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

stamp

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

- Māori to have first priority in job lines - no selling our land, water, NEW ZEALAND, - MORE Māori seats in Parliament - NO HINDUS, Indians, Chinese... owning our shops. more advantages for Māori.

You can find out more about the Constitution Conversation and make a fuller submission online at www.ourconstitution.org.nz

Secretariat

Constitutional Advisory Panel

C/o Ministry of Justice

DX SX 10088

Wellington

Name(s):

Mokoia Kaea-Rata

Email or postal Address:

☒ Tick box to receive regular updates by email

6088.1

3830

From: <webmaster@ourconstitution.org.nz>
To: <constitutionalreview@justice.govt.nz>
Date: 24/07/2013 5:00 p.m.

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

Full Names: Areta Kahu, Betty Brown, Elizabeth Daniels, Hori John, Christine Harris, Ngarima Hoskin, Elaine Kameta, Adam Kihi, Justin Lawson, Maria Maru, Lance McCorkindale, Kaye Moke-Whakaruru, Aocacia, Te Pora Owens, Barbara Pakero, Priscilla Te Hau, Dennis Wattie, John-Roy Wattie, Organisation Name: None Email: Phone:
Postal AddressA: Postal AddressB: Postal City:
Hamilton Postal Region: Postal Post Code: Postal Country: New Zealand
Submission: Te Tiriti o Waitangi

- The treaty needs to be the founding document of our newly formed constitution.
- Bring back to public view and insure all New Zealanders and residents have a deep understanding of its contents.
- It should be made a formal part of the constitution so that it is upheld, maintained and therefore honoured by both indigenous and non-indigenous peoples: that it will not be null and void.

National and Local Representation

- An equal amount of Maori and Pakeha seats in Local bodies so that both views are equally represented.
- All local body Councilors and MPs to have a knowledge of Te Reo Māori ahuatanga and Tikanga Maori.
- All Councilors and MPs have an understanding of Treaty of Waitangi: Obligations and Principles of such to the people of Aotearoa NZ in that the partnership is acknowledged.
- Tangata Whenua should always be consulted in Council decisions.
- Representation to reflect a true partnership with Treaty of Waitangi as founding document.

The Bill of Rights:

- Bill of Rights to be included as part of the Constitution.
- Bill of Rights to be rewritten with equal contributions from Maori, non Maori and included in the Constitution.
- To respect Maori Lore and Tikanga.
- An Independent body selected by the people outside of Parliament to review decisions when forming the constitution. Not government.

Electoral Matters:

- Equal amount of seats for both Maori and the Treaty partner.

- Recognize and Acknowledge the articles of Te Tiriti o Waitangi
- All involved in Parliament to have a knowledge of Te Reo Maori as well as ahuatanga and Tikanga Maori of Aotearoa New Zealand.

Nationalism

- Change the national flag to reflect the uniqueness of the country
- Commemorate those who have fallen in the NZ Land Wars of 1860s as we do for Two World Wars

Submitted on the 24 July 2013 at 16:59

4226

From: <webmaster@ourconstitution.org.nz>
To: <constitutionalreview@justice.govt.nz>
Date: 30/07/2013 5:03 p.m.

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

Full Names: Olivia Kaiwai Organisation Name: Email: Phone:
Postal AddressA: Postal AddressB: Postal City:
Postal Region: Wellington Postal Post Code: Postal Country: New Zealand
Submission: I think democracy is an empty lie. My vote feels insignificant towards ensuring that policies and legislation that I support actually goes through the stages of parliament. Similarly, bills that I am absolutely opposed to could just get rushed through under urgency with no restrictions or safeguards. Once election is over, the people lose all power and even during elections, the media influences so many voters into voting for people they don't know anything about. This lack of power is apparent through the fact that our protests get us absolutely nowhere.

I want New Zealand to extend more power to the people through systems that actually work other than select committees and public referendums. We need information on legislation to be more accessible and understandable. The majority of New Zealanders have absolutely no clue what the Government is doing half the time and even if they did bother to go on the supposedly informational website, they wouldn't get a straightforward answer. People still aren't aware of what exactly the piracy bill meant for them and they have no idea just what this GCSB bill is going to take away from them in terms of rights and privacy.

Submitted on the 30 July 2013 at 17:01

1661

From: <webmaster@ourconstitution.org.nz>
To: <constitutionalreview@justice.govt.nz>
Date: 27/06/2013 11:23 a.m.
Subject: <http://www.ourconstitution.org.nz/> form submission
Attachments: Constitutional Subm..docx

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

Full Names: Karl-Heinz Peter Kammler Organisation Name: Email:
Phone: Postal AddressA: Postal AddressB: Postal City:
Postal Region: Auckland Postal Post Code: Postal Country: New Zealand
Submission: see attached file Submission Upload: Constitutional Subm..docx

Sent on the 27 June 2013 at 11:23

K.-H. Peter Kammler

New Zealand
Phone
Fax

Thursday, 27 June 2013

Submission Constitutional Review

My wife and I came to New Zealand 26 years ago, and I have obtained New Zealand citizenship. I wish to express my extreme concern at the focus on everything 'Maori' that has developed in the past decade or two. I see far too much emphasis on Maori culture, language, politics, poverty, crime etc. Poverty and crime are not race based phenomena but are linked to socio-economic status.

We are a multicultural nation in a multicultural world and we need to get more of a balance in recognising *all* the nationalities and cultures that comprise the population of our Country. At the same time, the precondition for any democratic country must be adhered to: **Before the law, all citizens are equal**. In New Zealand, this principle has been eroded over the last decades, and – to paraphrase George Orwell – now Maori are more equal than others. New Zealand must be the only country in the world where demanding one law for all make you a racist.

I agree that Maori have to be compensated for injustices done. This should be a matter for ordinary courts, not a trumped-up tribunal - which not only is biased but is feeding a huge, and costly, grievance industry. For example, the Maori grievance of wanting compensation for us to use one of their "taonga", the electromagnetic spectrum (radio waves), is just showing the warped mind-set prevailing in these circles.

In my view, after the introduction of MMP, there is no longer a justification for special Maori seats in parliament. They are very adequately represented by MP's of Maori descent elected in through the general role. Similarly, there is no justification for non-elected Maori representation on local government organisations. If Maori desire to be represented they have the same opportunities as any other group to seek election and representation.

Having said all that, I wish to emphasise my abhorrence at the possibility of a new Constitution for this country based on race, the Treaty of Waitangi, or any other excuse to enhance the power and control over the entire country to a chosen few, based on their race. (Also, since Maori now are of mixed blood, they are not only victims but at the same time perpetrators of any injustice).

This Country has been developed on democratic principles. To decide now to elevate a race based minority to become the 'co-rulers' of our nation is totally contrary to those principles, and I object to this in the strongest terms.

Preservation of all the cultures that are present and are represented within New Zealand is important for many reasons, but it seems that most ethnic groups accept responsibility for doing this in respect of their particular culture whatever it may be. There is no justification for one culture to be 'preserved and protected' more than any other, especially when that culture demands an unfair proportion of the nation's resources to do so.

K H Peter Kammler

2383

From: <webmaster@ourconstitution.org.nz>
To: <constitutionalreview@justice.govt.nz>
Date: 3/07/2013 11:08 p.m.
Subject: <http://www.ourconstitution.org.nz/> form submission

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

Full Names: ANTHONY NORMAN ILEN JOE KAN Organisation Name: Email:
Phone: Postal AddressA: Postal
AddressB: Postal City: Postal Region: CANTERBURY
Postal Post Code: Postal Country: New Zealand Submission: Although the modern state
of New Zealand was established by the Treaty of Waitangi, the development of the philosophy of the
Treaty has resulted in the emergence of the idea that Maori are in partnership with Non-Maori. The
Treaty has had the unfortunate
effect of entrenching the idea that New Zealand consists of two nations within a kind of federation.
The Maori and the Non-Maori or Pakeha, if you will.

This dividing wall, prevents the nation from achieving true unity. By unity, I don't mean conformity. I
believe one nation can still have diversity. New Zealand should be one nation, consisting of many
peoples.

Instead, the current treaty naturally leads to bi-culturalism, not multi-culturalism. The current treaty
establishes Maori to be, in some way, more "equal" than other New Zealanders.

For example, one outcome is that some hold the thought that all non-Maori residing in New Zealand
are "guests" of Maori, the hosts. This implies that like all guests, non-Maori only remain in
New Zealand because of the generosity and good will of the host.
If that generosity or good will should be eroded sufficiently, then the hosts could exert their rights and
expel the guests. This may sound absurd but I have encountered one or two who genuinely hold this
belief. I believe this kind of thinking stems from
the Treaty.

I therefore suggest that NZ should develop a constitution that reflects the multicultural reality that is
our society today. The Treaty is a relic of the past and will not result in a society that is based on
racial and ethnic equality. It will hold us back.
In my view, the Treaty settlements must be completed in order to clear the way for constitutional
reform.

Sent on the 3 July 2013 at 23:07

931

From:
To: <constitutionalreview@justice.govt.nz>
Date: 28/05/2013 10:39 a.m.
Subject: <http://www.ourconstitution.org.nz/> form submission

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

Full Names: Celeste Kanara Organisation Name: Email:
Phone: Postal AddressA: Postal AddressB: Postal City: Postal
Region: Glenfield Postal Post Code: Postal Country: New Zealand Submission: Better
learning environment for low decile schools, more rights for Maori people, no more asset sales!!

Sent on the 28 May 2013 at 10:37

3831

From: <webmaster@ourconstitution.org.nz>
To: <constitutionalreview@justice.govt.nz>
Date: 24/07/2013 5:17 p.m.
Subject: [RELEASED FROM QUARANTINE] [SUSPECT SPAM]

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

Full Names: Arthur kane Organisation Name: Email:
Phone: Postal AddressA: Postal
AddressB: Postal City: Hamilton Postal Region: Waikato Postal Post Code:
Postal Country: New Zealand Submission: The Treaty of Waitangi is a Race based document
and has no place in any Democracy.

The Treaty is not a legal document and has never been ratified by any government.

Queen Victoria had no legal authority to make such a document..

All Treaty claims and settlements are illegal and invalid.

No country should have a constitution that is not always negotiable as there is always need for change.

Majority rule or decision is not democracy as there are= laws that no government should ever make denying freedom of self choice.

Submitted on the 24 July 2013 at 10:01

1522

From: >
To: <constitutionalreview@justice.govt.nz>
Date: 22/06/2013 3:51 p.m.
Subject: CAP Submission, please see attached
Attachments: NZ Constitutional Review 2013 Sub Kane.pdf

New Zealand Constitutional Review 2013

Submission by Brett Kane

Emailed: constitutionalreview@justice.govt.nz

Thank you for the opportunity to make a submission. I feel it is premature to review our constitutional arrangements at this time and in the current climate.

