Grant Hewison BA, LLB, LLM (Hons), PhD (Law)  
Director

Grant Hewison & Associates Ltd

100/101, 102/103, 104/105, 106/107, 108/109, 110/111, 112/113, 114/115, 116/117, 118/119, 120/121, 122/123, 124/125, 126/127, 128/129, 130/131, 132/133, 134/135, 136/137, 138/139, 140/141, 142/143, 144/145, 146/147, 148/149, 150/151, 152/153, 154/155, 156/157, 158/159, 160/161, 162/163, 164/165, 166/167, 168/169, 170/171, 172/173, 174/175, 176/177, 178/179, 180/181, 182/183, 184/185, 186/187, 188/189, 190/191, 192/193, 194/195, 196/197, 198/199, 200/201, 202/203, 204/205, 206/207, 208/209, 210/211, 212/213, 214/215, 216/217, 218/219, 220/221, 222/223, 224/225, 226/227, 228/229, 230/231, 232/233, 234/235, 236/237, 238/239, 240/241, 242/243, 244/245, 246/247, 248/249, 250/251, 252/253, 254/255, 256/257, 258/259, 260/261, 262/263, 264/265, 266/267, 268/269, 270/271, 272/273, 274/275, 276/277, 278/279, 280/281, 282/283, 284/285, 286/287, 288/289, 290/291, 292/293, 294/295, 296/297, 298/299, 300/301, 302/303, 304/305, 306/307, 308/309, 310/311, 312/313, 314/315, 316/317, 318/319, 320/321, 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1900/1901, 1902/1903, 1904/1905, 1906/1907, 1908/1909, 1910/1911, 1912/1913, 1914/1915, 1916/1917, 1918/1919, 1920/1921, 1922/1923, 1924/1925, 1926/1927, 1928/1929, 1930/1931, 1932/1933, 1934/1935, 1936/1937, 1938/1939, 1940/1941, 1942/1943, 1944/1945, 1946/1947, 1948/1949, 1950/1951, 1952/1953, 1954/1955, 1956/1957, 1958/1959, 1960/1961, 1962/1963, 1964/1965, 1966/1967, 1968/1969, 1970/1971, 1972/1973, 1974/1975, 1976/1977, 1978/1979, 1980/1981, 1982/1983, 1984/1985, 1986/1987, 1988/1989, 1990/1991, 1992/1993, 1994/1995, 1996/1997, 1998/1999, 2000/2001, 2002/2003, 2004/2005, 2006/2007, 2008/2009, 2010/2011, 2012/2013, 2014/2015, 2016/2017, 2018/2019, 2020/2021, 2022/2023, 2024/2025, 2026/2027, 2028/2029, 2030/2031, 2032/2033, 2034/2035, 2036/2037, 2038/2039, 2040/2041, 2042/2043, 2044/2045, 2046/2047, 2048/2049, 2050/2051, 2052/2053, 2054/2055, 2056/2057, 2058/2059, 2060/2061, 2062/2063, 2064/2065, 2066/2067, 2068/2069, 2070/2071, 2072/2073, 2074/2075, 2076/2077, 2078/2079, 2080/2081, 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2264/2265, 2266/2267, 2268/2269, 2270/2271, 2272/2273, 2274/2275, 2276/2277, 2278/2279, 2280/2281, 2282/2283, 2284/2285, 2286/2287, 2288/2289, 2290/2291, 2292/2293, 2294/2295, 2296/2297, 2298/2299, 2300/2301, 2302/2303, 2304/2305, 2306/2307, 2308/2309, 2310/2311, 2312/2313, 2314/2315, 2316/2317, 2318/2319, 2320/2321, 2322/2323, 2324/2325, 2326/2327, 2328/2329, 2330/2331, 2332/2333, 2334/2335, 2336/2337, 2338/2339, 2340/2341, 2342/2343, 2344/2345, 2346/2347, 2348/2349, 2350/2351, 2352/2353, 2354/2355, 2356/2357, 2358/2359, 2360/2361, 2362/2363, 2364/2365, 2366/2367, 2368/2369, 2370/2371, 2372/2373, 2374/2375, 2376/2377, 2378/2379, 2380/2381, 2382/2383, 2384/2385, 2386/2387, 2388/2389, 2390/2391, 2392/2393, 2394/2395, 2396/2397, 2398/2399, 2400/2401, 2402/2403, 2404/2405, 2406/2407, 2408/2409, 2410/2411, 2412/2413, 2414/2415, 2416/2417, 2418/2419, 2420/2421, 2422/2423, 2424/2425, 2426/2427, 2428/2429, 2430/2431, 2432/2433, 2434/2435, 2436/2437, 2438/2439, 2440/2441, 2442/2443, 2444/2445, 2446/2447, 2448/2449, 2450/2451, 2452/2453, 2454/2455, 2456/2457, 2458/2459, 2460/2461, 2462/2463, 246



616

**From:**  
**To:** <constitutionalreview@justice.govt.nz>  
**Date:** 23/04/2013 2:22 p.m.  
**Subject:** <http://www.ourconstitution.org.nz/> form submission

Sent from The Constitution Conversation #link:<http://www.ourconstitution.org.nz/>.

Full Names: Richard John Hewitt Organisation Name: Email:  
Phone: Postal AddressA: Postal AddressB: Postal  
City: Postal Region: Postal Post Code: Postal Country: New  
Zealand Submission: We should have a written Constitution and codified so Governments cannot  
change any of our rights like Simon Power did or tried to, with the Caim of Right in 2010

Sent on the 23 April 2013 at 14:20

1440

**From:** Lynne Hewson  
**To:** "constitutionalreview@justice.govt.nz" <constitutionalreview@justice.govt.nz>  
**Date:** 18/06/2013 6:02 p.m.  
**Subject:** Submission

New Zealand does not need a written constitution and I STRONGLY oppose any legislation or reference to the Treaty of Waitangi should one be drafted now or in the future.

Yours faithfully

Mrs Lynne Hewson

Tauranga. Bay of Plenty  
New Zealand  
Phone:  
Mobile:  
Email:

2008<sup>1</sup>

**From:**   
**To:** "'constitutionalreview@justice.govt.nz"' <constitutionalreview@justice.g...  
**Date:** 1/07/2013 10:55 a.m.  
**Subject:** CAP submission  
**Attachments:** 20130701111621062.pdf

To whom it may concern

Please find attached a submission a constituent handed to Jo and asked for her to send to the relevant authority.

Regards

HON JO GOODHEW MP FOR RANGITATA I  
TIMARU 7

P  
E

Authorised by: , Timaru

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2008

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Submission re New Zealand Constitution

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The present Constitution of New Zealand is working well.  
It does not need to be changed.

Margaret Stockwell

1

Timaru

2913

**From:** "Gerald Hey" <Gerald.Hey@justice.govt.nz>  
**To:** <ConstitutionalReview@justice.govt.nz>  
**Date:** 8/07/2013 1:49 p.m.  
**Subject:** Re: CAP Submission

DO NOT USE THE WORD "PAKEHA" IN ANY PLACE OR WAY IN THE NEW CONSTITUTION. - IT IS INSULTING . CORRECTLY USE "KIRITEA" FOR NON MAORI

----- Original Message -----

From: ConstitutionalReview@justice.govt.nz  
To: Gerald Hey  
Sent: Monday, July 08, 2013 10:26 AM  
Subject: Re: CAP Submission

Thank you for your submission, which the Constitutional Advisory Panel will consider along with the views of other New Zealanders. You can find out more about the Panel and the Constitution Conversation on the Panel's engagement website: [www.ourconstitution.org.nz](http://www.ourconstitution.org.nz) and on Facebook: [www.facebook.com/TheConstitutionConversation](https://www.facebook.com/TheConstitutionConversation)

The Panel is seeking views on a range of constitutional topics, including our aspirations as a country, the pros and cons of a written constitution, the NZ Bills of Rights Act, the Treaty of Waitangi, Māori representation and a set of electoral matters. Submitters may also comment on other topics, if they wish to.

You can download a submission guide and other information resources from the website.

You are welcome to add to your submission, or make submissions on the other topics if you wish, either online at [www.ourconstitution.org.nz](http://www.ourconstitution.org.nz), by emailing this address or by post to:

Submissions

Secretariat, Constitutional Advisory Panel

C/o Ministry of Justice

DX SX10088

Wellington

Please note that the Panel may publish submissions and submissions may be released under the Official Information Act, if requested.

Thank you for being part of the Constitution Conversation.

Regards

Secretariat, Constitutional Advisory Panel

□

>>> "Gerald Hey"

> 7/07/2013 12:09 p.m. >>>

Additional Submission by Gerald Hey.

Because we are all NewZealanders we should not need any political divisions to represent our racial structures and differences That is why the Treaty of Waitangi should ~~now be retired without any legal status and that no part of the Treaty be included to grant any~~ preference to any race or group. Additionally the Maori Language should not be an official language as it is constantly being altered, amended and upgraded with new words. Maori place names currently in use are the only exceptions to this rule.

Because the language is not understood or spoken by the great majority of NewZealanders it should ~~not appear on any public notice Label or Name plate etc. as it invariably causes confusion, especially~~ to Tourists and visitors to NewZealand..

Yours Truly Gerald Hey

----- Original Message -----

From: ConstitutionalReview@justice.govt.nz

To: Gerald Hey

Sent: Friday, July 05, 2013 12:07 PM

Subject: Re: CAP Submission

Thank you for your submission, which the Constitutional Advisory Panel will consider along with the views of other New Zealanders. You can find out more about the Panel and the Constitution Conversation on the Panel's engagement website: [www.ourconstitution.org.nz](http://www.ourconstitution.org.nz) and on Facebook: [www.facebook.com/TheConstitutionConversation](https://www.facebook.com/TheConstitutionConversation)

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Wellington

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Thank you for being part of the Constitution Conversation.

