



NEW ZEALAND CENTRE FOR
POLITICAL RESEARCH

Informed thinking

The New Zealand Centre for Political Research is an independent public policy think tank that provides research-based commentary on matters of national interest to encourage informed debate and help shape the future direction of the country. The NZCPR challenges the administration and advocates policies that promote individual freedom, personal responsibility, and limited government.

The NZCPR publishes New Zealand's largest free electronic newsletter to over 27,000 subscribers each week.

The NZCPR was founded in 2005 by Dr Muriel Newman, a former Member of Parliament with a background in business and education.

New Zealand Centre for Political Research
PO Box 984
Whangarei 0140
NEW ZEALAND
Ph 0064 9 4343836
Mb 0064 21 800111
Fax 0064 9 4344224
www.nzcpr.com
muriel@nzcpr.com

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FROM THE FOUNDING DIRECTOR



It's been another busy year for the NZCPR, our sixth as an organisation.

Ideas influence people and the NZCPR plays a pivotal role informing public opinion and influencing key decision-makers. We do this by providing independent *research-based* commentary and opinion from experts in their respective fields. We are

not affiliated to any political party nor do we seek or receive funding from any political organisation.

Our goal is to communicate with as wide a cross section of society as possible in order to empower the public and encourage greater participation in the democratic Parliamentary process. To that end, our increasingly busy website and growing subscriber base are important indicators of our progress.

It is said that politics is the battle of ideas. In 2011 the NZCPR fought campaigns on a number of fronts.

Foreshore and seabed

All too often in politics decisions are made to advance the interests of politicians rather than the public. An example of this was the coalition government's repeal of Crown ownership of the foreshore and seabed, despite overwhelming opposition from the public.

Through the Coastal Coalition (a coalition of concerned

citizens and community groups) the NZCPR participated in an active high-profile campaign to inform the public about the long-term consequences of renouncing Crown ownership of the foreshore and seabed. Subsequently we have reported that tribal claims that have already been lodged for popular beaches like 90 Mile Beach, and that new iwi consultation rights over coastal marine strips - as proposed by the new law - are already being incorporated into long term local authority plans.

Citizen Initiated Referendum

A CIR to restore Crown ownership of the foreshore and seabed was lodged as soon as the new law was passed. The petition question asks: "*Should the Marine and Coastal Area (Takutai Moana) Act 2011 be replaced by legislation that restores Crown ownership of the foreshore and seabed?*" The goal of collecting 320,000 signatures of registered voters by June 2012 has been made much more difficult by a totally inadequate legal advertising spending limit of \$50,000 (including GST) that has not been updated since the law was passed in 1993. Campaigning for the CIR is an on-going priority for the NZCPR.

Direct Democracy

An inevitable consequence of MMP governments is post-election back-room deal making. In some cases the effects of these deals are unknown, such as New Zealand signing up to the United Nations Declaration of the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. But what is clear is that our system of representative democracy is completely lacking in checks and balances to protect

FROM THE FOUNDING DIRECTOR - YOUR DONATION DOLLARS AT WORK IN 2011

the public interest when a government pursues its own political self interest against the wishes of the voters who put them into office.

The NZCPR has been an active advocate of direct democracy to restore political power back to the people through binding referenda and the power of veto. We are pleased to see a number of the minor political parties have now adopted direct democracy in one form or another as core election policies.

Government spending and regulation

While the government has in 2011 demanded greater savings from the public, it has yet to heed its own advice. A constant theme of our weekly commentaries has stressed the need for government to learn from the lessons of a heavily indebted Europe - a salient reminder that nations must create wealth before they consume it. We will continue to remind politicians that they, the state, exist only by consuming what others create, and that the prosperity of individuals, families, communities and the nation depends on freedom from excessive regulation.

Suspend the ETS

During the year we called for the Emissions Trading Scheme to be suspended. It makes no sense for households to be penalised by an ETS designed for the heavily industrialised economies of Europe, rather than a sparsely populated rural nation like New Zealand where food producing cows and sheep are the major emitters!

Welfare reform

Throughout 2011 we continued to campaign for comprehensive welfare reform, to end the disastrous growth of intergenerational welfare dependency that has spawned the underclass and a plethora of dreadful social problems. It is pleasing to see that many of the NZCPR's recommendations can now be found as reform options in the final report of the Welfare Working Group. With National's adoption of welfare reform as a key policy priority for the new government, the NZCPR will play an important role in monitoring progress.

Treaty issues and race relations

In 2011 we continued the call for greater transparency around the Treaty of Waitangi settlement process. Our Treaty Settlement Analysis Project, led by Research Associate Mike Butler, exposed the re-occurring nature of "final" settlements based on reinterpretations of history. Mike exposed a litany of overly-generous co-management deals and delayed settlements. Money not Mana has become the dominant motivation behind the escalating claims from an increasingly aggressive and litigious Maori minority with Parliamentary representation. This is dividing our nation on racial lines when its future lays in cohesion.

With over twenty new Treaty settlements in their final stages, the NZCPR's analysis is an important and on-going project.

FROM THE FOUNDING DIRECTOR - YOUR DONATION DOLLARS AT WORK IN 2011

Constitutional Review

The NZCPR was extremely disappointed to see a stacked panel appointed to lead the Maori Party's Constitutional Review. It is no secret that they intend to push for a new New Zealand constitution that enshrines the Maori seats and the Treaty of Waitangi to give Maori special rights above those of all other citizens in perpetuity.