Shear your aspirations for New Zealand

What are your aspirations for Aotearoa New Zealand?

One People One Nation! Equality! Prosperity! Richness of spirit!

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

By the people ! Empowering the people! Guided by Divine Hand!

New Zealand's Constitution

Do you think our constitution should be written in a single document?

Not at this time!

Why?

We need to get our house in order first! There is much inner turmoil, tensions and issues; we fail in the very fundamentals. We must get our house in order first which could take a generation at the current rate.

Our people are not empowered or inspired. Even our electoral systems strip the people of their power and ability to self-determine the direction of the country and society. We lack any meaningful direct democracy.

We have yet to reach maturity, wisdom and enlightenment as a nation such as required to write a single constitution. This is not the time in our evolution as a nation to undertake such a task. We must unite as One People, One Nation standing all and each in equality and unity as citizens and custodians of this land and nation. We must be one people, not separate and divided from each other.

Political Parties, MPs and those with vested and agenda driven aspirations are not the people who should be in charge of such matters. Have a close and critical look at our representatives of the day. We lack wisdom, vision and the critical elements to make a good job of a constitution that we can all aspire to.

I strongly urge New Zealand to wait for the new thinkers to emerge among us, and they will. I strongly urge New Zealand to wait and foster the collective consciousness of the country before undertaking constitutional aspirations. This is the most exciting century to be in, ripe with potential. Allow things to evolve and unfold with the next generation who will be more able to undertake the constitutional task.

We must find our way, or it will be the blind leading the blind, and more of the same.

Do you think our constitution should have a higher legal status than other laws (supreme law)?

I must say no at this time. We lack the wisdom and foresight at this point. The time will come, it's just not now, it's not time yet.

Why?

The current constitutional arrangements doesn't lend itself to higher legal status per se as is spread across many areas and not all in the one place so what gets more legal status than another. Secondly; the people have little, or more to the point no control over its Government, so higher legal status would not help matters. Thirdly, it is yet to be determined what would be included in such constitutional matters.

It would be unwise to include the Treaty of Waitangi into the constitution and I would not wish such a concept have higher legal status and be forced upon the people. Some would say it is been forced upon the people right now in ways that were not intended when drawn up in 1840.

We should guard against making matters worse whatever it might be.

Who should have the power to decide whether legislation is consistent with the constitution: Parliament or the Courts?

Both the Government of the day and the courts are both charged with the responsibility under our current arrangements. A third safety should also be considered, the people themselves.

Why?

Government make the laws and can change the law, and is up to the courts to apply and interpret the laws. So they both play important dual roles here and should be a check for each other to some extent and provide feedback. However this has not allowed sufficient safety checks and balances. Government can, for example, exempt itself from the scrutiny of the courts or make poor law, and the courts can be so bound by law as to ignore what is just and right.

I feel the people should be empowered when it comes to constitutional matters (and others) to ensure the other two are kept in check. A three way split of checks and balances need to be considered. (Also need to be an independent constitutional advisory body that can provide advice in such matters, particularly when Government is drafting law or the people). As is the current case the people hold no power or control over governments passing a law or ignoring it, and of the court's interpretation and application of the law. Government acts as a dictatorship and people have no power or control over what goes on and this must change. Constitutions should empower and inspire the people as well as protect, even from their own government at times.

The Bill of Rights

Does the Bill of Rights Act protect your rights enough?

No!

The Bill of Rights is about our aspirations rather than the reality for many.

Why?

In truth there are no rights, none. In real human terms there are no rights. We have no right to food, shelter, love, education, life or death, medical attention, protection, equality, peace and prosperity... This we see everywhere.

Rights are what we afford each other. The knowledge comes from within us as to what we aspire to. We also see this everywhere.

We succeed and we fail at this. There is huge scope for improvement all round and on every level. Do not think ourselves so clever as to have this sorted. Yes, take satisfaction in the things we manage to do well; however, we fail more than we succeed as a nation and as a society. We also see this everywhere.

Poverty of spirit is perhaps the most self-evident prominence of our short comings as a society and the issues that follow into and from this. Child abuse, disabled persons and the valuable within our society, poverty and loss of national wealth, ever widening gap between the haves and have not's, subsistence living, survival living, education where some are left behind, crime, race division, self respect and of others,

tolerance, democracy, disempowerment ... Take a look at ourselves and society; clearly much we need to accomplish.

"Inner Turmoil" in this country is great both within each and society as a whole. This is what we seek to aspire to overcome. We seek **peace, fulfilment, and prosperity**. These are elements of love. It is truly a quantum puzzle, requiring quantum thinking. Three dimensional thinking applied to a quantum puzzle will not work this puzzle.

What other things could be done to protect rights?

Empower the people.

Do you think the Act should have a higher legal status than other laws (supreme law)?

Not at this time. Change the fundamentals first. What do we aspire to as a nation and how do we want to get there?

Why?

Society, the people of this nation must find their course and instruct/direct the Courts and Parliament. Empower the people. Give the people the power over the Courts, Parliament, Parties and MPs rather than been ruled by them which is the case now. Provide the safeguard of an independent body that can advise the people, Parliament and the courts all with feedback. Empower the people to find the course the nation wants to travel. We are capable of great things!

Who should have the power to decide whether legislation is consistent with the Act: Parliament or the Courts?

There must be a third body independent of the other two and representing the people's interests directly with no vested interests - this to ensure that government and courts do not get out of line as they currently do. Empower the people.

Why?

Govt can legislate themselves to be outside the law. Courts can only act on the actual law and sometimes not properly. Must be a third option in play. The people must have another viable avenue open to them to ensure fairness and if change is needed that it can take place.

What additional rights, if any, could be added to the Act? Why?

The right of the people to govern themselves through direct democracy, self empowerment and self determination as a society and nation. Our people should not be ruled over by Parliament, MPs and the Courts. That right, power and responsibility should be the domain of the people and rest with the people. Empower our people to take charge and guide our nation! Decisions on important issues should never be left to the whim of MPs and Parties. The people need to be empowered to make the final decisions, the final call directly and be involved in the process as it evolves. Put the people in the driving seat not MPs. MPs should do what the people ask of them, not the other way round as we have presently. The right and power of the people to govern themselves should be added to the Bill of Rights.

Treaty of Waitangi

Thinking of the future, what role do you think the Treaty of Waitangi could have in our constitution?

None!

Race, privilege, division, status, separatism, biculturalism/ multiculturalism and apartheid have no future nor do they lead us to peace within ourselves or as a country/society. There is no such thing as Maori Race, it is a myth. All New Zealanders are of mixed heritage which cannot be separated, no matter how anyone feels about it. All reference to Race in New Zealand (whatever ethnic background or mix) should be removed and everyone simply regarded and referred to as a New Zealand citizen with true equality and equal rights. Reference to ethnicity/race should be dropped from the legislation, stats and media. Tools of division need to be replaced with the tools of unity. We are all one people, the same people whatever the colour of our skin, ethnicity or cultural mix. One People One Nation!

Do you think that the Treaty should be made a formal part of the constitution?

No!

Why?

The Treaty is not democratic and not constitutional. It has been made to serve the few with vested interests; to gain special status and privilege, personal gain and agendas designed to influence and circumvent the democratic foundation of New Zealand often with monetary gain, advantage and control even to the point of dictating predetermined outcomes. I would point out too, that large numbers of self identified Maori are not represented by the actions and views of the few with vested interest.

Democracy at all levels is reliant on equality of the people and representation accordingly; in local Government, NZ Government, boards and committees etc. Everyone must have equal rights in terms of citizenship, freedom, vote and fair representation across the board. Where such things are distorted you no longer have democracy and the Treaty is been used as a means to circumvent democracy and secure advantage over other citizens, with growing influence at the expense of **all citizens**. These things cannot sit well with a constitution or with constitutional arrangements and creates deep divisions. It is not healthy.

The grievance process must come to an end and quickly, it destroys us! Separatism, division, privilege, race, status and grievance does not enhance us, does not bring us peace or closer together as a nation, as a people. It does not solve our problems or heal the inner turmoil that people of this land experience (all New Zealand people).

Being of mixed blood, we ourselves are just as much responsible, inflicting grievances on ourselves as those that we try to blame or make responsible.

The Treaty is a number of historic documents held in the archives including final Draft, two language's, with signatories. The Treaty is not the founding document of the country. It was a means to bring to end hostilities of the time, to save lives and resources, and empower us to share in the concept and security of nationhood. Today's world could not be envisioned from that time. The Treaty should remain as historic record only. It has no future in the dynamics of the country as a tool to separate people.

Our shared genetics are diffuse, disseminating across the population of the country ever increasingly. There can be no separation one from another. There is no Maori and the rest. Our heritage from whatever background is a shared heritage. In the very human sense; the people of today are not those that were here in 1840. We are of a different time and consciousness, are of shared genetic heritage across the population.

The Treaty of today has been distorted in meaning, intent and purpose. It has been inappropriately reinterpreted, expanded and applied so as to resemble little of the original. The Treaty is been misused for inappropriate advantage and gain, today and in the past. The treaty settlement process has been hijacked, corrupted and abused by vested interests of which is now being written. It should be wound up and laid to rest. There can be no place in the country's constitution for the inner turmoil, inequity and division that is been created here rather than resolved.

New Zealand constitution we already have one, just not written all in the same place. **Until such time as the country can lay to rest the inner turmoil's and tensions within it, no formal constitutional rearrangements should be entered into. New Zealand must put its house in order before the nation can consider the constitutional direction of our society.** We have yet to reach a maturely or enlightenment as a nation such as required to write a single constitution. This is not the time in our evolution as a nation to undertake such a task. We must unit as One People One Nation standing all and each in equality as citizens and custodians of this land and nation.

The Treaty should not be part of any future constitution of New Zealand. Constitutions of countries are developed to unify, empower and protect its citizens, not to separate them which is what the Treaty is been used for today by those seeking it. Constitutions are about One People One Nation, equality and Unity from which comes strength.

There cannot be, we cannot allow, division to be written into a constitution. There can be no place for division; be it race, culture, religion or creed, affiliation or status, bi-culturalism or multiculturalism. None of these things should enter in a constitution of the nation in any form.

The United Nations do not have the power or right to deem Maori as the indigenous population of New Zealand and deception is ill advised. Maori are not indigenous to New Zealand. Maori immigrated to this land just as waves of immigrants have done after and before.