Regards

Secretariat, Constitutional Advisory Panel

>>:

4/07/2013 12:31 p.m. >>>

Racial seats in parliament and local authorities should be abolished.

G. Hey.

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- (1) reply promptly to that effect, and remove this email and the reply from your system;
- (2) do not act on this email in any other way.

Thank you.

=====

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Thank you.

=====



2913 q

**From:** "Gerald Hey"  
**To:** <ConstitutionalReview@justice.govt.nz>  
**Date:** 7/07/2013 12:09 p.m.  
**Subject:** Re: CAP Submission

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From: ConstitutionalReview@justice.govt.nz  
To: Gerald Hey  
Sent: Friday, July 05, 2013 12:07 PM  
Subject: Re: CAP Submission

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Submissions

Secretariat, Constitutional Advisory Panel

C/o Ministry of Justice

DX SX10088

Wellington

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Official Information Act, if requested.

Thank you for being part of the Constitution Conversation.

Regards

Secretariat, Constitutional Advisory Panel

>>> "Gerald Hey" 4/07/2013 12:31 p.m. >>>

Racial seats in parliament and local authorities should be abolished.

G. Hey.

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- (1) reply promptly to that effect, and remove this email and the reply from your system;
  - (2) do not act on this email in any other way.
- Thank you.

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**From:** "Gerald Hey"  
**To:** <constitutionalreview@justice.govt.nz>  
**Date:** 4/07/2013 12:31 p.m.  
**Subject:** CAP Submission

Racial seats in parliament and local authorities should be abolished.

G. Hey.

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1175

**From:**  
**To:** <constitutionalreview@justice.govt.nz>  
**Date:** 8/06/2013 2:27 p.m.  
**Subject:** [http://www.ourconstitution.org.nz/form\\_submission](http://www.ourconstitution.org.nz/form_submission)

Sent from The Constitution Conversation #link:<http://www.ourconstitution.org.nz/>.

Full Names: Clifford James Heydon Organisation Name: Private individual Email:  
Postal AddressA:  
Postal AddressB: Postal City: Napier Postal Region: Hawke's Bay Postal Post  
Code Postal Country: New Zealand Submission: One country, One people, One  
government, One law for all, No race based seats

in parliament or local bodies, Celebrate our ethnicity, but all live as One people,

New Zealanders.

Sent on the 8 June 2013 at 14:25

## Submission to the New Zealand Constitutional Advisory Panel 2013

As a supporter of Amnesty International, I write to add my voice in support of its submission to the current constitutional conversation.

~~I am concerned that all our human rights are not adequately protected in New Zealand law.~~

For example, our Bill of Rights Act 1990 only incorporates civil and political rights. Yet, it is widely recognised that human rights are interrelated, interdependent and indivisible; this means that one set of rights cannot be enjoyed in a meaningful way if the other set of rights is not also adequately protected and respected too.

I believe civil and political rights, such as the right to life, cannot truly be achieved without the equal right to work, accessible health care, adequate housing and education, which are enshrined in the concepts of economic, social and cultural rights.

Despite having ratified the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights in 1978, successive New Zealand Governments have failed to fulfill their obligations to respect, promote and fulfil these human rights.

While the Government says economic, social and cultural rights are currently protected by subject specific statutes, current issues involving these rights, such as child poverty, show that the current system is not working to adequately protect our rights. The maze of laws and policies around economic, social and cultural rights make it difficult for New Zealanders to understand and access their rights.

Without a clear framework to guide legislation and policy it also makes it difficult to see if laws policies are actually working to recognise New Zealanders rights. In addition many human rights in New Zealand lack avenues to remedies if they are breached, which limit New Zealanders' access to justice - an essential right of victims of all human rights violations.

I therefore submit the following recommendations:

- The incorporation of economic, social and cultural rights into the Bill of Rights Act 1990;
- The entrenchment of the Bill of Rights Act 1990 so that the weight and importance of these rights is adequately recognised;
- The explicit inclusion of the power for judges to provide remedies when the Bill of Rights Act is violated;
- That New Zealand ratify the Optional Protocol for International Covenant of Economic Social and Cultural Rights, including opting in to its inquiry and inter-state mechanisms, so that New Zealanders have access to an international remedy;
- The establishment of a Human Rights Select Committee to ensure that the impact of legislation on human rights is sufficiently considered;
- The requirement of all levels of Government to take a human rights approach to addressing human rights issues; and
- Increased human rights education initiatives to increase awareness of economic, social and cultural rights.

I believe these recommendations will provide for stronger protections within our constitutional framework for economic, social and cultural rights.

Taking these measures will ensure a strong legal framework in which all rights are equally protected. It will ensure that the Government can take a rights-based approach to addressing rights issues in New Zealand such as child poverty.

New Zealand has an obligation to take steps to progressively realise such rights as the rights to health, education, and adequate housing. Ensuring they are explicitly protected in New Zealand law is a significant step in ensuring that New Zealand is a place where human rights are protected, respected and fulfilled.

Jonathon Heyes  
Dunedin  
New Zealand

2836

**From:** "B Heyworth"  
**To:** <constitutionalreview@justice.govt.nz>  
**Date:** 5/07/2013 5:40 p.m.  
**Subject:** CAP Submission

It is my belief that the Maori parliamentary seats are an anachronistic anomaly. They are inherently racist and divisive, and should be abolished. It is my sincere wish that the constitutional review will take the opportunity to recommend this long overdue course of action.

Bruce Heyworth

Christchurch

1075

**From:**  
**To:** <constitutionalreview@justice.govt.nz>  
**Date:** 4/06/2013 11:35 p.m.  
**Subject:** <http://www.ourconstitution.org.nz/> form submission

Sent from The Constitution Conversation #link:<http://www.ourconstitution.org.nz/>.

Full Names: Christopher Martin Hibbert Organisation Name: Email:  
Phone: Postal AddressA: Postal AddressB: Postal City:  
Dunedin Postal Region: Otago Postal Post Code: Postal Country: New Zealand  
Submission: I wish that New Zealand will continue to run without a single written constitution. This will allow continued evolution in the respective areas currently administered separately, otherwise a single document suffers the risk of overall review each time a single point is opened up. I would also like the remit of the Whatangi tribunal to change from that of reviewing "wrongs" of the past and compensation to that of advisory on aspects of sharing our country under the principles envisaged - looking forward rather than back.

Sent on the 4 June 2013 at 23:34

1075a

**From:**  
**To:** <constitutionalreview@justice.govt.nz>  
**Date:** 4/06/2013 11:36 p.m.  
**Subject:** <http://www.ourconstitution.org.nz/> form submission

Sent from The Constitution Conversation #link:<http://www.ourconstitution.org.nz/>.

Full Names: Christopher Martin Hibbert Organisation Name: Email:  
Phone: Postal AddressA: Postal AddressB: Postal City:  
Dunedin Postal Region: Otago Postal Post Code: Postal Country: New Zealand  
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Sent on the 4 June 2013 at 23:36



10756

**From:**  
**To:** <constitutionalreview@justice.govt.nz>  
**Date:** 4/06/2013 11:37 p.m.  
**Subject:** <http://www.ourconstitution.org.nz/> form submission

Sent from The Constitution Conversation #link:<http://www.ourconstitution.org.nz/>.

Full Names: Christopher Martin Hibbert Organisation Name: Email:  
Phone: Postal AddressA: Postal AddressB: Postal City:  
Dunedin Postal Region: Otago Postal Post Code: Postal Country: New Zealand  
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Sent on the 4 June 2013 at 23:37

391

**From:**  
**To:** <constitutionalreview@justice.govt.nz>  
**Date:** 15/04/2013 8:26 p.m.  
**Subject:** <http://www.ourconstitution.org.nz/> form submission

Sent from The Constitution Conversation #link:<http://www.ourconstitution.org.nz/>.

Full Names: Kylie Hickey Organisation Name: Email: Phone: Postal  
AddressA: Postal AddressB: Postal City: Coromandel Town Postal Region:  
Postal Post Code: Postal Country: New Zealand Submission: We need to make sure we have  
human rights for all - marriage equality should not be decided by our supposedly secular  
government!!! Religion should not play a role in making our laws. Common sense and equality should  
lead the way.

Sent on the 15 April 2013 at 20:26

39/a

**From:** Kylie Hickey  
**To:** "constitutionalreview@justice.govt.nz" <constitutionalreview@justice.govt.nz>  
**Date:** 12/06/2013 10:42 a.m.

To whom it may concern

These are the questions we would like your feedback on:

1. How many members of Parliament should we have? Why? I am sure the numbers will never decrease - so at this stage I would say let's not have anymore overpaid MPs in Parliament.

2. How long should the term of Parliament be? Why? I agree with the length at the moment, again, because I can't see it decreasing, I would not want a term to be longer. Mainly because parties can come in with something they didn't campaign on and then we are basically "screwed" for lack of a better colloquial term eg Charter Schools.

3. How should the election date be decided? Why? Speaker of the House?

4. What factors should be taken into account when the size and number of electorates are decided? Why? Population of areas should drive percentage of say.

5. What should happen if a member of Parliament parts ways with the party from which he or she was elected? Why? If they were elected on the party vote, then they should step down from their roll. If they were voted as a List member, they should stay in.

Kylie Hickey

Coromandel

1582

**From:** <webmaster@ourconstitution.org.nz>  
**To:** <constitutionalreview@justice.govt.nz>  
**Date:** 25/06/2013 7:16 p.m.  
**Subject:** <http://www.ourconstitution.org.nz/> form submission

Sent from The Constitution Conversation #link:<http://www.ourconstitution.org.nz/>.