Aboriginal people of Australia are known to have inhabited the continent for some forty/fifty thousand years and are the indigenous people of that land. Maori of New Zealand however have only been here about 1,000 years give or take. That cannot be considered to be sufficient time to claim indigenous status. There is evidence also that the Maori people may not have been the first to inhabit New Zealand. I was fortunate to have known a descendant of the Moriori whom from their history (which he researched) say they were here before the Maori migrations and where all but wiped out by them. There is also evidence that there were other human occupation in the north pre dating the arrival of the Maori. These things have been written about. Maori happened to be the dominant population by the time of the next immigration waves.

England claimed New Zealand as part of her empire. Since that time The Treaty was set up with the Crown, which was the Queen of England back in 1840. Things have actually moved on since then. While in name Queen is head of state the Queen has no actual power over New Zealand. New Zealand is now a self governing democratic nation one step removed from been a republic. Treaty settlements etc are with the Crown which in today's world really means the New Zealand Government (which is really proxy for the New Zealand people, of which we all are) and not the actual Queen. All costs and possible responsibilities under the Treaty (if any) are born by the New Zealand Taxpayer and society regardless, of which we are all the same people. Point being the Treaty has ever dimensioning relevance and no future. Some are pushing for it to be put in constitutional form in order to keep it alive and assert their own influence, agenda and profit from it (the few by far).

While most New Zealanders acknowledged there were some genuine grievances that the country wished to settle it has now moved well beyond this and corrupted. This is more reason not to include the Treaty in a constitution, and evidence of damaging effects it would have if was to be included. We must heal from past hurts, let it go and move on.

New Zealand's future cannot be about living in the past if we wish to build a vibrant, prosperous and free society. One People One Nation in equality and peace. We are the same people. No different from one another and genetically all mixed. We are our nation.

I refer you to the underlying words of which support is gathering and find myself increasingly in agreement as I continue to observe the harm and backward thinking that dominates the political and national seen and within some quarters of society itself at the expense of our very people and society.

"We, New Zealanders of all backgrounds, having founded and developed our society in equality, fairness, and comradeship, oppose any laws which establish or promote racial distinction or division. There shall be one law for all."

- *We reject any reference to the Treaty of Waitangi or its principles in any constitutional document.*
- *We ask that such references be removed from all existing legislation.*
- *We ask that race-based Parliamentary seats be abolished.*
- *We ask that race-based representation on local bodies be abolished.*
- *We ask that the Waitangi Tribunal, which has outlived its usefulness, be abolished. "*

Maori Representation

How should Māori views be represented in Parliament?

No different from anyone else. There should be no special Maori seats in Parliament! More self identified Maori vote on the general roll and have influence than on the Maori role. I would go so far as to say that if the Maori role is rolled into the general role, as a block overall Maori would have greater influence. NZ needs to be one nation, it can't be two or continue to exist divided. A united people, one people one nation can succeed. We fail because of division as a people/nation. A divided house falls and we are!

NZ is a melting pot of genetic and ethnic extraction and heritage all rolled into one people together, which can't be separated. The concept of being Maori on one side and the rest on the other is a myth. We are all mixed with sheared ancestry and a heritage of great richness which should be embraced and celebrated. Any one ethnic extraction in New Zealand is diluted and distributed through all others and more so with every generation. It is impossible to separate ourselves out at a genetic level because of our mixed DNA. This should give us a hint at the power of unity and what it can mean to be one people one nation.

How could Māori electoral participation be improved?

- Do away with Maori seats. Stand shoulder to shoulder. One people, one nation working together for the common good of all the people with full equal rights and status with no distinction of race. United as one people! The same people!
- More direct democracy for every New Zealander.

How should Māori views and perspectives be represented in local government?

Same as anyone else and any other interest group/stakeholder. There should be no special seats or status or distinction based on race.

Electoral Matters

How many members of Parliament should we have?

101 is my preferred number. I would prefer them to all be actually elected members (mix of locally and nationally elected or just local).

Why?

- The extra MPs we have are largely due to the MMP system which could be run with less MPs'.
- The burden on the country having the extra MPs' is not warranted. We are a small country and should be able to manage on less MPs' and with more direct democracy than we have.
- One MP per 30,000 voters roughly should be enough give or take. That's about 101 MPs' over all on today's number of voters. If we can't manage on that there is something wrong. More MPs' than that encourages waste and is costly to have. Small country should only need small number of MPs' overall and we should hold to a small number.

How long should the term of Parliament be?

I would prefer the term of parliament be four years for various reasons; however I view this as inappropriate at this time for our society. It is best that we leave the electoral cycle/term of parliament at three years for the foreseeable future.

Why?

- This country suffers from poor governance over a long period and shows no sign of improving at present.

- The people have very little power or control over their representatives given the nature of our political system and would be unwise to diminish that further by extending the term of government.
- Until such time as we as a society and nation address the fundamental flaws in our governance and systems an extended parliamentary term is not favourable.
- Three years is enough time for governments to make more of a mess (with some good mixed in) and are often given more than one term in any case to prove themselves, before the other large party has its turn at the tiller.
- Until new thinking comes to the fore to lift our nation up, the three year electoral term should not be extended.

How should the election date be decided?

The election date should be a set date in the electoral cycle (ie: first Saturday in November or last of October or other) and not subject to the whim of the incumbent Government of the day. Only exceptional circumstances should give rise to a change (i.e. failed government requiring an early election, natural disaster or event of magnitude that would reasonably prevent the population from participating in the election of their representatives).

Why?

Gives certainty and stability allowing people to plan what they are doing. The process is for the people's benefit not for that of political parties or those with vested interests.

We are in the electronic age and should start using this knowledge to allow the people to vote and engage in the electoral process. It was used to good effect recently for the census.

What factors should be taken into account when the size and number of electorates are decided?

Best representation and better representation of the people and the empowerment of the people. More MPs should be directly elected by the electorate and not the Party list, however, any suggested changes to MMP have been dumped by the incumbent Government and the people misled.

Voting population base, regional location of population centres and regional distances are factors. Greater representation of the people and accountability to the people is desirable. Medium sized electorates are preferred and greater access and interaction for the people to put their ideas and views forward rather than this 'hands off' system we largely see today. More direct democracy and empowerment of the people to determine the course of our society rather than Parliament, Parties and MPs holding the power over the people. Our current electoral system does not empower the people; it merely empowers Parliament's power over the people, which is a distortion of democracy.

Why?

There are only so many ways to do these things. I would prefer Ashburton to be in a separate electorate to Timaru for example.

It is even more difficult to be fairly represented under the MMP system we have presently and the people are not empowered.

What should happen if a member of Parliament parts ways with the party from which he or she was elected?

Under the current system; if the member was elected by their local constituents that member should remain as their chosen representative as an independent MP. Presented with the facts and reasoning for the change, the electorate itself then should decide if a bi-election is warranted and action taken accordingly.

If very close to the next scheduled election a bi-election may not be warranted. There must be reasonable value in conducting a by-election.

If it were that an elected MP, elected by the electorate, has jumped ship to another party or has parted ways to form a new party then a by-election should be called. If in the future there was no Party system then it wouldn't be a problem and each member would be an independent, personally my preference.

If the MP is there through the Party list system then the MP withdraws from parliament (not having an electorate) and next on the party list takes their place in parliament.

In any election, an elected MP elected by the electorate should require a majority vote to be elected their representative to give the fairest and widest representation of the electorate. Otherwise it is entirely possible that only a minority of the electorate will actually be represented by their elected MP and the majority not.

Why?

We are constrained by the electoral system currently employed. The people have not been given any options other than the tiered models trotted out at the last electoral system vote. None of them serve us well and we need new thinking. Empower the people not the politicians and their parties. The interests and empowerment of the people must come first not that of Parties and their MPs. Empower the people!

Change the electoral/political system to give the people the power over Parliament, their representatives in parliament and to determine our course as a society.

It is ill advised to institute constitutional change when it will be based around failing electoral system, the current systems disempower the people and the nation as a whole. We must first empower our people to take charge of our nation over Parliament. If we fail to do this the people will continue to be ruled rather than rule themselves. The fundamental rights of the people to govern themselves must come first.

Constitutional change is a big step which must give us pause to consider what it might mean for the country and all who call this land home. I do not think we are ready for such a step at this time. It is also concerning, the vested interest of political Parties in this matter and has lead to the review currently under way. We must give the power to the people to direct us as a nation.

- MPs should vote according to the electorate and the nation's wishes, not their party or their own wishes.
- MPs must be first and foremost; responsible to and representative of their constituents not the Party or their own agenda.
- We require robust systems that allow the people to instruct their MP[s] and that allows feedback both directions. Also to allow the people to present their own ideas, solutions, legislation or to modify existing legislation.
- There should be no Party line vote in parliament.

Votes in Parliament: One binding vote per MP for the purposes of expressing the wishes of their electorate.

Second non-binding vote per MP that allows the MP to express their own position. This allows the nation to see their position and allows the MP their right to their own beliefs and conscience where they may strongly differ.

Where an MP does not have a constituency this must be clearly sighted in the voting mechanism so everyone can see what is happening . One binding vote per MP to represent the wishes of the Nation and a second non binding vote per MP to represent their own position.

The people of the nation should hold the power not Parties or MPs !

The anti-smacking law (purposes of example only) was ideological, ill conceived, bad law and failed law with zero benefit to our children and families or society as a whole. It criminalised good parents past and present, disempowered good parents and families further. The law was forced upon the people against their wishes. The people were powerless to do anything about it. Clear instance among others where Parliament rules over the people , rather than represent them, and the power of the Party line evident. A clear instance where MPs' knowingly ignored the wishes of their constituents and the nation. The Parties and the MPs should all have been sacked! Our nation's people should never be treated so disrespectfully and with reckless contempt.

The electoral system and options put to the people to vote on are no longer tolerable and do not serve us well. The options last presented are clearly based on Party self interest as was the refusal to adopt changes to the current system. The people should hold the power, the people should be empowered, the people should direct their own destiny and not be ruled over by their MPs/Government. Power should rest with the people and not Parliament holding power over and ruling the people. **New options and new thinking needs to be applied.**

- We need to consider doing away with political Parties altogether and allow all MPs to stand as independent local electorate representatives and perhaps even some national electorate (national electorate) based representatives and actually represent their constituents not Parties. People should stand for Member of Parliament and representative of electorate based on their own integrity, ideas , free thinking and supported by their electorate .
- The people need to be empowered to vote for those policies they wish to support and against those they do not. They should not be forced to vote for a Party and inherit all their policy. Example; I should be able to vote for National under the current system, but vote against their asset sales programme if I so chose (possibly through local MP representation of the electorate and MP vote regardless of Party) . The people need to be empowered to make the decisions that they want and not have them simply forced upon them.
- This is said to be the communication age , yet we have such difficulty communicating when it comes to our representatives, electoral/political system, and the people. There are new ways of communicating and new ways of thinking emerging which could go onto a new way of working things if we embrace the opportunities that it presents.

"100 Days claiming back New Zealand" is a campaign underway in New Zealand which takes a leaf or two from the Swiss model which could be applied to New Zealand even under the current political/electoral model in effort to empower our people rather than just the MPs'. This has some merit and we should consider such things well before we can consider wholesale constitutional change. www.100days.co.nz

The 100 days concept from the Swiss model has merit and should be put to the people as a viable option for their consideration and right to accept or reject. The outcome of the MMP review was a sham and politically driven.

The current systems, political/electoral, employed in this country I feel are corrupt and a poor foundation for any constitutional arrangement change to be entered into. The country has suffered greatly for a lack of good governance and continues. I would not wish this to form the bases of a constitutional document. We continue to be dominated by a system of democratic dictatorship and undemocratic dictatorship in the same breath, and both ideals fail us. In real terms, in NZ, democracy is lip service only. We must empower our people; face the issues within our society and shed light upon ourselves before we look at a constitutional change. Persisting with the same failing models regardless of how those models are dressed up and sold to us, and told how good they are is folly.

'Democracy', in actuality, is a concept that the people hold the power of governance, and determine their own destiny as a nation (one people, one nation, all as equals). Sadly as a concept, it remains elusive in

NZ. NZ cannot and will not succeed until we are One People One Nation standing together for the common good of all, moving together as a nation where the people hold the right and power of self governance and self determination.

The everyday New Zealand er gives away their power the moment they cast, or not, their vote to elect MP's and/or parties. Beyond this action the people have little say and no real power. This is reflected in local governance as well as national governance. If the people hold real power and self determination as a nation the people would make it their business to be more involved. As it stands now, the MP's hold the power and the party system dominates. The people have no real or meaningful control or power and very little influence over what happens in their own country or governance thereof.

The latest electoral referendum was again a fast, offering no meaningful change to the status quo in political concept. An option to incorporate aspects of the Swiss model was not offered to the people to even be considered, let alone anything else. Self-serving interest of the party system and power over the people by MP's, and Parties, is served and the people are not served well at all. Again, the people are simply told a short list of options based on the same failing models and given no real choice or option for meaningful change.

The people need to be able to directly hold MP's to account and to ensure they serve the people in the best interests and highest good of the nation as a whole and its people. We, the people, are capable or evolving and the world is changing. Personal intercommunication where everyone can talk to everyone else is established and is opening up the world to new possibilities, ways of doing things and new ways of thinking.

- Positions such as Prime Minister, finance and possibly other key positions could be voted directly by the people. No Parties deciding for us, and no list MP's who we do not get to accept or reject and have no accountability at all to the people.
- No FPP to come to a minority elected official as is currently possibly the case for some local MP's. Each elected official should obtain a majority support from the pool of voters to take office and represent the widest possible pool of constituents.
- No vote should be wasted under the MMP system. If a Party fails to reach 5% threshold and has no electorate seat then those votes should be redistributed to the voter's next preference. I think we can do better than the MMP system or the models that had been offered to the country's vote. It does not offer balanced representation of the people as it currently stands nor empowers the people.
- Much of the time the submission process, where people submit their thoughts for consideration on matters, does not survive our MP's (or even the selection and recommendation phase) and has little bearing on outcomes. The processes must be empowering and meaningful to the people and the people given the ability to instruct their MP's at the end of the day.

The people should hold the power, right and bear the responsibility to overrule government where important decisions are to be made (subject to it been a sound decision by the people. May need some full back safe guard to ensure balanced and weighed outcomes). The people should have the ability to tell their government/representatives at any time what the people themselves want them to do as well as the people directly putting forward their own proposals. If we widen the net, solutions and fresh ideas can come from the people and not just limited to the MP's or group think.

Currently the people simply get told what is happening and Government does what it wants regardless. Give the people the balance of power and MP's would have to make effort to take the people with them, and the people could pull them up if they are doing things they ought not to be doing. We could all become better informed, and more people would take an interest in the process if they see they can have a say in that process and any outcome.

- When the government tries to pass bad legislation or legislation the people do not want, the people should be given the opportunity to stop such legislation from been enacted and overturn it. Give the people the power and control to govern themselves.

There is a great need for more openness and transparency than is currently the case. Greater integrity of our MP's and the nations various systems is much needed. MP's should not hold themselves above the people and also should not have the perks when average NZ'ers do not get them.

- Sometimes the popular thing is not the right thing; at such times there needs to be provision in our systems to allow the right things to happen even when unpopular.

We as a nation could evolve and mature greatly if the people are given the opportunity and power to grow and guide our own destiny as a nation. Empower the people first, allow it to take hold, and we will get a far better constitution than we could possibly do at this time.

All in all I am of the mind that we in NZ have wide scope to do things better than we do currently.

The big question is how do the people achieve meaningful change when the MP's and Parties hold the balance of power and actively protect their power base strategies as they are? We, the people, are constantly been sold down the river by our governments and shady backroom deals and trade-offs that continue unabated, as does resultant bad policies that are trotted out. This is not an environment from which formulation of a single constitutional document or constitutional change should be entertained into.

- **Decisions should be made with the highest of integrity and be based solely on the highest good and best interests of the people, they are the nation. The back room deals, behind closed doors "do this for me and I will do that for you", Party or personal gain, this business has to stop! Actions must be based on the highest good of the people and best interests of the people. That is the test!**

From my divinity, I recognise divinity in all others. May Divine Hand guide our nation and inspire our people.

This concludes my submission. Submitted by Brett Kane

1522a

From: <webmaster@ourconstitution.org.nz>
To: <constitutionalreview@justice.govt.nz>
Date: 19/07/2013 2:47 p.m.

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

Full Names: Brett Kane Organisation Name: Email: Phone:
Postal AddressA: Postal AddressB: Postal City: Timaru Postal Region: Postal Post
Code: Postal Country: New Zealand Submission: Supplemental constructional review
submission 2013

In addition to my main submission that has been submitted I would wish to add further thoughts about the submission process.

- I am concerned that submissions are not published for public viewing and discussion during the submission process in an open manner. They are kept hidden from public scrutiny during the process.

- I would have liked to have had access to the stimulus of the thoughts and contributions of others and to have had opportunity to incorporate favourable aspects in my own submission that I may not have directly been able to otherwise or may not have thought to at the time. I would also have liked the opportunity to have supported, or not, aspects of thought of others whom have genuine contributions to matters at hand.

- I am concerned also that only the panel convened will have the opportunity to digest the submissions presented and draw their own conclusions from its contents. I contend that the public should have, after a period of reflection on the submissions, the opportunity to support the thoughts and ideas of New Zealanders that they wish to support and reject those they are not so keen on before the process goes to recommendations of the Panel and that further public input into any outcomes is needed. If someone has presented a good idea or put up a good argument then perhaps other New Zealanders should have opportunity to also support those and hear those.

- I have found difficulty getting involved in the conversation as it has been put and I am sure others will have also. The main website for the review process could have accommodated a listings page of all the meetings and discussions around the country right down to the very local ones that others have organised to inform people of what is happening in their area that they may wish to attend. The website offered few means of been involved or hear from other New Zealanders across the country. How do we do things better to better engage our people in an active open manner and encourage more direct, open and effective democracy?

- We must find better ways of doing things than is the current norm.

Supplemental constructional review submission 2013 By Brett Kane

Submitted on the 19 July 2013 at 14:46

1586

From: <webmaster@ourconstitution.org.nz>
To: <constitutionalreview@justice.govt.nz>
Date: 26/06/2013 6:49 a.m.
Subject: <http://www.ourconstitution.org.nz/> form submission

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

Full Names: James Rodney Kane Organisation Name: Email: Phone:
Postal AddressA: Postal AddressB: Postal City:
Postal Region: Auckland Postal Post Code: Postal Country: New Zealand Submission:
I do not see the need for a constitution at all. The courts should have power over any of this, not MPs.
I do not agree that the treaty of Waitangi has any relevance now. This is 2013 not 1813, The Maori
payments must come to a stop and the Waitangi Tribunal
is a waste of taxpayer funds and should be disbanded immediately.

Maori have been paid enough over the years, they can feed and house their own from what they have
been paid. Time to pay their taxes like the rest of us instead of creating an industry around
dependence.

Sent on the 26 June 2013 at 06:47

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.

Patricia Kane
Wellington
New Zealand

2121

From: "Rod Kane"
To: <constitutionalreview@justice.govt.nz>
Date: 3/07/2013 8:44 a.m.
Subject: CAP Submission

Dear Sir/Madam. I understand submissions are being accepted on the subject of the proposed constitutional review and in particular Maori seats.

It is my view and wish that Maori seats be abolished.

We do not need these archaic legacies that take up enormous reserves of taxpayer funds, which dwindle as the taxpayer population decreases through old age and with lethargy/drugs in a younger population coming through.

This country does actually have equal opportunity for all those that wish to avail themselves of it. There is very little true poverty but plenty of shocking time and money/self management and I think it is those issues that need to be addressed but not by making it easier for one part of the population to put their hands out and dig further into the mire.

Everyone should stand on the same platform, with those that have genuine problems being looked after better in the safety net. NOT race based.

Regards,

Rod Kane

Auckland

110

From: <...>
To: <constitutionalreview@justice.govt.nz>
Date: 8/04/2013 7:34 p.m.
Subject: <http://www.ourconstitution.org.nz/> form submission

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

Full Names: Winston Kane Organisation Name: Email: Phone:
Postal AddressA: Postal AddressB: Postal City: Tauranga Postal Region: Postal Post
Code: Postal Country: New Zealand Submission: The Treaty should play no part as it gives
one race consisting around 15 Percent of the population to much say in our laws etc. The percentage
will decline over the years.

Tidy up Treaty claims still on the books and dismiss the tribunal.

Sent on the 8 April 2013 at 18:32

4793

From: <webmaster@ourconstitution.org.nz>
To: <constitutionalreview@justice.govt.nz>
Date: 31/07/2013 3:55 p.m.

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

Full Names: Anahila Lose Kanongata'a-Suisuiki Organisation Name: Email:
Phone: Postal AddressA:
Postal AddressB: Postal City: Auckland Postal Region: Auckland Postal Post
Code: Postal Country: New Zealand Submission: 1. Do you think our constitution should
be written in a single document?

Yes

Why? Because New Zealand should be one Nation with the Treaty of Waitangi and Te Titiri o Waitangi as the founding document. The constitution to recognize the important role of Tangata Whenua; Maori are the indigenous people of Aotearoa New Zealand.

2. Do you think our constitution should have a higher legal status than other laws (supreme law)?
Why? Yes. It should be the highest law in New Zealand.