Full Names: Tracy Higgan Organisation Name: Email: : Phone:  
Postal AddressA: Postal AddressB: Postal City:  
Dunedin Postal Region: otago Postal Post Code: Postal Country: New Zealand  
Submission: I don't want the treaty of Waitangi in our constitution.

Sent on the 25 June 2013 at 19:14

2951

**From:** Geoff' <  
**To:** <constitutionalreview@justice.govt.nz>  
**Date:** 9/07/2013 7:30 p.m.  
**Subject:** CAP Submission

Constitutional Review Committee

Maori seats are a racist option. Should the Justice Dept consider and place before the Parliament seats specifically for white Europeans then would that be racist? Yes I believe so, and I also believe white Europeans would not sanction such a move. Then why in the 21st century does Parliament still condone Maori seats? Is it that Maori need special advantages, or politicians haven't the courage to say the 'Seats' are an acquisition of the past. Or it is about votes and jobs in the Beehive?

I believe the Maori seats should have been abolished twenty years ago. Maori are more than capable of holding their own and always have been. Under the current law Maori seats can also be a pointer for segregation/division. Whilst various NZ Governments have laboured the point of racial harmony in NZ I feel that is not true (more so in the 21st century) and that more and more white Europeans, and perhaps some Maori, are moving away from the Governments propaganda/statements and taking no honest interest in things Maori. Such a response may in part be the cause of the flight of many New Zealanders to Australia. Some/many Maori have an 'us first' attitude towards New Zealand, hence the often heard comment 'I'm a Maori first, then a New Zealander. Surely we are all New Zealanders first and then our respective race as a further identification if so needed. Just look at the response to the Labour Party's thoughts concerning 'women only' seats. Last time I checked the Stuff Poll results 77% of the voters said 'no', 87% saying it should be dumped, and I believe a similar result would be experienced if the matter of Maori seats were put to the people of New Zealand in a referendum; but again no government will take the obvious action.

All peoples of New Zealand have equal opportunity to be Members of Parliament representing the people of this country (not their culture). Then why should Maori have special privileges in only representing themselves. That is not equal anything. That is preferential treatment as dictated by the law and by successive governments.

As an adjunct to this, through my circle of friends and acquaintances, I can say that there is feeling of unfairness across the strata of our society that Maori in the 21st century are still given privileges, amongst such are the special Maori only seats. I would also suggest that notice be taken of the feeling of discontent on Facebook.

If New Zealanders are to come together as one country then abolish the Maori seats and let's get on being New Zealanders moving towards a common goal for the betterment of our country.

Geoff Higgins





2051a.

**From:** , Geoff"  
**To:** <constitutionalreview@justice.govt.nz>  
**Date:** 27/07/2013 7:43 p.m.  
**Subject:** What are your aspirations for Aotearoa New Zealand

Thank you for the opportunity to express my views on New Zealand and in what direction I wish it to proceed.

New Zealand is made up many cultures and people who wish to live in a land where everybody gets a 'fair shake of the rattle' to the betterment of all. Over the past 20 plus years successive governments have been in the forefront of trying to improve the lives of the poor and, cultures other than white Europeans. This is admirable and to an extent is what governments are about. However, I strongly believe that the aspirations of government in respect to assistance to Maori are becoming, or are now, at variance with the aspirations of a many New Zealanders. A look on Facebook with respect to this subject determines that circa 58,000 New Zealanders are also worried that the fairness of assistance exclusively to Maori under Treaty Claims or other specific to Maori needs or wants has become near to segregation based on colour. In fact it is obvious that even your committee is tainted by the seemed Maorification that is being pushed by government and NGO's. I quote the obvious in your webpage when you refer to New Zealand as Aotearoa New Zealand. I don't ever recall New Zealand having a name change and, to the best of my knowledge New Zealand is probably registered as New Zealand officially throughout the world. The make up of the Panel doesn't offer me any confidence of impartiality with Maori representation very weighted towards 'Maori only' aspirants as opposed to New Zealanders in general. Where is the representation of other New Zealander ethnic people? So, my primary aspiration for New Zealand is that governments and Maori leaders stop this segregation of Maori from other races and treat everybody as equal with no special assistance to any race based on the past endeavours of our forefathers. That all people who take citizenship or, are New Zealand citizens by birth are known as NEW ZEALANDERS first and foremost and our authenticity as a secondary identification.

How do you want our country to be run in the future?

I would like New Zealand to be run where the government takes cognizance of the feelings of the majority of the people.

I would like New Zealand to be run where people get a say through referenda on constitutional matters or matters of racial equality.

I would like New Zealand to be run where government does not have a conscience vote. Instead New Zealanders should decide through referenda.

I would like New Zealand to be run where Parliamentarians are held to account for bad decisions & bad behaviour in Parliament.

I would like New Zealand to be run where ALL RACES ARE EQUAL UNDER ONE LAW WITH NO PREFERENTIAL TREATMENT. WE EACH STAND ON OUR OWN ABILITY TO PROCEED & SUCCEED.

I would like New Zealand to be run where the judiciary enforces the law rather than giving credits.

I would like New Zealand to be run where criminals do their FULL time with no credits.

I would like New Zealand to be run where the parole board is disbanded or held accountable for their decisions.

I would like New Zealand to be run where immigrants are required to have a fair understanding of the English language before being permitted into New Zealand, and also have a knowledge of 'the way we do things in New Zealand'. This does not include cultural immersion.

I would like New Zealand to be run where if immigrants are found to be guilty of serious or ongoing criminal intent within the first five years of settling here be returned to their homeland with no option of



return to New Zealand..

I would like New Zealand to be run where the Race Relation Office is disbanded and any racist activity can be brought before the courts.

I would like New Zealand to be run where the NZ Police are given sufficient assets to be pro-active against criminals.

I would like New Zealand to be run where the Treaty of Waitangi is not considered a founding document and all claims are completed within 12 months.

I would like New Zealand to be run where New Zealand is identified overseas by other than specifically Maori culture and associated icons.

I would like New Zealand to be run where the government makes a REAL effort to curtail alcohol and drug abuse, perhaps with the same vigor as they addressed the 'smoking issue'.

I would like New Zealand to be run where political correctness is deemed redundant.

I would like New Zealand to be run where we are not taxed to the max.

I would like New Zealand to be run where politicians REALLY do care about their constituency rather than the party line.

I would like New Zealand to be run where Waitangi Day is given a name change to New Zealand Day, where ALL people can rejoice in living in New Zealand. Waitangi Day evokes a sense of Maori Only Grievance Day. This may offend some of your Panel but there you are, that's common acceptance on the street.

I reiterate my feelings that this should have been put to all New Zealanders by referenda. I believe you will only get a small selection of the community. I may be incorrect but as far as putting the Constitutional Review 'out there' I didn't sight any advertisements requesting input by one and all, but rather from people who have an interest in politics or 'keeping the government honest' as the saying goes.

Good luck to the Panel and I will be very interested to see the outcome.

Kind wishes

Geoff Higgins

4816

**From:** <webmaster@ourconstitution.org.nz>  
**To:** <constitutionalreview@justice.govt.nz>  
**Date:** 31/07/2013 4:25 p.m.

Sent from The Constitution Conversation #link:<http://www.ourconstitution.org.nz/>.

Full Names: Susan Betty Higgins Organisation Name: Email:  
Phone: Postal AddressA: Postal AddressB: Postal  
City: Nelson Postal Region: Postal Post Code: Postal Country: New Zealand  
Submission: Retain Status Quo

Submitted on the 31 July 2013 at 16:24

4816a

**From:** <webmaster@ourconstitution.org.nz>  
**To:** <constitutionalreview@justice.govt.nz>  
**Date:** 31/07/2013 4:31 p.m.

Sent from The Constitution Conversation #link:<http://www.ourconstitution.org.nz/>.

Full Names: Susan Betty Higgins Organisation Name: Email:  
Phone: Postal AddressA: Postal AddressB: Postal  
City: Nelson Postal Region: Postal Post Code: Postal Country: New Zealand  
Submission: I believe we need to recognise the Treaty with its intent of a partnership however I would like to see full and final settlements. We do not need to keep going back over grievances from 160 years ago or more.

I do not want to see one law for Maori and another law for others. I believe that because there are some 'grey' areas this is happening and I think it is divisive.

I do not support Maori sovereignty or support the Tiro Rangitira flag

Submitted on the 31 July 2013 at 16:30

48166

**From:** <webmaster@ourconstitution.org.nz>  
**To:** <constitutionalreview@justice.govt.nz>  
**Date:** 31/07/2013 4:39 p.m.

Sent from The Constitution Conversation #link:<http://www.ourconstitution.org.nz/>.

Full Names: Susan Betty Higgins Organisation Name: Email:  
Phone: Postal AddressA: Postal AddressB: Postal  
City: Nelson Postal Region: Postal Post Code: Postal Country: New Zealand  
Submission: I want to keep the NZ Constitution as it is where the rule of law is paramount. I do not want a written one. I want to retain the Queen as the Head of State.

I believe the courts should have the power to decide whether legislation is consistent with the constitution overseen by Parliament to ensure the democratic process.

Submitted on the 31 July 2013 at 16:37

4816c

**From:** <webmaster@ourconstitution.org.nz>  
**To:** <constitutionalreview@justice.govt.nz>  
**Date:** 31/07/2013 4:57 p.m.

Sent from The Constitution Conversation #link:<http://www.ourconstitution.org.nz/>.

Full Names: Susan Betty Higgins Organisation Name: Email:  
Phone: Postal AddressA: Postal AddressB: Postal  
City: Nelson Postal Region: Postal Post Code. Postal Country: New Zealand  
Submission: The Electoral (Integrity) Amendment Act 2001 should be re-enacted to stop waka jumping and for a list MP to not continue if they have been expelled by their party.

Geographical topography should be taken into account when deciding electorates and their sizes i.e Tasman is far too big an area for one person to cover and stretched too far.