3. Who should have the power to decide whether legislation is consistent with the constitution:
Parliament or the Courts? The Courts Why? Because the court won't bound to lobby groups etc.

4. There are three areas that needs to be a priority.

1. Environment – Sustainability. How are we going to ensure our great, great grandchildren are not left with a legacy of Pollution, Extinction, etc

2. Special Role of Maori as Tangata Whenua and all Treaty Claims to be achieved.

3. Equality between all people living in Aotearoa New Zealand

Submitted on the 31 July 2013 at 15:55

1655

From: <webmaster@ourconstitution.org.nz>
To: <constitutionalreview@justice.govt.nz>
Date: 27/06/2013 8:18 a.m.
Subject: <http://www.ourconstitution.org.nz/> form submission

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

Full Names: Lvndon Paul Kapoor Organisation Name: Email:
Phone: Postal AddressA:
Postal AddressB: Postal City: Hamilton Postal Region: Waikato Postal Post Code:
Postal Country: New Zealand Submission: Asperations - mine, my wives and my childrens
asperations are to have a country, constitution and laws that represent equality for all NZ citizens and
recognises only one type of citizen - a NZ Citizen, and to have fair and reasonable expectations of
non
NZ citizens who live and work here to respect our culture and ways - they are after all guests in our
country.

We want a country that does NOT promote biculturalism nor race based policies - this will make very
clear to my generation and future generations that our personal hard work and paid taxes are and will
be continuing to be used in assuring we ALL have a country
to be proud of and have full access to, in EVERY respect.

The thought of introducing the treaty of waitangi into a NZ constitution is sickening.

Bi culturalism and race (part Maori) based policy is about division, separatism and elitism - this IS
dividing us right now and WILL divide future generations of NZ'ers.

The word "Tribalism" and "Tribes" is used so often today - it disturbs me - it
sounds primitive, is primitive and is backward ! Get rid of it !

We want NZ culture to be recognised as a VALID "culture" and for gods sake put
"New Zealander" on census forms and other documentation BECAUSE IT IS ABOUT
TIME IT IS ACKNOWLEDGED THAT WE EXIST !!

"Maori" and "Everyone else" must stop being promoted.

We DO NOT love this country anymore

but rather endure it.

Our forefathers are turning in their graves...

Our country in the furture must be run by Members of Parliament that have been elected based on
their own personal merits by NZ Citizens and not placed there by other unscrupulous means - drop
MMP - it is a charade and time (money) waster.

We want a government that discourages dependence, benefits (free money) and laziness.

Sent on the 27 June 2013 at 08:17

43

From:
To: <constitutionalreview@justice.govt.nz>
Date: 8/03/2013 3:07 p.m.
Subject: <http://www.ourconstitution.org.nz/> form submission

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

Full Names: Florence Maria Karaitiana Organisation Name:
Email: Postal AddressA:
Postal AddressB: Postal City: Postal Region: Heretaunga Postal Post
Code: Postal Country: New Zealand Submission: I would my thoughts and aspirations to
be considered as input to our Constitution.

As tangata Whenua i believe this constitution should be developed for Maori as a Priority of
"BIRTH RIGHT" then non Maori need to find where they fit.

Non Maori need to be reminded that this is our Country and that needs to be one of the main
highlights of this constitution. Our water, Our Air, our Lakes, our Maunga, Our Awa, Our Moana, our
Whenua, Our Whakapapa, Our Tupuna, our everything .

1. The interpretation of Aotearoa needs to be clearly defined so that people are not assuming that
Aotearoa means New Zealand.
2. That NZ is removed and Aotearoa the rightful name to our whenua be put back.
3. That our Country is identified as Aotearoa NOT NZ.
4. That all historical whakapapa whenua be restored over our lands and that those names be used.
5. That only treaty partners have the right to vote on political issues.
6. Non treaty partners be known as manuhiri and they come to Aotearoa as visitors.
- 7 All land not to be sold and all land to be leased to non treaty partners.
8. That treaty partners (Maori) have equal sitting on all political, local council, regional Council
governance.
9. That a sustainable system be put in place for beneficiaries.
10. That tribal boards be established to look after the tribal business of there region.
11. That all Maori Land Trusts be disbanned and replaced with Tribal Boards.
12. That Maori have theri own registration of pepi data base not to be mixed with other ethnics
13. That all Crown Grants be removed from the Land ownership of Maori.
14. That all Maori succession lines be retained under a Tribal status not pakeha.
- 15 That all Maori Social Services have the same equal financial backing as non Maori

Sent on the 8 March 2013 at 15:07

4042

From: <webmaster@ourconstitution.org.nz>
To: <constitutionalreview@justice.govt.nz>
Date: 29/07/2013 1:33 p.m.
Attachments: Aspirations for NewZealand.pdf

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

Full Name: Leanne Karauna Organisation Name: Email: Phone:
Postal AddressA: Postal AddressB: Postal City: Mangakino
Postal Region: Postal Post Code: Postal Country: New Zealand Submission: Tena
Koe

Please find attached

Thankyou Submission Upload: Aspirations for New Zealand.pdf

Submitted on the 29 July 2013 at 13:32

~~EE~~

Aspirations for New Zealand

1. What are your Aspirations for New Zealand

- **Keep Aotearoa green and clean.**

My Aspirations for the future of Aotearoa/New Zealand is that we can truly find a balance between economy and environment. It is so important for our future generations that we protect, maintain and repair our environment. Money comes and goes but the whenua/land, our native flora and fauna, the air that we breathe, the water we drink, the kai/food we eat is vital sustenance for our tipuranga/ generations to come.

- I hope that the principle of Te Tiriti o Waitangi - to protect our taonga is embraced in this most positive way - for people, for land, for our environment, for Te reo me nga tikanga Maori. Aotearoa NZ is a Taonga - Protect it please! Protect for all our People.

- Uphold the Te Reo Maori perception of Te Tiriti o Waitangi. Tangata Whenua need the upmost support from the constitution to uphold and apply their rights. They have a responsibility to be the kaitiaki they are. Why would you let your neighbour look after your garden when it is your responsibility, so be it with our natural resources - Maori have the right to lead and be a part of the protection of Aotearoa and support should be available to enable as needed.

My aspiration would be that Maori are supported under the Tiriti o Waitangi- that they are encouraged and supported to uphold and maintain their tino rangatiratanga for the benefit of all. Stop with the hegemony! Lets have some true and honest support.

- Prevent the depletion of our Kai Moana - Limit or stop commercial fishing, especially to overseas companies - we debate about iwi customary rights for fishing quota amongst our people and in the meantime the commercial fisherman are increasing their quotas.
- Government to stop segregating Maori by dividing Iwi. The next few decades will see many identify as being Maori who whakapapa to many many Iwi.
- More support to develop the work and career readiness of our Rangatahi. Connecting the transition from School to Tertiary Education. Too many of our rangatahi are falling through the gaps and not reaching the next level, yet they can go to Australia and get a decent job. WHY?
- Less taxes for low and middle income earners. Increase the threshold of what is deemed middle income, with regard to taxes and student allowances especially.

- Aim for no poverty especially child poverty. Encourage whanau ora to continue but encourage the philosophy “ it takes a village to raise a child” so all may benefit from planning and support . Its about empowering and confidence building so we are independant
- Develop a sound strategy and next step for Whanau Ora in that it can transition for families quite easily from the planning to implementation stage. Make sure sound support and guidance is in place to assist whanau to achieve their aspirations.
- To keep Aotearoa and its people safe.
- To prevent Maori from becoming a minority in our own country. We don't have another country to return to.

2. How do you want this country to be run.

- A Government that hears and respects its indigenous people ...I would like to see this country run in a way that embraces our biculturalism and at the same time is democratic, that supports, upholds and is proud of the special uniqueness of the rights of the tangata whenua and the rights Maori have under Article 2 of Te Tiriti o Waitangi. That there is a strong focus on Maori language and culture revitalisation and development from the bottom up.
- A Government that embraces what we have... to see this country develop its own people rather than encouraging our population increase through immigration. Have job or career opportunities available with a right of preference for Maori and fifth generation tangata whenua New Zealanders if they so have the qualifications. Assist them to train and be qualified so they may achieve to the highest level in their own county.
- A Government that supports the tangata whenua in their dreams and aspirations.
- A Government that embraces the rights of Maori under the Tiriti o Waitangi and supports them to have the same rights as the Queens subjects in Britain i,e the right to be citizens of Great Britain , dual passports, the right to work there.
- More Maori Representation in Parliament.
- Fairly and truly

Nga mihinui

Na Leanne Karauna

815

From:
To: <constitutionalreview@justice.govt.nz>
Date: 11/05/2013 9:22 a.m.
Subject: <http://www.ourconstitution.org.nz/> form submission

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

Full Names: Margaret Louise Karl Organisation Name: None Email:
Phone: Postal AddressA: ie Postal AddressB: Postal
City: Postal Region: Waikato Postal Post Code: Postal Country: New
Zealand Submission: I would prefer a four year parliamentary term. Other than that I am happy
with the Status quo.

Sent on the 11 May 2013 at 09:22

1921

newzealand.govt.nz

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

stamp

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

I aspire to live in a
country where if some one
goes to jail they should
get several test to make
them calm so when they
take the lying machine
and when they tell the
truth it wont say they lie.

You can find out more about the Constitution Conversation and make a fuller submission online at www.ourconstitution.org.nz

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

Name(s):

Email or postal Address:

Karoro School
greymouth

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

stamp

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

I aspire to live in a
country where all races
are treated the same
where there are
no drugs no death
penalties and where kids
don't go to war

You can find out more about the Constitution Conversation and make a fuller submission online at www.ourconstitution.org.nz

Secretariat

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

Name(s):

Email or postal Address:

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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:

I aspire to live in a country where they treat everyone fairly and they ban drugs and smoking and let other cultures into their country.

You can find out more about the Constitution Conversation and make a fuller submission online at www.ourconstitution.org.nz

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Wellington

Name(s):

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Carey Avenue

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stamp

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

I aspire to live in a country where all healthy food have no G.S.T also where people will have respect for each other and the environment and are fair to everyone in the country.

You can find out more about the Constitution Conversation and make a fuller submission online at www.ourconstitution.org.nz

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

I aspire to live in a country where drugs are only in medical use. This can stop people on other drugs this can lead to things like stealing, murders etc. With only medical drugs the country can feel safe.

You can find out more about the Constitution Conversation and make a fuller submission online at www.ourconstitution.org.nz

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stamp

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

I aspire to live in a country where there are no drugs and every one has equal rights and also without drugs people are less likely to steal from people and

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

I aspire to live in a country
where if you have a problem
you go to the King or community
and they will sort it out

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

I aspire to live in a country where there is no shooting and drugs, and where there is no drugs in dogs, and where every one should get paid. I reckon 13 year olds should not go to jail. They should go to juvenile detention centres.

You can find out more about the Constitution Conversation and make a fuller submission online at www.ourconstitution.org.nz

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stamp

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

I Aspire to live in a country where everyone gets treated equally. A country where there is no Drugs except medical problems and everyone owns up to what they have done and don't blame anyone for what they have done

You can find out more about the Constitution Conversation and make a fuller submission online at www.ourconstitution.org.nz

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

I aspire to live in a country where there are no drugs leading to murders, robbing, kidnapping ect, a country where we feel so safe we can go out and leave the back door open.

You can find out more about the Constitution Conversation and make a fuller submission online at www.ourconstitution.org.nz

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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:

I aspire to live in a country where the Māori culture is embraced. Where more schools learn basic te reo māori words. Māori is one of our three languages.

You can find out more about the Constitution Conversation and make a fuller submission online at www.ourconstitution.org.nz

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

I aspire to live in a country
where no drugs and no
kids get sent to war.

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stamp

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

I aspire to live in a country where there is no death penalty and everyone is welcome to new zealand, no drugs, no smoking, no weapons
Kids: toward

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Email or postal Address:

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graymouth

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stamp

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

I aspire to live in a country where they ban drugs and smoking and if people get caught with drugs or smokes they will get taken off them and will get helped to stop smoking and using drugs.

You can find out more about the Constitution Conversation and make a fuller submission online at www.ourconstitution.org.nz

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

I aspire to live in a country where
People Respect others cultures other
black or white. I would like
to live in a place with no
Drugs or Murder because
It would be way more Peace.

You can find out more about the Constitution Conversation and make a fuller submission online at www.ourconstitution.org.nz

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

I also would like to live
in a place where were
people kids can have the
right to speak up. And to donate
to those who don't have much.

You can find out more about the Constitution Conversation and make a fuller submission online at www.ourconstitution.org.nz

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stamp

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

I aspire to live in a country where fire fighters get paid for their work. They are a group of people who give up their time to help others. Just like policemen and ambulance workers, policemen get paid so fire fighters should too.

You can find out more about the Constitution Conversation and make a fuller submission online at www.ourconstitution.org.nz

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

I aspire to live in a country where there are no drugs so people are less likely to steal or murder

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

I aspire to live in a country where
ecological sustainability - keep
environment safe and clean for
future generations. Also no drugs
life in prison 25 years and older for
younger people in prison till at
least 25 years.

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

I aspire to live in a country where there is no origami killers. An origami killer is a retired policeman who wears his old uniform and kidnaps children and puts them in a water cylinder until the rain fills up. he also makes the parents do bad things to save the child and then kills the kid by killing him/her

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

I aspire to live in a country where kids aren't afraid to speak up about if they're getting hurt or abused.

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

I aspire to live in a country where we decrease Bills, like power bills e.t.c, I believe we should increase pay rises for everyone, Take away G.S.T., ban drugs and be a smoke-free country.

You can find out more about the Constitution Conversation and make a fuller submission online at www.ourconstitution.org.nz

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

I aspire to live in a country where everyone gets treated equally. A country where there's no smoking and no drugs apart from medical equipment. I want everyone to act nicely. NO MURDERING.

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Name(s):

Email or postal Address:

Kelowna School
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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:

I aspire to live in a country where the government spends tax payer money on the things that matter like more funding for schools and communities instead of putting money in the benefit system and giving it to people that want to bludge and not work and b lazy.

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stamp

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

I aspire to live in a country
where people aged 12-13 have
a chance to vote who the
Prime Minister and the
Political Parties.

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Name(s):

Email or postal Address:

Kalolo School

60881

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stamp

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

I aspire. To live in
a country where every
one has equal rights
and problems are fixed
with ease and we have
a constitution

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

I aspire to live in a country where drugs are banned because without drugs people are less likely to steal from or murder people

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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.

to live in ^{aspire}
a country where...
no die pitey no kids
go to war no drugs
to vote

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Name(s):

Email or postal Address:

Harold Smith
2076-4443

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

I am aspired to live
in a country where
there are no
weapons and
No Killing and a free
country to welcome
people from other
countries like Pakistan

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Name(s):

Email or postal Address:

Karoro School
Greg Maith

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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:

I aspire to live in a country where all children get to go to school without paying. I don't want smoking in this country. I also don't want fighting in this country and also no drugs and also treat other people with respect. 😊

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

* I aspire to live in a country where the government will take what our community has to say more seriously.

* I aspire to live in a country where there is diversity so that we can accept those who choose to do things differently.

You can find out more about the Constitution Conversation and make a fuller submission online at www.ourconstitution.org.nz

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4253

From: <webmaster@ourconstitution.org.nz>
To: <constitutionalreview@justice.govt.nz>
Date: 30/07/2013 8:34 p.m.

Katriona Karrithers.

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

Full Names: c Organisation Name: Email: Phone:
Postal AddressA: Postal AddressB: Postal City:
Auckland Postal Region: Postal Post Code: Postal Country: New Zealand
Submission: I think that the Bill of Rights is good in its current form, as it addresses the fundamental basic human rights and in keeping it simple it should be easy to establish whether rights have been protected or abused.

In order for rights to be protected throughout our society I think it is important that everyone in Aotearoa New Zealand is aware of the Bill of Rights (I didn't know anything about it until taking part in this process, for example) and that all public institutions, the courts, educational institutions, the police, the defence forces, local government bodies etc. should have the Bill of Rights as part of their Charter or Constitution and display the Bill, or a clear summary of it, in public spaces. This would raise awareness of what the Bill does and help people to understand when it has been contravened.

I believe that the Courts should be the authority in regard to whether legislation is consistent with the Bill or not. Parliament is the originator of legislation, it provides a better system of checks and balances if the Court is to decide whether or not the Bill has been upheld.

Submitted on the 30 July 2013 at 20:32

2416

From: Anne Karsten
To: <constitutionalreview@justice.govt.nz>
Date: 4/07/2013 7:50 a.m.
Subject: CAP Submission

Please abolish Maori seats.

We can never go forward as one nation when we keep favouring one race.
We must avoid at all costs, and apartheid situation, which is where we
are headed at the moment

Anne Karsten

Auckland

25 39

From: Porus Kateli
To: <constitutionalreview@justice.govt.nz>
Date: 4/07/2013 12:07 p.m.
Subject: CAP Submission

Hi,

I would like to submit for the abolition of all Maori seats now and in the future at all levels of representation, whether local or national, private or public, as I see the Maori seats as a gross violation of my human rights i.e. the human rights of all non-Maori.

By giving seat representation on the basis of race would not be tolerated under any other situation (seats for the Indians or the Chinese, the Tongans, the Pakeha, perhaps?), so what makes the Maori race so special? Having been residents from a long time or past injustices is no justification in today's world. It goes against the principle of equality and fairness on which our society tries to live and deliver and has no place in a Democracy.

If I were to hire an employee today in a business or in the public sector on the grounds of the person's race, would that be legal? Obviously not. So by what convoluted logic can the case for Maori seats be justified?

In my opinion, Maori seats are not only unjust and unfair but also illegal.

So also are the Maori and Mana Parties as they have been formed with the sole intention of promoting one race, which falls slap bang under racial discrimination, but I haven't heard a peep from the powers that be or the Race Relations Authority, regarding this.

Kind regards,

Porus Kateli

900

From:
To: <constitutionalreview@justice.govt.nz>
Date: 23/05/2013 8:45 p.m.
Subject: <http://www.ourconstitution.org.nz/> form submission

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

Full Names: James Ngatoka Whanga Katipa Organisation Name: Email:
Phone: Postal AddressA: Postal
AddressB: Postal City: Postal Region: Waikato Postal Post Code:
Postal Country: New Zealand Submission: In our multi-cultural society many in our society are being further alienated from our lands by way of the ever increasing populus and new immigration laws putting more pressure on land and house resources and availability. As per international agreement

we cannot ignore the changing face of what is happening around world and its affects on mankind I believe We in Aotearoa could eventually lose our own identity if we do not put what matters most into perspective. I suggest that we must select a date which differentiates

who can consider themselves TRUE KIWIS and the rest being New Zealanders. February 6th 1840 seems the most obvious day to select for this purpose however another date in history from 1835 would be more favourable to many Maori. At the time of the signing of

the treaty of Waitangi there were many races from around the world already present therefore they and all their descendants accrues them eligibility to all things kiwi. Also I believe only fifth generation New Zealanders and/or Kiwis can represent their communities

in local and/or national body elections for they would have a better understanding of what Kiwis consider most important to this great nation.

Sent on the 23 May 2013 at 20:43

343

From: .
To: "constitutionalreview@justice.govt.nz" <constitutionalreview@justice.gov...
Date: 11/04/2013 7:26 p.m.
Subject: Constitution

I, as a proud NZ citizen find a few range of things interesting

A. I'm not sure on how to do Algebra properly.

B. Why do the Maori representatives claim the airspace above NZ?

C. How do you spell 'Catastrophe?'

Thank you for your consideration.

4752

From: <webmaster@ourconstitution.org.nz>
To: <constitutionalreview@justice.govt.nz>
Date: 31/07/2013 2:57 p.m.

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

Full Names: Linda Ruth Kaye Organisation Name: Email:
Phone: Postal AddressA: Postal AddressB: Postal City:
Postal Region: Northland Postal Post Code: Postal Country: New Zealand
Submission: How long should the term of Parliament be?

I would prefer that it remain a three year term, unless other aspects of the constitution are changed.

Why?

There is currently too much power in the hands of the executive and minority parties and too little power in the electorate to control minority party members who continue to hold office when they break away from their parties.

What factors should be taken into account when the size and number of electorates are decided?

Electorates should be designed to represent the population fairly in terms of population. There should continue to be Maori seats for tangata whenua.

What should happen if a member of Parliament parts ways with the party from which he or she was elected?

If they were elected from a party list, rather than as individually elected members, their seat should become vacant and a by-election should be held.

Why?

Because members appointed from a list are there only as members of a specific party, they have not been elected in their own right or on their own merits or policies. The voters have not had an opportunity to assess them and have, quite simply, not voted for them.

Further, unless the system is changed to raise the threshold for minority parties, it is just compounding the disproportionate power that minority list candidates currently exercise.

Submitted on the 31 July 2013 at 14:57

4752a

From: <webmaster@ourconstitution.org.nz>
To: <constitutionalreview@justice.govt.nz>
Date: 31/07/2013 3:21 p.m.