Undecided about the term of government. I think 4 years would be more stable but it depends how we sit globally for macro issues. Disasters like the earthquakes have a bearing on how many opportunities there are or whether we need to be especially fiscally prudent.

Submitted on the 31 July 2013 at 16:57

4816d

**From:** <webmaster@ourconstitution.org.nz>  
**To:** <constitutionalreview@justice.govt.nz>  
**Date:** 31/07/2013 4:44 p.m.

Sent from The Constitution Conversation #link:<http://www.ourconstitution.org.nz/>.

Full Names: Susan Betty Higgins Organisation Name: Email:  
Phone: Postal AddressA: Postal AddressB: Postal City:  
Wakefield Postal Region: Nelson Postal Post Code: Postal Country: New Zealand  
Submission: I think we should abolish the Maori seats. I believe that local authorities and  
organisations consult with local iwi on matters and this should continue. It is for Maori to encourage  
their voice to be heard by iwi through settlements and expanded industry  
(as is happening) to encourage their own to sit at the table of decision making.

I do not like the separatism of the Maori seats. There is no place for that.

Submitted on the 31 July 2013 at 16:43

431

**From:**  
**To:** <constitutionalreview@justice.govt.nz>  
**Date:** 16/04/2013 10:21 a.m.  
**Subject:** <http://www.ourconstitution.org.nz/> form submission

Sent from The Constitution Conversation #link:<http://www.ourconstitution.org.nz/>.

Full Names:                      Organisation Name:      Email:  
Phone:                      Postal AddressA:                      Postal AddressB:      Postal  
City: Manukau      Postal Region: Auckland      Postal Post Code:                      Postal Country: New  
Zealand      Submission: 1) still the same, as long as every area gets represented

2) four - six years, I believe our government terms are too short. one party is in just make a change  
have an election opposition gets in changes everything back like a swing back and fourth.

3) Why cant it be on the same day every year, pick one special "Aotearoa Day" everyone  
takes the time to vote and enjoy our families or our nation for the day and wait for the results and as a  
nation together c wat da results r

Sent on the 16 April 2013 at 10:21



**From:** ray higgs <  
**To:** <constitutionalreview@justice.govt.nz>  
**Date:** 2/07/2013 6:26 p.m.  
**Subject:** CAP Submission

2038

All Maori seats should be abolished. Maori should only become an mp on there own merits as all other nz'rs have to do not just given seats in parliment, That is racial discrimination against all other New Zealanders, All this Maori preference has to stop before we can get rid of Racial pregidist on ALL side's, No going forward until that happens, ENOUGH IS ENOUGH ONE NZ.

5094

**From:** <webmaster@ourconstitution.org.nz>  
**To:** <constitutionalreview@justice.govt.nz>  
**Date:** 7/08/2013 3:35 p.m.

Sent from The Constitution Conversation #link:<http://www.ourconstitution.org.nz/>.

Postal AddressA: Postal AddressB: Postal City: East  
Coast Postal Post Code: Postal Country: New Zealand Submission: 99 Members.

- 120 is clearly to many
- If you had 200 they would say they were busy anyway.
- Busy people get more done.
- Odd number of seats = clear winner and no scaling required.

4 years

- Why? try and find anyone who thinks 3 years is long enough or 5 years is to long!

Same election date every year, September is good,

- Fairness

- Less manipulation Full Names: Mark Higham Email: Phone:

Submitted on the 17 June 2013 at 11:18

2515

**From:** Herbert Hildreth  
**To:** "constitutionalreview@justice.govt.nz" <constitutionalreview@justice.govt.nz>  
**Date:** 4/07/2013 10:48 a.m.  
**Subject:** CAP Submission

In my opinion the time has come for the Maori seats in our parliament to be merged with the general roll. We are all New Zealanders. To have two separate rolls amounts to a form of apartheid.

So many of our statistics reflect badly on Maori, and this is demeaning for those who elect to be on the Maori roll.

Sent from my iPad

Wellington

Received 9/3/12.

FILE COPY

013 002

HOS

Law Commissioner Professor John Burrows  
Law Commission  
PO Box 2590  
WELLINGTON 6144

email: officialinfo@lawcom.govt.nz.

## **Review of the New Zealand Constitution**

Tena koe Matua,

In December 2010 Deputy Prime Minister Bill English and Māori Affairs Minister Pita Sharples announced Government would conduct a wide-ranging review of New Zealand's constitutional arrangements.

I am not a legal expert in the area of the nation's constitution, but I feel obliged to provide my own personal view regards aspects as to what change or policy shifts might be applicable to the New Zealand Constitution. I hope I am helpful in this regards.

I will refer to a number of writers and apply my own personal opinion to what is seen as a complex set of interrelated legal obligations and where I see or understand how the Treaty of Waitangi might intertwine into various legal documents. As I understand the Constitution of New Zealand hardly touches the living room discussions across the country yet within Māori society the Treaty of Waitangi does and is discussed regularly. At the same time matters around the treaty often hit the news, sometimes for good reason but in many cases these comments are tainted with racism and significant objectionable comments by and in some cases uninformed politicians making uninformed guessing regards the Treaty of Waitangi.

Unlike the codified or written constitution possessed by a number of nation states<sup>1</sup>, New Zealand does not possess a similar instrument that encapsulates a constitutional framework. My view is that the country does not need a written constitution that binds its citizens. Once in a written format it becomes extremely difficult to implement any necessary change in the future. That then presents a problem with a living document such as the Treaty of Waitangi.

The current constitutional or uncoded arrangements of this country do need reviewing and thankfully this review process by the Commission is a good starting point. I do agree with the saying that some of the most politically stable nations in the world are constitutional monarchies but in agreeing to this I am also mindful that this country as constitutional monarchy does need to review its constitutional arrangements and to look at a better integration of the Treaty of Waitangi into it.

### **Constitution Act 1986**

One important feature inherent from the northern hemisphere is the constitutional monarchy; the Governor General's website<sup>2</sup> explains the country's relationship to the Queen of England.

The Constitution Act 1986 is the principal formal statement. The Act first recognises that the Queen-the Sovereign in right of New Zealand-is the Head of State of New Zealand, and that

<sup>1</sup> For example, Australia, United States of America, Canada, Belgium

<sup>2</sup> <http://gg.govt.nz/role/constofnz/intro> and see Cabinet Manual 2008

the Governor-General appointed by her is her representative in New Zealand. Each can, in general, exercise all the powers of the other.

In the future this arrangement may change as republicanism (see comments by Prime Minister Bolger)<sup>3</sup> already discussed in the past may gather traction and there may be an opportunity to have a new set of constitutional relationships which will impact on the existing relationship between Maori and the Crown and the queen as the monarchical head of state. How this might develop in the future is not the focus of this document.

The Act then deals with the separation of power, the three levels of governance – the executive, the legislature, and the judiciary.

However within the parameters of constitutional obligations the Government must have the right to govern the country (this is important) and set in place legal obligations and opportunities for its citizens. In other words the Government as the elected body for the country as a whole must govern and ensure the outcomes are positive for its citizens. This right to govern needs to have some balance against the obligations linked to the Treaty of Waitangi but not tie down the Government's ability to manage the affairs of the nation.

On the freedom of the Crown to govern, Justice Cooke ruled that:

The principles of the Treaty do not authorise unreasonable restrictions on the right of a duly elected government to follow its chosen policy. Indeed, to try and shackle the Government unreasonably would itself be inconsistent with those principles.<sup>4</sup>

Justice Bisson observed that:

it is in accordance with the principles of the Treaty that the Crown should provide laws and make related decisions for the community as a whole having regard to the economic and other needs of the day<sup>5</sup>.

So where in the constitutional framework will the Treaty of Waitangi be aligned, integrated or intertwined? If New Zealand's constitutional law derives from Britain (from 1840 onwards) and with little change the colony (British Colony) inherited the same form of Government, in other words the Government of Britain, its legal protocols and actions were essentially transferred to this country. Again I do not have a problem with this but in the past governments have exercised power and deprived Maori of many opportunities and its aboriginal citizens have been isolated or as we can see now significantly disadvantaged.

The other downside of course is that since 1840 the Treaty of Waitangi<sup>6</sup> has been relegated to the back cupboard and as Maori have mounted a number of legal and in most cases

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<sup>3</sup> In March 1994, Prime Minister Jim Bolger suggested in the Address In Reply debate that New Zealand should become a republic by 2001. He stated that New Zealand's links with Britain were in decline, and that the country should acknowledge that "the tide of history is moving in one direction

<sup>4</sup> *New Zealand Maori Council v Attorney-General*, p 665-666, and

<sup>5</sup> Ibid 716

<sup>6</sup> Also see Claudia Orange, *The Treaty of Waitangi*, 1987



unsuccessful challenges to the actions of Crown policy in the 19 and 20 Century the Treaty has been discarded as a non entity or an unmentioned document<sup>7</sup>.

In the later part of 20 Century attitudes changed and the Treaty of Waitangi was a notable feature of discussion – and from a positive feature it has the potential to benefit all New Zealanders, not just Māori, although detractors may think differently.

I am aware the Treaty of Waitangi has never been directly incorporated into law with a binding arrangement for general purposes. Politicians and local body representatives talk about the Treaty but there now is significant impetus to incorporate it into a wide range of government documents but local government seems to be of a different beast in itself.

Incredibly there is no binding focus of the Treaty in Local Body Act.

Politicians are slow if not reluctant to uphold legal claims and politicians generally talk around and minimise the Treaty of Waitangi as a binding document. Even recommendations from the Waitangi Tribunal or the Courts can suddenly take a different political turn (See the foreshore and Seabed debacle - all of sudden the course of enquiry is changed – for the good of everyone rather than aboriginal rights?)

### **The Treaty of Waitangi**

The Treaty of Waitangi is regarded as the founding document of New Zealand

Justice Richardson stated:

There is....one overarching principle....that....the Treaty must be viewed as a solemn compact between two identified parties, the Crown and the Māori, through which the colonisation of New Zealand was to become possible. For its part the Crown sought legitimacy from the indigenous people for its acquisition of sovereignty and in return it gave certain guarantees.<sup>8</sup>

The Treaty of Waitangi and its principles can be part of the checks and balances against:

- A dominant executive arrangement
- Cabinet as a central decision making body of the executive, and
- Influencing any reform processes where nothing shall be carried out without the consideration of the Principles of the Treaty of Waitangi.

The First Past the Post (FFP) and to some extent the current dominant National Government with its Act partner, are most likely not to be offset by checks and balances across policy development. In most cases the within the FFP process the Treaty of Waitangi had limited traction or was ignored.

I am aware the Treaty of Waitangi has been increasingly recognised in domestic law and recent government policy but this should also be the case with New Zealand's International Treaty arrangements, where Māori and all New Zealanders have an interest in international treaty outcomes. That should not be too hard to do.

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<sup>7</sup> These challenges are referred to frequently in a number of Waitangi Tribunal Reports - see this organisation's website and access various legal documents, references in New Zealand books, also see Tom Bennion in [www.bennion.co](http://www.bennion.co).

<sup>8</sup> *New Zealand Maori Council v Attorney-General* [1987] 1 NZLR 641, 663

In fact incorporating a Treaty of Waitangi statement or commitment should not be a hard thing to achieve. As the 2008 Cabinet Manual points out:

The New Zealand constitution is to be found in formal legal documents, in decisions of the courts, and in practices (some of which are described as conventions. It reflects and establishes that New Zealand is a monarchy, that it has a parliamentary system of government and that it is a democracy<sup>9</sup>

It goes on to say:

It increasingly reflects that the Treaty of Waitangi is regarded as a founding document of Government in New Zealand<sup>10</sup>

If the Cabinet Manual which guides the role and function of Parliament recognises the Treaty of Waitangi as the founding document of New Zealand then much of this country's legislation should also reflect that recognition through Treaty of Waitangi clauses.

There will be areas where common sense in recognising a Treaty of Waitangi principle is necessary but these are often painfully recognised and often attention to these matters is often parked to one side as politicians and many Government officials continually pay little attention to the principles of the Treaty or treaty relation obligations.

Matters and arguments over Section 9 of the State Owned Enterprise Act and in particular the need to recognise Māori interests in asset sales should never have been an argument. Such recognition should be part of the process of sales. There should be private/public partnerships in regards state but there should also be Treaty partnering arrangements.

The Tertiary Education Strategy (TES) is given little regard to priorities and progress for Māori in tertiary study has been dismal. The Ministry of Education's Kā Hikitia has little traction as Ministry of Education officials struggle to implement the strategy.

Sadly also the opportunity to give impetus to cultural matters and treaty obligations gets little hearing as many of the officials at senior management level are non Māori and are often dictated to by Government Ministers who are scared off by a the view that they may be criticised by their constituent voters or by the conservative right. Their position in power depends on satisfying the confidence of their voter constituents.

As the Cabinet Manual (page 5) states, a balance has to be struck between majority power and minority right between the sovereignty of the people exercised through parliament and the rule of law, and between the right of elected governments to have their policies enacted into law and the protection of fundamental social and constitutional values – it does not say Māori values or the values exercised by the tangata whenua as a treaty partner.

The most elegant written constitution will not endure if there is no “buy-in” by the society it regulates. Conversely, the untidiest unwritten constitution will operate effectively if the people and those holding formal offices share its norms and values.<sup>11</sup> I agree to the early submission noted in the Dunne report (2005, page 8), Constitutional reform is needed to

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<sup>9</sup> New Zealand Constitution in the Cabinet Manual 2008; Introduction, page 1

<sup>10</sup> *ibid*

<sup>11</sup> Enquiry to review New Zealand's exiting constitutional arrangements August 2005, Dunne P Chair, page 7 and also see Matthew Palmer, the Treaty of Waitangi in New Zealand's Law and Constitution 2008



Wellington

answer the clarion call from both Māori and non-Māori to settle the Treaty in the constitutional order, and to ensure that the constitution provides for a structure and functioning of government in which all New Zealanders have confidence. (Submission from Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu, p. 4.) However my view varies slightly different, a review of the current constitutional arrangements is important but equally important is identifying where and how the Treaty of Waitangi may best sit or align or be integrated to the constitution arrangements.

This is important, Maori as a Treaty partner need to be recognised as full participants in the progress and implementation of legal documents, adjustments to Acts of Parliament and the obligations required of each Government organisation, agencies or state owned business.

Finally I think a greater effort in informing Maori audiences would be helpful in regards the work of your team. Maori need to be engaged on this important topic as time moves along.

E te rangatira, taku nei tumanako, I hope this is a starting point and provides support to your review work.

Nga mihi,

Bob Hill



1197

**From:**  
**To:** <constitutionalreview@justice.govt.nz>  
**Date:** 9/06/2013 10:39 a.m.  
**Subject:** [http://www.ourconstitution.org.nz/form\\_submission](http://www.ourconstitution.org.nz/form_submission)

Sent from The Constitution Conversation #link:<http://www.ourconstitution.org.nz/>.

Full Names: David Matthew Hill      Email:  
Phone:      Postal AddressA:      Postal AddressB:      Postal City:  
Wanganui      Postal Region: Wanganui      Postal Post Code:      Postal Country: New Zealand  
Submission: My aspirations for NZ for the future and the way I want our country run are based around the concept of equality for all races and no special privileges based on race.

I am a 5th generation Kiwi, my Great Great Grandfather John Hill was on the Jane Clifford the first immigrant ship into Auckland in 1842.

Therefore I am a Kiwi first and Foremost.

Any Constitution that grants special privileges based on race only is morally wrong and racist.

Its time we dispensed with Maori seats in Parliament, Maori Rugby teams and any legislation favoring Maori.

Very few Maori in NZ can claim 50% or more Maori blood, indeed my own children are 1/16th Maori but are New Zealanders first

We are or should be all one people with equal rights.

Sent on the 9 June 2013 at 10:38

1197a.

**From:** David Hill <  
**To:** <constitutionalreview@justice.govt.nz>  
**Date:** 3/07/2013 7:31 a.m.  
**Subject:** CAP Submission

I believe that any parliamentary seats anywhere based purely on a person being from a particular race cannot be classed as anything but racist.

I challenge any court of law to prove otherwise.

In South Africa when parliamentary seats were allocated under the same conditions it was called racist and the world condemned against this vile act.

Also most if not all Maori including my children are a mix of different ethnic genes.

My children are 1/16 th Maori but look like any other European Kiwi but constantly get letters inviting them to go on the Maori voting roll.

In NZ if you are born into this land you are a Kiwi or New Zealander.

To divide or have special privileges based on race is inviting racial discord, special treatment based on race and eventual dissatisfaction possibly even violence as people from both sides of the debate rebel against this unjust system.

We don't in future want to be like the old South Africa or Serbia.

David Hill

Wanganui



## Quick Submission

Your name:

MR EDWARD F. HILL

Name of the organisation you represent (if applicable):

N/A

Postal address or email address:

HASTINGS.

④ EXISTING LEGISLATION  
WHICH BREACHES THESE  
CONDITIONS TO BE REPEALED

⑤ THIS COUNTRY SHOULD HAVE  
NO NEED OF A SO  
CALLED "CONSTITUTION", AND  
ONLY DEFINED PRIOR, IF  
75% OF ELECTORS APPROVE  
OF THE WHOLE PUBLISHED  
DOCUMENT, BY SPECIAL  
VOTE.

⑥ WITHDRAW AND REPEAL ANY  
UNOFFICIAL RECOGNITION OF  
UN DECLARATION OF RIGHTS  
OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLE.  
IN THE CASE OF NEW  
ZEALAND it is VIRTUALLY  
IMPOSSIBLE TO IDENTIFY  
ANY OR WHO ARE  
"INDIGENOUS" TO NZ IN  
TERMS THAT ARE AT ALL  
MEANINGFUL, OR SUBMIT  
ANY DATE FROM SUCH MAY  
APPLY.

## Privacy and Confidentiality

Your personal information will be held in accordance with the Privacy Act 1993. This Act outlines the requirements for transparent collection, ethical use and secure storage of personal information.

The personal information you provide in this submission form will be used for the purposes of the Consideration of Constitutional Issues only.

You can also make a submission online  
at [www.ourconstitution.org.nz](http://www.ourconstitution.org.nz)

① I TOTALLY SUPPORT THE  
FIRST PRINCIPLE THAT  
ALL NEW ZEALANDERS  
ARE TO BE TREATED  
EQUALLY UNDER THE  
LAW, WITHOUT REGARD  
TO COLOR OR CREED OR  
RACE.

② ONE ELECTORAL ROLL  
FOR ALL ELECTORS.

③ NO ETHNIC UNIVERSAL  
FUNDING FROM GENERAL  
TAXATION.

4249'

**From:** "Alice Hill"  
**To:** <constitutionalreview@justice.govt.nz>  
**Date:** 30/07/2013 8:02 p.m.  
**Subject:** Submission to the N.Z.Constituional Review.  
**Attachments:** SUBMISSION TO NEW ZEALAND CONSTITUTINAL REVIEW.docx;  
CONSTITUTIONAL REVIE  
W Submitter's details.docx

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Attached are our submitter details and our submission.

Signed: G.R and A.H. Hill.



## SUBMISSION TO NEW ZEALAND CONSTITUTIONAL REVIEW.

### BACKGROUND:

We are proud new Zealanders. All our antecedents migrated to New Zealand in the 19<sup>th</sup> Century. Our extended families have contributed hugely to N.Z.'s development and economy over the last 150 yrs. And our descendants continue to do so with distinction.