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

Full Names: Linda Ruth Kaye Organisation Name: Email:
Phone: Postal AddressA: Postal AddressB: Postal City:
Postal Region: Northland Postal Post Code: Postal Country: New Zealand
Submission: My aspirations for Aotearoa are that:

1. We continue to function as a fair, just, tolerant democracy
2. We continue to offer protection for the weak and vulnerable by legislating for civil rights for all citizens and residents of NZ, and also by retaining a system of public funding for the delivery of health, education, retirement and unemployment benefits and related social purposes, as well as for arts and letters.
3. Our electoral and other systems continue to entrench specific representation for Maori as tangata whenua.
4. We function as a world leader in environmental ethics and sustainability, social justice and public support for the arts.

Submitted on the 31 July 2013 at 15:20

47526

From: <webmaster@ourconstitution.org.nz>
To: <constitutionalreview@justice.govt.nz>
Date: 31/07/2013 3:51 p.m.

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

Full Names: Linda Ruth Kaye Organisation Name: Email: nz
Phone: Postal AddressA: Postal AddressB: Postal City:
Kohukohu Postal Region: Northland Postal Post Code: Postal Country: New Zealand
Submission: Do you think that the Treaty should be made a formal part of the constitution?

Definitely, yes.

Why?

A constitution founded on recognition of, and respect for historical indigenous rights is a feature of New Zealand's governance that distinguishes us from many other less fortunate states. It is part of our political, historical and social landscape, and has been much to our benefit. There is a body of jurisprudence supporting it and no good reason to abandon it.

Submitted on the 31 July 2013 at 15:51

4751C

~~4751a~~ 4751a

From: <webmaster@ourconstitution.org.nz>
To: <constitutionalreview@justice.govt.nz>
Date: 31/07/2013 3:43 p.m.

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

Full Names: Lnda Ruth Kaye Organisation Name: Email:
Phone: Postal AddressA: Postal AddressB: Postal City:
Kohukohu Postal Region: Northland Postal Post Code: Postal Country: New Zealand
Submission: Do you think our constitution should be written in a single document?

Not necessarily.

Why?

It's worked so far with a set of statutes. If it's not broken, why fix it?

Do you think our constitution should have a higher legal status than other laws (supreme law)?

Absolutely, yes.

Why?

It's the source of power to govern and legislate. It needs a degree of permanence, continuity and consistency, and we as citizens need its protection.

Who should have the power to decide whether legislation is consistent with the constitution:
Parliament or the Courts?

The Courts.

Why?

Because

- a) Parliamentarians are by definition politically elected and generally legislate with a view to the short term and re-election;
- b) There needs to be an independent agency such as the judiciary to balance the power of Parliament, especially in the absence of a second chamber and the presence of excessive executive power.

Submitted on the 31 July 2013 at 15:43

5098

From: <webmaster@ourconstitution.org.nz>
To: <constitutionalreview@justice.govt.nz>
Date: 7/08/2013 3:37 p.m.

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

Full Names: Ra wiri Ke te Hori/David Keith George Organisation Name: Individual Email:
Phone: Postal AddressA: Postal City:
Cromwell/Kawarau Postal Region: Otago Postal Post Code: Postal Country: New
Zealand Submission: Ka mau te kaupapa nei:

A constitution, like our flag, and the national anthem, is a figurehead for the country.

How these build, and change, must range around our experience, our struggles, and achievements.

This is not just about majority rule, but also about the enduring rule of law, and the right and practise of free speech.

The laws and limits of debate.

He piko te taniwha, te pito he takata.

A good constitution will generate a culture of ongoing conversation; goodwill, and great outcomes.

Ka mutu.

Submitted on the 17 June 2013 at 09:36

3594

From: <webmaster@ourconstitution.org.nz>
To: <constitutionalreview@justice.govt.nz>
Date: 15/07/2013 3:57 p.m.
Subject: http://www.ourconstitution.org.nz/form_submission
Attachments: Constitution_Conversation_20130714_Response.docx

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

Full Names: Stephen Vivian Keach Organisation Name: Email:
Phone: Postal AddressA: Postal AddressB: Postal City:
Winton Postal Region: Southland Postal Post Code: Postal Country: New Zealand
Submission: Submission Upload: Constitution_Conversation_20130714_Response.docx

Sent on the 14 July 2013 at 12:11

What role do you think the Treaty of Waitangi could have in our constitution?

Given that the English and Maori texts are not aligned, once the settlements of past breaches have been completed, I think New Zealand could then develop a constitution. Given the multi-cultural make-up of New Zealand today and likely to be more so in the future, I believe the Treaty will have had its time. The settlements should leave those Maori tribes enabled to pursue their destiny within New Zealand as a whole without the need for further special treatment. If we are to have a constitution, it needs to begin with treating all New Zealanders equally irrespective of their ethnic background.

Do you think that the Treaty should be made a formal part of the constitution?

No.

Why?

It would perpetuate a difference between cultures in a formal legal structure that I feel would not make for a society where everyone was equal, had equal opportunity. I value an egalitarian society. A constitution would be about the future, the Treaty is about the past. Immigration is a part of human history and to build a foundation for a solid, egalitarian society in the future we have to de-couple the association of cultural meaning to a country and sovereignty. We all have to live together and work together to have a brighter future.

3523

From: <webmaster@ourconstitution.org.nz>
To: <constitutionalreview@justice.govt.nz>
Date: 12/07/2013 10:26 a.m.
Subject: [RELEASED FROM QUARANTINE] [SUSPECT SPAM]
[http://www.ourconstitution.org.nz/ form submission](http://www.ourconstitution.org.nz/form submission)
Attachments: Constitution_Conversation_20130707_Response.docx

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

Full Names: Stephen Keach Organisation Name: Email: _____
Phone: Postal AddressA: Postal AddressB: Postal City:
Winton Postal Region: Southland Postal Post Code: Postal Country: New Zealand
Submission: Submission Upload: Constitution_Conversation_20130707_Response.docx

Sent on the 10 July 2013 at 23:04

How many members of Parliament should we have?

Not more than 121.

The current system seems to allow appropriate representation.

How long should the term of Parliament be?

Three years.

While this is a reasonably short period, the New Zealand system of government provides few checks and balances on the Government of the day which between elections, dependent on the majority achieved, has almost unbridled power. Thus the check an election provides is an effective brake on a Government getting too long a period of power with a disconnect with electorate wishes. The three year period enforces a connection to the people a Government should be acting for.

How should the election date be decided?

The status quo is satisfactory. A Parliamentary term is limited to three years after an election. While the Prime Minister has authority to determine the election date the term limit prevents him/her having excessive power in setting the date and term.

What factors should be taken into account when the size and numbers of electorates are decided?

Population number.

What should happen if a member of Parliament parts ways with the party from which he or she was elected?

If elected by an electorate then a by-election should result allowing the electorate to approve that Member in his/her changed capacity or to elect a new representative.

If elected on a party list then they should be required to leave Parliament. The party should be entitled to the proportion of list members the country granted it at an election.

106

From:
To: <constitutionalreview@justice.govt.nz>
Date: 8/04/2013 8:01 p.m.
Subject: <http://www.ourconstitution.org.nz/> form submission

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

Full Names: shane grant keach Organisation Name: Email: Phone:
Postal AddressA: Postal AddressB: Postal City:
Postal Region: bay of plenty Postal Post Code: Postal Country: New Zealand
Submission: My asperations for New Zealand are that we are not disjointed as we are at the moment
, maori and non maori fighting for the same land. We need good legislation to stop this from further
fracturing, there is no longer equality in this counrty maori have
been given far too much say and contol of this country without the general publics knowledge , New
Zealanders of all race and creed deserve there say in this country isnt that fair and patriotic? How id
like NewZealand run in the future is a lot more transparency
with the government NO more deals done behind closed doors without the public having a say on very
important issues that involve New Zealanders, namely the treaty it has run its coarse it has become a
gravey train for the elite iwi which has created incredible
greed at the top and nothing for the ones at the bottom . There has to be a time to put these
grievances to bed if we are ever to move on as a strong and united country.

Sent on the 8 April 2013 at 18:59

106 A

From: "shane keach"
To: <constitutionalreview@justice.govt.nz>
Date: 29/07/2013 7:10 p.m.
Subject: CAP Submission

No there should be no seperate maori seats in goverment

911

From:
To: <constitutionalreview@justice.govt.nz>
Date: 26/05/2013 9:31 p.m.
Subject: <http://www.ourconstitution.org.nz/> form submission
Attachments: Submission to theConstitutional Review Panel by Graeme Keall.doc

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

Full Names: Graeme Keall Organisation Name: Email: Phone:
Postal AddressA: Postal AddressB: Postal City:
Postal Region: Postal Post Code: Postal Country: New
Zealand Submission: Submission Upload: Submission to the Constitutional Review Panel by
Graeme Keall.doc

Sent on the 26 May 2013 at 21:30

911

Submission to the Constitutional Review Panel by Graeme Keall

I want to make submissions on two topics:

1. The role of the Treaty of Waitangi and its place in the constitution
2. The size of Parliament

The role of the Treaty of Waitangi and its place in the constitution

The Treaty of Waitangi as signed in 1840 played a negative role in race relations in New Zealand. Many critics called it “a legal nullity”. Not until the establishment of the Waitangi Tribunal in 1975 did it begin to play a positive role in our race relations. Like the Magna Carta and the English Bill of Rights, it came to assume a far greater constitutional role than was originally intended and only then became worthy of being an integral part of our constitution.

- The British Crown in the mid nineteenth century was most reluctant to add another colony to its empire. Yielding to several pressure groups it was most parsimonious in regard to New Zealand. Normanby in his instructions to Hobson in 1837 told him to establish one or two settlements only. Instead Hobson, for his own reasons, decided to annex the whole of New Zealand! He was left to govern it largely on his own. He was given very little money or other resources to do this. His main source of income was to use the right of pre-emption to buy land from Maori very cheaply and sell it at a huge profit. The price of land remains a grave problem today!
- Maori signed the Treaty in particular for the protection it was supposed to give them against settlers taking over their land. The opposite was the case. British soldiers were sent to fight Maori for over twenty years and help establish British sovereignty in New Zealand which the Treaty had failed to do. The infamous Land Court established in 1865, became the main instrument to deprive Maori of their land.
- Neither British sovereignty nor territorial control were established in 1840 or for a long time afterwards. In 1840 territorial control by the Government was limited to a minute area, the area of British settlement. Maori had overwhelming population, military and territorial dominance. It took over twenty years of war, disease and the land court to gradually establish sovereignty over Maori.
- The legal status of the Treaty itself is very open to question. Treaties can only be signed by sovereign powers and there was no Maori sovereign power in New Zealand before the Treaty. Maori had little or no concept of what a legal document was or what the word sovereignty meant. “Kawangatanga” was an inadequate word to use instead. What Maori wanted in 1840 was protection from exploitation by settlers especially, loss of land. What a vain hope!