### CONSTITUTION:

We firmly believe that the constitution we have now has served N.Z. well and will continue to do so into the future. It would be accurate to state that the way the country is run has been established by evolution and convention. "If it ain't broke don't fix it.!"

In Favour of Status Quo: At present parliament makes our laws. MP's are democratically elected and can be voted out of office if electors lose confidence in the incumbent administration.

Against a Written Constitution: Parliament would no longer enact or amend laws. A cumbersome and expensive judicial process would be involved with limited flexibility. There would be no ongoing accountability to the electors.

TREATY of WAITANGI ISSUES: As the status of the Treaty is the motivation for this review it forms a major part of our submission. We have studied Treaty matters over the years so feel qualified to comment.

The current government is speeding the settlement of Treaty claims. When full and final settlement is completed in a spirit of mutual goodwill, the Treaty of Waitangi should become an historical document only. There should no longer be a need to keep referring back to it. The Waitangi tribunal can be dismissed having completed it's task. New Zealand then can move forward as one people, equal citizens of one multicultural nation. Ethnic groups will retain their cultural identity e.g. Maori, Scottish, Indian, Samoan. (A school in Wellington has 38 ethnicities represented!)

Maori need to acknowledge all the benefits that colonization has provided and are shared by all N.Zers: law and order, infrastructure, communication, health, education to name a few, rather than focusing on grievances. At present we seem to be going on a path to apartheid. As time passes, the future should be for a unified nation, not Maori and others.

There will no longer be the need for race based seats in central or local government.

As Govenor Hobson announced to the assembly at Waitangi after the treaty signing: "He iwi tahi tatou" We are now one people.

### FINE TUNING the STATUS QUO:

We believe that parliament is top heavy with list M.P.s. We suggest 100 M.Ps. at a ratio of 70:30. The MMP electoral system is well established and provides a diversity of representation in parliament.

Major changes to our constitutional conventions at this time could be seriously unsettling. New Zealand is grappling with recovery of the economy from the GFC. There is ongoing debate over the Monarchy/Republican question. These are reasons for maintaining our present constitution.



CONSTITUTIONAL REVIEW: SUBMITTER'S DETAILS:

Names; Geoffrey Roderick Hill and Alice Harvey Hill.

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Postal Address: G.R. and A.H.Hill

Hamiltor  
New Zealand.

1758"



This information is to help you think  
about what **you** want to say about  
New Zealand's future



How do you think New Zealand  
should be run in the future?

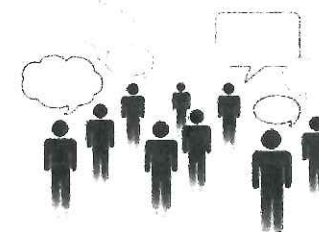
## What is a constitution?



A constitution is a set of rules.



This information is about looking at the constitution or rules of New Zealand.



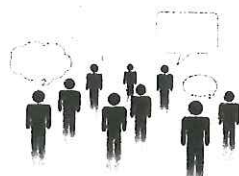
It is important that everybody gets to have their say about how they think we should live and work together in New Zealand.



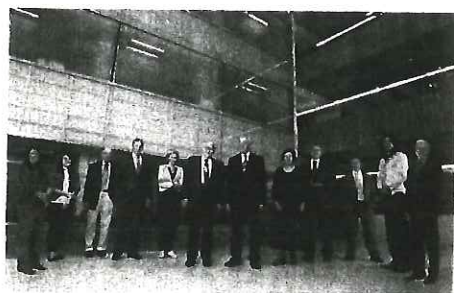
This is your chance to say what you think.



This information will tell you what we need to hear about.



Tell us what you think.



**The Advisory Panel** wants to hear what you think.



The Deputy Prime Minister and the Minister of Māori Affairs chose the people on the Advisory Panel.



For more information you can go online to: [www.cap.govt.nz](http://www.cap.govt.nz)

You have until **1<sup>st</sup> July 2013** to **have your say.**



## How do you have your say?



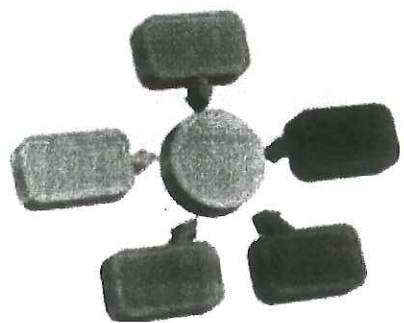
**The Advisory Panel** will listen to all New Zealanders who speak up about the set of rules for New Zealand



**The Advisory Panel** will give a report to the Ministers by the end of 2013.

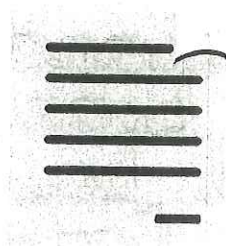


All New Zealanders can have their say.



There are **5 topics** for people to have a say about:

1. New Zealand's Constitution (rules)
2. The Bill of Rights (human rights for New Zealanders)
3. Treaty of Waitangi
4. Māori speaking for Māori
5. The rules about elections and members of Parliament



Each topic will have:

- information
- questions



This book is to help you know what we need to hear about.

## Questions



What are your dreams for New Zealand?

My dreams for New Zealand are more stadiums, street light, and traffic lights.



How do you want New Zealand to be run in the future?

New Zealand should run free because they should build more bridges, roads and houses.

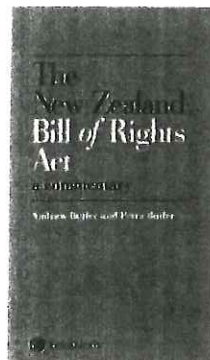




New Zealand has a constitution/set of rules.



It is made up of lots of different documents.



Some of the documents are:

- the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990
- the Constitution Act 1986
- the Treaty of Waitangi.



The New Zealand constitution:

- says who has the powers to run New Zealand
- has rules about how the powers can be used
- protects the rights of New Zealanders.



## Questions



1. Do you think New Zealand's constitution should be written up into one single document?

Yes it should be  
written up into one  
single document.



2. Why do you think this?

I think this is a  
good idea to have  
your say.



3. Do you think the constitution should be the highest law in New Zealand?

Constitution should  
stay highest law.



4. Why do you think this?

They should stop  
the crimes in New  
Zealand.



5. Who should be the people to decide if  
the laws of New Zealand match the  
constitution?

Members of Parliament

Or

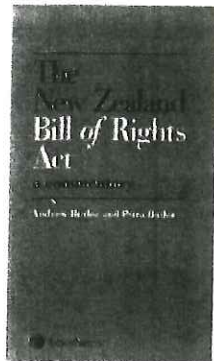
Court Judges



6. Why do you think this?

Court judges have  
the rights to say  
this.

## The Bill of Rights



The New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990 says what New Zealanders' rights and freedoms are.

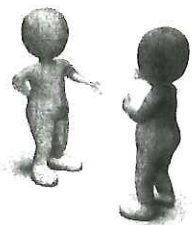


It says that the Government must respect those rights.



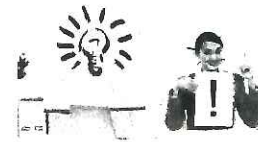
It has the following rights:

- political rights- having a say in how the country is run





- the right to vote



- being able to say what you think freely and without risk



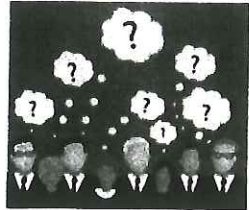
- religious and belief rights- to be of whatever religion you choose or not religion



- being able to gather with groups of people who have the same interests as you do



## Questions



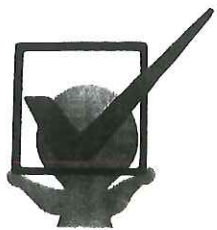
1. Do you think your rights are being looked after in New Zealand?

Yes My rights are  
being looked after  
in New Zealand.



2. Why do you think that?

I think that it is  
a good idea have a  
right to say.



3. What else needs to be done so that you have your rights met in New Zealand?

I have a right to  
choose my  
religion.





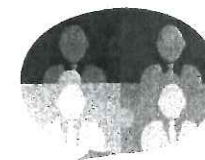
4. Do you think the Bill of Rights Act should be the highest law in New Zealand?

Bill of Rights Should be the highest law in New Zealand.



5. Why do you think this?

I think because is Bill of rights should stay in New Zealand.



6. Who should be the people to decide if the laws of New Zealand match the Bill of Rights Act:

Members of Parliament

Or

Court Judges



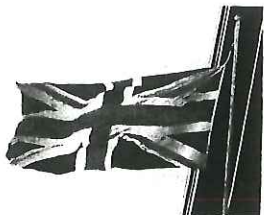
7. Do any new rights need to be added to the Bill of Rights Act?

Yes it should be  
new rights added  
to the bill of rights act.

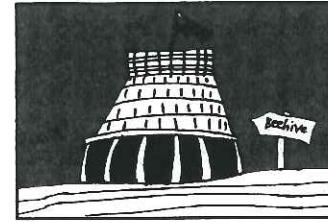
## The Treaty of Waitangi



The Treaty of Waitangi is an agreement that was made in 1840.



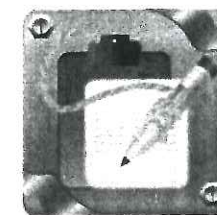
The agreement was between the British Crown and Māori Chiefs.



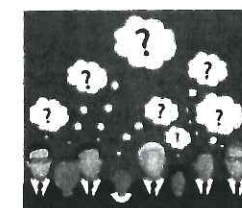
It meant that the British could set up a government in New Zealand.



The agreement promised Māori rights and control over their property.



The Treaty of Waitangi is New Zealand's first written document that says how the Government and Māori would work together.