If we are to think of the Treaty as the cornerstone of race relations in New Zealand this is not true until the 1970s. From 1840 onwards it was largely ignored. Only when the Waitangi Tribunal was established in 1975 and later, in 1985, allowed to

2.

investigate claims dating back to 1840 can the Treaty of Waitangi be considered as the founding document of New Zealand and the basis for modern race relations.

The Size of Parliament

There are a number of compelling reasons why New Zealand should have a larger parliament of about 150 members.

- Control of the executive by the legislature is a fundamental principle of our Westminster system of government. With our current 121 member parliament, the opposite is possible and some would say a reality. With a cabinet of over 20 MPs plus ministers outside cabinet, whips and MPs who want to be in cabinet, the threat is real. A 150 MP Parliament would ensure that the legislature could exercise control over the executive.
- Our current MMP parliament has given us a better balance of gender, race, cultures political parties etc than First Past the Post. A larger parliament would enhance this significantly.
- The engine room of our political system is the select committee system where bills are scrutinised and often improved, frequently on a non-party basis. With a 121 member parliament small parties can be represented on only a few committees. A larger parliament would improve this situation, allow committees to be larger with a wider range of views able to be considered.
- Servicing electorates is another cornerstone of our political system. In a 150 House there would be more electorate MPs so electorates would be smaller and easier to serve eg the West Coast electorate, and also the Maori seats.
- The argument that a larger parliament would be a lot more expensive to run is nonsense. Making parliament larger or smaller would make very little difference to the total cost of running parliament.
- New Zealand has no upper house. A 150 MP parliament would not mean that we have a too large parliament for our population.

This constitutional review gives us a real opportunity to improve our constitution. I hope our government will consider its findings very seriously. It must not suffer the fate of the MMP review!

Graeme Keall

4558²

From: Donny Kearney
To: "constitutionalreview@justice.govt.nz" <constitutionalreview@justice.govt.nz>
Date: 1/08/2013 4:05 p.m.
Subject: [RELEASED FROM QUARANTINE] [SUSPECT SPAM] I know I'm a tiny bit late -
Please accept this (still unfinished)

I am a 6th generation Kiwi and a grandmother; an ordinary woman.

My father was a coal miner, who survived the collapse of mines.
My parents were the generation who survived World War 2 and the Great Strike.

My grandparents survived World War 1 and the Great Depression.

They believed that progress would occur; the world would become a more equitable, peaceful place in which reason and fairness would eventually win out. They believed in common sense and decency, in a fair days work for a fair days pay, where every person had the same rights, regardless of class or creed. In my lifetime I have seen this almost extend to ethnicity, gender and sexual orientation.

Generations of my family have laboured to build this nation, so firstly:

It is not for sale. Stop selling our family heirlooms, our assets, our land, our home. History has so many times shown the dangers in absentee landowners. How many other countries allow foreigners to own key assets and / or land?

It has evolved that there are people in this country who live in the middle of a forest that should easily sustain their small town – there is even a timber mill; all the facilities available. But the resources now belong to someone who lives elsewhere, so instead the town do nothing and taxpayers support them.

We aspire to be a sovereign people. This is difficult when so much of our profit and wealth is being taken off-shore.

Te Tiriti

All of our stories as a nation must begin with the Treaty of Waitangi. For Pakeha, it is the founding immigration policy that allowed us entry and citizenship. It is our partnership deed, the document that underscores the marriage of our brown grandmother to our white grandfather (who immediately began selling off the wife's land and jewels).

Our marriage has been turbulent, and as mokopuna of this marriage, today we are well aware that it has, at times, been abusive and indifferent. We should begin by acknowledging the needs of a patient and generous host to whom we owe so much, and to whom we promised so much.

It is fitting that every year, on the anniversary of The Treaty, we honour this marriage by meeting to argue the current state of our relationship and air our grievances. Waitangi was the scene of great and important debate and we celebrate it by having a long hard look at ourselves and each other. Please do not let anyone change Waitangi Day for any watered-down version more suited to the European pallet.

I am not a European, although I would normally be counted as one. Europeans are people who have a family connection to a country in Europe – a grandparent, perhaps even a great-grandparent who was born there. A land where their own language is spoken and their culture is the flavour that distinguishes it from other lands in an increasingly global world. This is Maori land. Many of us who have been here for several generations are a blend of ethnicities that could only have occurred here. In Europe the marriages that have produced us could not have happened – because Europe has been plagued by tribal wars for centuries and my ancestors might have killed, not married, each other. Not to mention the other, non- European additions to our genepool. I am a product of Aotearoa, an indigenous mongrel of breeds that could only have arisen here. We have no other home than this. We are people of this land, and here we will stand, shoulder to shoulder with Tangatawhenua.

As a nation we are truly missing out if we do not use all of the inheritance we have been given. We have two languages. One of them is not spoken anywhere else in the world and is a Taonga to us. Not to mention the advantage in team sports of having a language the other team does not speak. =The Aotearoa I envisage is unquestionably bi-lingual. We are entitled to both of the languages of Te Tiriti; they are part of our birth-right

I have travelled to the other side of the planet, lived among other people, looked at our tiny country from the outside. After a few years I began to long for the very things that bring travellers here – the generous, approachable openness of Kiwis, people saying Kia Ora, the sound of the karanga, the colour of the bush, greenstone, the power of the haka. Maori have married and absorbed all the cultures of the world, creating a fusion of peoples that makes Aotearoa unique. Different communities celebrate their beginnings focused on a different group of immigrants – in Christchurch, mostly English, in Dunedin, mostly Scottish. We celebrate the arrival of Croatians, Chinese, Irish, Samoan. We must also celebrate and nurture Maori culture, language and values since these exist nowhere else in the world (well, with the possible exception of Australia).

We live in a global society, strong enough to celebrate our differences as well as our similarities. My aspirations for Aotearoa are based on a culture which stands firmly on the edge of the Pacific. A Maori/Kiwi/Pacifica culture that includes and celebrates all that we are, a weaving made from different threads. Please do not dilute the flavour of our culture attempting to provide bespoke systems for new-comers These are already provided for in other places –if people cannot embrace the flavour of our nation, we owe them no apology.

Many of us honour the Treaty and embrace our Maori cousins as the partners our grandparents may have imagined for our future. This is NOT Pakeha Guilt (nor any other dismissive explanation). It is aroha. Love for this country, these people. For us, for who we are and what we can achieve when we work together.

There are probably no right answers to New Zealand “race relations”. However the media may portray this issue, there are not two polarised sides - more like many shades of truth. Unlike other countries, we have loved each other. We are neighbours, workmates, friends - many of us share grandchildren – our hopes and aspirations are pinned on the same future.

So, what I request is that you will consider the best possible manifestation of the marriage of our ancestors, and imagine a future that pays due respect to both partners. We are New Zealanders. As a people, we admire integrity. Honour the Treaty.

Clean, Green

My highest aspiration for my country is that it will live up to its clean, green image. We know that our mother, Papatuanuku, is in trouble in many places. Rivers and streams are fouled, the land has been poisoned and pillaged for different industries. Shame.

Communities have put their hands up to be Kaitiaki for these precious taonga in their respective rohe. If we work together to fix some of these problems and heal the land, it seems reasonable that we would do so. We have visitors coming to this country every day. We need to get this place cleaned up.

We know that poison is toxic. Stop using it here. Stop making it here. Stop allowing any part of it to leak in any form into any part of our environment. Invest in research designed for transition into a cleaner, more sustainable future as quickly as possible. Stop drilling – we are afraid of spilling – and stop fracking too. Let's be the country that finds alternatives.

The Aotearoa I aspire to is a clean, green, healthy land capable of growing a healthy population. If we want to attract other people visit or invest in our country, why not be the best place in the world to bring children? The investors would want to live here instead of just syphoning profits offshore. Why not be the one place in the world where you can guarantee the food is safe? That's a really good marketing strategy...maybe someone has thought of it ... 100% pure...clean, green... Lets aspire to walk our talk.

Nuclear Free

New Zealand performs way above its weight in the push toward World Peace. Long may it be so.

Mind the Gap

We need to address the widening gap between rich and poor with some urgency. We have a Minimum Wage but no Maximum. Early New Zealand aspired to be a country where Jack was as good as his master, where extreme wealth was as rare as extreme poverty, where the difference between a worker's wages and the boss's salary would be considered fair by a reasonable person.

It should be possible for a one person on the minimum wage, in return for a 40 hour week, to provide a home for themselves, two children and a caregiver, including water, power, heating, food, clothing, health and dental. This is the minimum required in return for a reasonable weeks work. If that is not the case we are setting our families up for poverty, which is not the New Zealand way.

Whanau

Although our current legislation favours nuclear families, current economic difficulty and social pressures are causing our families to change shape. Many New Zealanders in their 40's and 50's are finding themselves looking for space to fit their parent(s) while still having adult children in the home. Where space allows for house extensions and granny flats, existing homes may be adequate, but perhaps more thought needs to be put into whanau housing for new homes as well.

We need to stop the attack on solo parents. Many New Zealanders have had a sole parent, given that we lost so many men in 2 world

wars. There are many reasons why parents bring up children alone, but it is rarely their first choice. The children they are raising are the same people who will be paying taxes in fifteen to twenty years in order to support baby boomers.

We aspire to be a country that does the right thing. Embrace this with all your heart.

Dianne Jean Kearney

Dunedin

3627

From: <webmaster@ourconstitution.org.nz>
To: <constitutionalreview@justice.govt.nz>
Date: 16/07/2013 12:19 p.m.
Subject:
http://www.ourconstitution.org.nz/form_submission

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

Full Names: Charmian Keay Organisation Name: Email:
Phone: Postal AddressA: Postal AddressB: Postal City: Auckland Postal Region:
Postal Post Code: Postal Country: New Zealand Submission: I think the most important issue
for our country is protecting our environment: making a dedication to always keep NZ nuclear free; to
ban deep-sea oil drilling and protect our marine environments more thoroughly, and look into more
sustainable energy
options; to control pollution issues (especially those associated with carbon emissions from vehicles,
and the dairy industry) and to create more conservation areas and stop urban sprawl taking over the
country. New Zealand needs to start living up to its
"clean and green" image. Also I would like to see the government fostering and
supporting more local industries, especially food related (eg. giving better incentives to organic
farmers) and Arts related. Also in future, it would be good to see our country
being run by a government who kept our assets state-owned.

Sent on the 15 July 2013 at 22:13

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.

James Kebbell
Wellington
New Zealand