When Government or Parliament are making important decisions or making new laws they also consider or think about the Treaty of Waitangi.

## Questions



1. How do you want the Treaty of Waitangi to be used and understood into the future?

Treaty of Waitangi  
should stay the  
same.



2. Should the Treaty of Waitangi be in the constitution?

Treaty of Waitangi  
should be in the  
constitution.



3. Why do you think this?

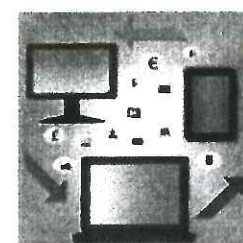
That is a good  
idea.



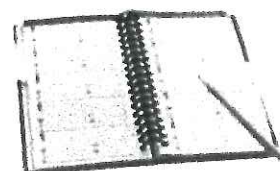


Do you have anything else you want to say about New Zealand's constitution or rules?

*No I have Nauthing  
els to say.*



If you want to read some more information about what other people think you can find this online at [www.ourconstitution.org.nz](http://www.ourconstitution.org.nz) and on Facebook



**How do I send in what I want to say?**

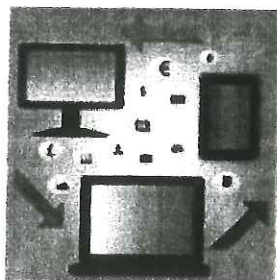
You have to have your say in **by 5pm, Monday 1<sup>st</sup> July 2013.**



**To have your say you can:**



- fill out the short form at the end of this information



- do it on line at  
[www.ourconstitution.org.nz](http://www.ourconstitution.org.nz)



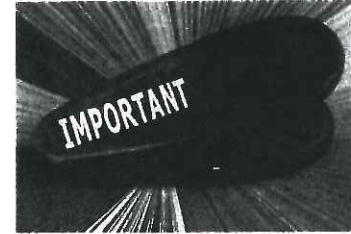
- email what you have to say to  
[constitutionalreview@justice.govt.nz](mailto:constitutionalreview@justice.govt.nz)  
and put this in the subject line: CAP  
submission. You can attach  
documents to the email



- post your say into  
Submissions  
Secretariat,  
Constitutional Advisory Panel  
C/o Ministry of Justice  
DX SX10088  
Wellington

Any questions you can call: 0508 411  
411





### Important information

To make this official you must write your name here:

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OR

The name of your organisation:

*Idea Services*

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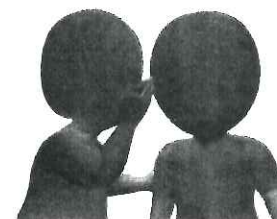
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Please note: when you send in your information by law it can be made public.

Your name can be used with what you have had to say in things like:

- written information
- websites
- social media like Facebook
- reports



You can ask for your name to be kept private but we cannot promise that it will be done.



Short form for having your say

Your name:

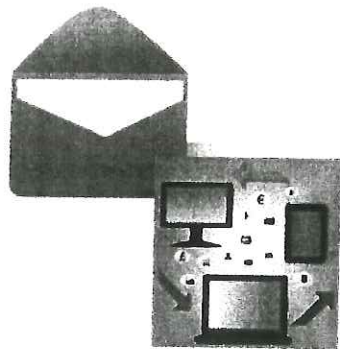
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Or the name of the organisation:

Idea Services

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



Postal or email address:

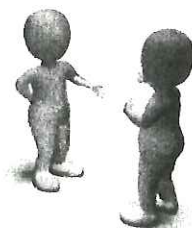
Hamilton

\_\_\_\_\_

What do you want to say?

We want more information.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_





1770

HASTINGS

27<sup>th</sup> June 2013

SUBMISSION  
CONSTITUTIONAL REVIEW

It is about time the people of New Zealand grew up and – as a lot of folk say “We are now in the 21st Century” Hopefully, we have learnt a few lessons from the past and to this end let us look to the future.

We have very few so called “Indigenous people” left as most have intermarried and together with many immigrants we are a multinational nation.

Therefore, I support the first principle that ALL NEW ZEALANDERS be treated equally, regardless of race or creed and disband the selective electoral roll.

This way we can move forward and become a “United Country.”

The Treaty of Waitangi” has been misconstrued from its original intension and further encourages division which has gone from an A4 sheet to almost a book.

Everyone has the same opportunity in this country in Education – it’s how the individual progresses personally as to how well they do – perhaps the families should take more responsibility in endeavouring to help their offspring to succeed.

Therefore, we also repeal any New Zealand official recognition of United Nations Declaration of Rights of Indigenous people.

To create a Constitution and include sections of the community, i.e. Maori, will only further divide and fractionate the country.

In the Prime Minister’s own words, “***We have a strong legal basis and constitutional framework***” so why change it to suit a minority?

To further sectionalize the community will further divide and division will be detrimental to our Country.

In summary, I would like to see the Maori seats and the Maori Electoral Roll abolished and our present constitutional arrangements retained. In addition, I believe the Treaty of Waitangi has no place in any constitutional documents or legislation.

United we stand – Divided we fall.

Sincerely

Jean M. Hill MNZM.JP

2213

**From:** J Hill  
**To:** "constitutionalreview@justice.govt.nz" <constitutionalreview@justice.govt.nz>  
**Date:** 3/07/2013 1:29 p.m.  
**Subject:** Maori Seats

I believe that Maori seats should be abolished because any differentiation based on race is racism. The majority of New Zealanders are not Maori and political representation should be on behalf of all New Zealanders, not a minority race.

---

J Hill  
Wellsford



2213a

**From:** <webmaster@ourconstitution.org.nz>  
**To:** <constitutionalreview@justice.govt.nz>  
**Date:** 7/08/2013 4:50 p.m.

Sent from The Constitution Conversation #link:<http://www.ourconstitution.org.nz/>.

---

Full Name: Jane Michelle Jeane Hill Email: Postal AddressA:  
Postal AddressB: Postal City: Postal Region: Auckland  
Postal Post Code: Postal Country: New Zealand Submission: My aspiration for New  
Zealand is that there be NO differentiation based on race. This country was founded by many different  
cultures. There should be NO "first nation" rights, as the whole planet was populated by  
the migration of people from  
one area to

another, with 'countries/nations' being created along the way. To make a claim that one race has  
jurisdiction or rights over another is nothing more than selfishness and greed. There will be no unity in  
this country until cultural claims are abolished and

everyone is treated equally, therefore any national constitution should have NO reference to an  
individual culture/race.

Submitted on the 11 June 2013 at 16:38

585

**From:** "Jan Hill"  
**To:** <constitutionalreview@justice.govt.nz>  
**Date:** 21/04/2013 5:45 p.m.  
**Subject:** NZ Constitutional Review Submission

Good Evening

NZ Constitutional Review Submission

My submission regarding the NZ Constitutional Review is that I want no change to New Zealand's unwritten constitution which has served us well since the 1852 NZ Constitutional Act was passed.

It may require some alterations in the future but not a race based Constitution.

"Equality for all, one people, one nation!"

Regards  
Jan Hill

Tauranga

Phone:

3008

[newzealand.govt.nz](http://newzealand.govt.nz)

Our constitution is the set of rules that determines how this country is governed and how we all live together.



Tell us your aspirations for our country and let us know what's important to you about how this country is run:

Freedom from fear  
Freedom from hunger  
Freedom of speech  
Freedom of worship  
Elimination of child poverty

You can find out more about the Constitution Conversation and make a fuller submission online at [www.ourconstitution.org.nz](http://www.ourconstitution.org.nz)

Secretariat  
Constitutional Advisory Panel  
C/o Ministry of Justice  
DX SX 10088  
Wellington

Name(s):

LYNNE HILL

Email or postal Address:

☒ Tick box to receive regular updates by email

6088.1

1775

Max Hill

Taupiri  
19<sup>th</sup> June 2013.

Attention  
The Proposed New Zealand's Constitution 2013 Review Committee  
Parliament Buildings  
Wellington.

Dear Committee,

I have made a request to my local MP, for Waikato, to ensure that my submission concerning the proposed New Zealand's Constitution be delivered to you.

Please confirm in writing to my above address that my submission has been received.

- a) The New Zealand Constitution 2013 should contain only the following wording.

The people of New Zealand shall have the same Rights, Privileges and Duties of citizenship as the people of England.

- b) Your committee should consider a new flag for New Zealand.  
I have enclosed a design that may be of some help.

The flag carries the three colours of our present flag with the silver fern and the southern cross stars placed over the blue being the waters of the Pacific Ocean.

Some time ago I worked as a historian for people who link their heritage back to the Aotea waka and it was during that time this flag design was suggested.

The suggestion is if this flag is to become our nation flag it would carry the name as Aotea New Zealand.

One meaning to Aotea is the dawn like in a new beginning.  
Of interest I have now found a large amount of Maori research. In brief there was no Aotearoa. There was no Kupe of 940AD and there was no great fleet.

- c) I further submit.  
Parliament should run for a four year term.

I thank you for your attention and I await your reply.

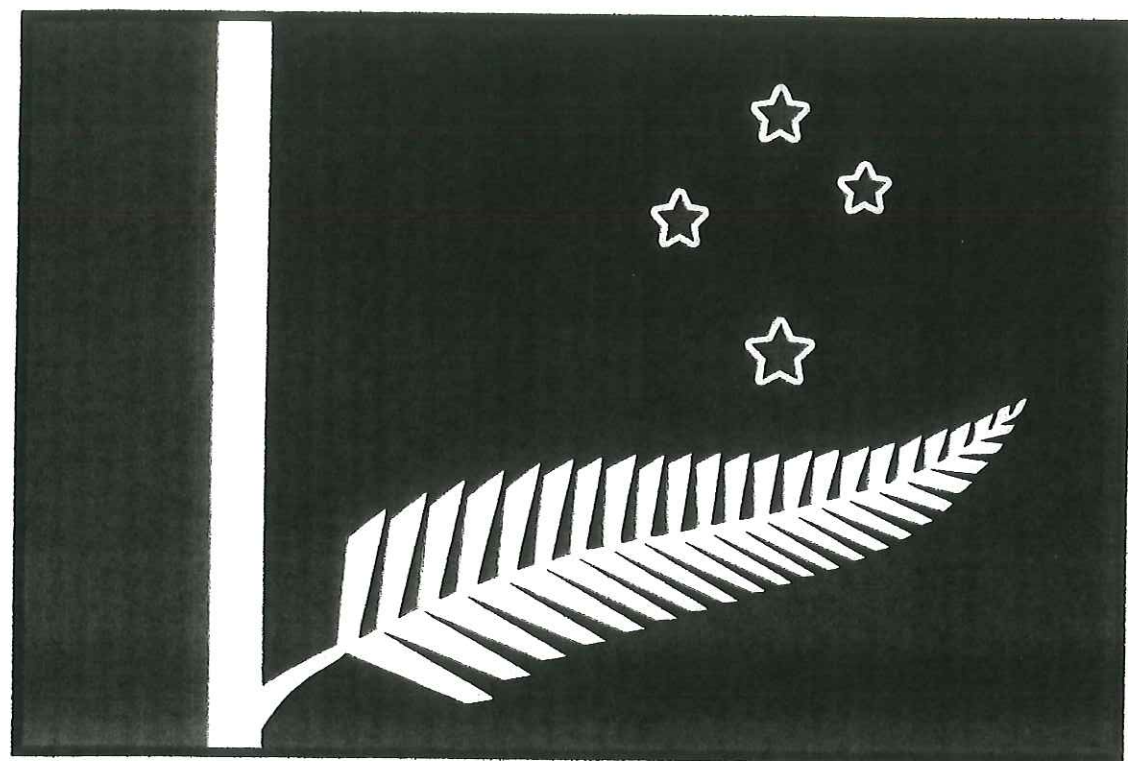
Yours sincerely  
Max Hill.

## **New Zealand's Constitution 2013**

**The people of New Zealand shall have the same Rights (a) & (b)  
Privileges and Duties of citizenship as the people of England.**

- (a) The Magna Carta dated from 1215AD, 1245AD & 1290AD.
- (b) The Bill of Rights dated 1688AD.





1711

**From:** <webmaster@ourconstitution.org.nz>  
**To:** <constitutionalreview@justice.govt.nz>  
**Date:** 28/06/2013 7:22 p.m.  
**Subject:** <http://www.ourconstitution.org.nz/> form submission

Sent from The Constitution Conversation #link:<http://www.ourconstitution.org.nz/>.

Full Names: Martin Hill Organisation Name: Email: Phone:  
Postal AddressA: Postal AddressB: Postal City: Auckland Postal Region:  
Postal Post Code: Postal Country: New Zealand Submission: 1. I would like New Zealand to encourage those who work hard and raise there families responsibly.

I would like those who teach and practice irresponsible attitudes that lead to burdens being bourne by others to be held accountable, such as those that uphod promiscuity as a harmless and cool passtime, and are given access to school to teach this.

I would like major decisions affecting our nation's social fabric, such as the anti-smacking bill, the gay marriage bill, the ongoing handouts to tribal groups, to be put to public referendum before becoming law.

I would like provincial towns to be encouraged by incentives for industry and government departments to be located there rather than in Auckland or Wellington, where there is no particular need for this. I think of the IRD closing soon in Napier and wanting staff to shift to Hamilton.

I would like incentives for people to settle in places other than Auckland.

I want New Zealand to be owned by New Zealanders and not foreign nationals.

I want new residents to have conditional residence for two generations, like Germany, where even children of immigrants born here can be deported to their parent's home country for being a liability to this country which has given them the privelege of liveing here.

2.I would like New Zealand to stop idealising the past into an unrealistic picture of prepakeha paradise.

I would like to see government spending held accountable to be achieving what it supposed to, protecting the citizens, helping people in need in practical ways for a limited time, to help them on their feet.

Iwould like the treaty of Waitangi to be kept out of modern policies, to be stopped being used as a political football. That it has no part in modern New Zealand and should not be used to enrich the favoured few, to the shame and embarrassment of the rest of us.

I would like everybody to be New Zealanders, that Maori are given the same rights as everyone else, that it is realised they are part European or other race as well as part Maori, and that the same expectation is required of each person to work hard and be a good contributing citizen.

I would like Maori seats abolished, as well as all references in local bodies requiring unelected people with voting rights based on race.

Sent on the 28 June 2013 at 19:21

1043

**From:** <  
**To:** <constitutionalreview@justice.govt.nz>  
**Date:** 4/06/2013 1:39 p.m.  
**Subject:** <http://www.ourconstitution.org.nz/> form submission

Sent from The Constitution Conversation #link:<http://www.ourconstitution.org.nz/>.

Full Name: Russell Martin Hill Organisation Name: Email: Phone:  
( Postal AddressA: Postal AddressB: Postal  
City: Auckland Postal Region: Postal Post Code: Postal Country: New Zealand  
Submission: 1. The current Laws that make up our present Constitution should be embodied in one document so that there is only one reference point to go to for answers.

2. The new Constitution should embody the present Laws as they stand at this time. This is not the time to make alterations to the Constitution. Let everybody see the new single document so that they can see it all in context before making demands/suggestions that it be changed.

Sent on the 4 June 2013 at 13:38

2399

**From:**  
**To:** <constitutionalreview@justice.govt.nz>  
**Date:** 4/07/2013 5:52 a.m.  
**Subject:** <http://www.ourconstitution.org.nz/> form submission

Sent from The Constitution Conversation #link:<http://www.ourconstitution.org.nz/>

Full Names: Roger Hill Organisation Name: Email:  
Phone: Postal AddressA: Postal AddressB: Postal City:  
Cambridge Postal Region: Waikato Postal Post Code: Postal Country: New Zealand  
Submission: I do not believe we need a written constitution at this point in time.

We have a very strong judicial and parliamentary system that protects NZ citizens in a very effective manner already. Drafting a Constitution would inevitably be subject to political influence, in particular, the incorporation of the Treaty of Waitangi as a founding or base document, which I don't think it should be. A Constitution should see all citizens as truly equal, with no differentiation based on ethnicity whatsoever. Given the current political climate and political system, I see the drafting of such a document would be highly politicised, and could end up with something I would regard as a step backward for NZ society.

And if it aint broke, why fix it?

Sent on the 4 July 2013 at 05:51

898

**From:**  
**To:** <constitutionalreview@justice.govt.nz>  
**Date:** 23/05/2013 4:25 p.m.  
**Subject:** <http://www.ourconstitution.org.nz/> form submission

Sent from The Constitution Conversation #link:<http://www.ourconstitution.org.nz/>.

Full Names: Rose Hill Organisation Name: Email: Phone:  
Postal AddressA: Postal AddressB: Postal City:  
Postal Region: Northland Postal Post Code: Postal Country: New Zealand  
Submission: I am a New Zealander of European descent and I have relatives of mixed Maori and European ancestry. I do not wish to see any of the Maori culture lost or sublimated by European culture. However I see this happening in reverse. Right now my NZ born niece, who has Maori heritage, has more privileges in this country than my NZ born daughter.

Now there are New Zealanders of many races, cultures and religions. They have many different mores, laws, beliefs and customs.

I am concerned that our current legislation and parliament are enshrining Maori culture as law. I would like to see all cultures given equal respect, but no culture, or race, or religion given special recognition or status in law. It is time to recognise that Maori people are equal; that all cultures contribute to our unique heritage and that no one, whatever their race, should be advantaged or disadvantaged by their race or their culture.

The Treaty of Waitangi settlements have given Maori the opportunity to have historical wrongs redressed. Maori seats in Parliament have assured Maori of a presence in the House of Representatives when their opportunities were not equal. Today Maori, and other cultures, are well represented in Government. Today Treaty Settlements have enriched many Maori Iwi.

It is time to phase out the Maori seats in Parliament.

It is time to wind up the Treaty settlement process.

It is time to recognise that the Treaty of Waitangi is an historical document which was intended to unify and not divide.

I submit: Under any law or constitution all New Zealand citizens, whatever their heritage, must be treated equally.

Sent on the 23 May 2013 at 16:24



898a

**From:**  
**To:** <constitutionalreview@justice.govt.nz>  
**Date:** 24/05/2013 8:31 a.m.  
**Subject:** <http://www.ourconstitution.org.nz/> form submission

Sent from The Constitution Conversation #link:<http://www.ourconstitution.org.nz/>.

Full Names: Rose Hill Organisation Name: Email: Phone:  
Postal AddressA: Postal AddressB: Postal City:  
Whangarei Postal Region: Northland Postal Post Code: Postal Country: New Zealand  
Submission: It is time to phase out Maori seats in Parliament. Race based representation is no longer needed. More Maori would be likely to vote if they did not feel they had guaranteed representation in Parliament. This would also work at local government level.  
I want to see NZ become less racially biased - not more.

Sent on the 24 May 2013 at 08:29

586

**From:** "Tony Hill"  
**To:** <constitutionalreview@justice.govt.nz>  
**Date:** 21/04/2013 5:50 p.m.  
**Subject:** New Zealand Constitutional Review Submission

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New Zealand Constitutional Review Submission

My submission regarding the New Zealand Constitutional Review is that I want no change to New Zealand's unwritten constitution. It has served us well since the 1852 NZ Constitutional Act was passed, our founding document. It may require some alterations in the future but not a race based Constitution.

"Equality for all, One People, One Nation".

Many thanks.

Regards  
Tony Hill

Tauranga