It is our view that this Review represents a major threat to race relations in New Zealand and must be vigorously opposed. The Constitutional Review will be a key feature of our 2012 work programme.

Legislation watch

We have continued a watchdog role of not only scrutinising the government's legislative programme to alert the public to the opportunities provided by our democratic process to make submissions and to become involved in the consultation process, but we have also published informed commentary exploring the underlying incentives of new policy, and highlighting the possible unintended consequences.

Election 2011

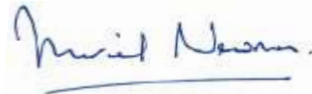
Not being aligned to any political party enables the NZCPR to play a key role as an independent commentator on party politics. To assist voters we comprehensively analysed Party Manifestos in the lead up to the 2011 General Election.

In particular, a report on how parties voted on the Marine and Coastal Area Bill was produced for NZCPR subscribers in the lead up to the general election as a reminder of where parties stood on the important issue of Crown ownership.

Without a doubt the election created some real winners and losers. The winners include the National Party returned with an increased majority, the Greens who gained at Labour's expense, and New Zealand First which capitalised on the disillusioned voters from the left and the right. The emergence of the Conservative Party was also a highlight (2.65% party vote) to lay a platform as a potential force on the centre-right.

The losers were the Labour Party that returned the worst election result since the 1930s, ACT which was all but wiped out, and the Maori Party that lost support to Hone Harawira's Mana Party.

With a sound election night majority, John Key, supported by ACT and United, was able to form a new National-led government. The fact that he has now reached out to the radical Maori Party and in a lesser way the radical Green Party strengthens the NZCPR's resolve to undertake our watchdog role with increased vigour in the years ahead.



Dr Muriel Newman
FOUNDING DIRECTOR

THE YEAR BY NUMBERS - 2011

6

years since the NZCPR was established

50

NZCPR Weekly columns published

50

guest opinion pieces published

214

BreakingViews blog postings

14470

signed our petition to oppose the
foreshore & seabed law change

27000

copies of NZCPR Weekly sent
each week.

+10000000

visitors to nzcpr.com

countless

media appearances and published
articles

OUR PEOPLE

Dr Muriel Newman BSc, Dr mathematics education (Rutgers)
NZCPR Founder and Director

Muriel Newman established the public policy think tank, the New Zealand Centre for Political Research, in 2005 after nine years as a Member of Parliament. Her background is in business - as the Assistant General Manager of Michael Hill Jeweller - and education. She is a former Chamber of Commerce President and currently serves as a director of a childrens' trust.

Frank Newman BMS M.Prop.Stud (dist)
NZCPR Associate Director

Frank Newman is the author of numerous books on investment matters. He has a special interest in local government having served for two terms on the Whangarei District Council. Frank lectures part-time in property at Massey University and is a director of Smart Business Centre Accountants.

David Round LLB (Hons) (Canterbury)
NZCPR Research Associate

David Round teaches law at the University of Canterbury and is a Constitutional law expert. He is the author of *"Truth or Treaty? Commonsense Questions about the Treaty of Waitangi"*.

Dr Ron Smith Bsc (Hons) (Southampton), MA, DPhil (Waikato)
NZCPR Research Associate

Ron Smith is Co-Director of International Relations and Security Studies at Waikato University. He has a particular interest in nuclear policy and, more generally, in energy and security issues. Tertiary qualifications in both Chemistry and Philosophy also underpin an interest in the interface between science and society.

Mike Butler BA in English Literature
NZCPR Research Associate

Mike Butler is a property investor and manager. He is author of *"The First Colonist - The life and times of Samuel Deighton 1821-1900"*, a former contract writer for the New World Encyclopedia, and he was the chief sub-editor of the Hawke's Bay Herald-Tribune between 1986 and 1999.

Katrina Jensen BA, BSc (Hons), Dip HR Mngt
NZCPR Administrator

Katrina Jensen has a background in Human Resources and Administration, most recently working for a Wellington-based IT company. She is currently at home with a young son, and works part-time for the NZCPR.

OUR SUPPORTERS

Our supporters are people like you. We receive no government funding and have no affiliations to any political party.

The NZCPR relies 100% on the support of individual donations and the generosity of those who see the need for an independent research based voice on matters affecting the prosperity and well-being of the community and the rights of individuals.

In addition, the excellent grassroots contributions of subscribers through the NZCPR Debating Chamber and weekly polls ensures that their values and views on key political and social issues are available to influence policy makers.

We could not continue without the support of those who appreciate the value of the material we produce.



“ *The greatest challenge facing mankind is the challenge of distinguishing reality from fantasy, truth from propaganda.*
Perceiving the truth has always been a challenge to mankind, but in the information age it takes on a special urgency and importance.
WE MUST DAILY DECIDE WHETHER THE THREATS WE FACE ARE REAL, whether the solutions we are offered will do any good, whether the problems we're told exist are in fact real problems, or non-problems. ”

- Dr Michael Crichton (2003)

NZCPR WEEKLY

NZCPR Weekly is New Zealand's largest online newsletter, delivered free to over 27,000 readers, 50 weeks of the year.

The articles are read by key decision makers and widely published in the media. Each column is supported by guest commentary from some of the world's leading authorities in their fields. Our guest contributors in 2011 are listed on the pages that follow.

By delivering well researched material the NZCPR plays an important role in influencing better social and political decision making.

One of the most commented on articles was FRESH THINKING (24 Oct 2011)..

NZCPR Weekly

New Zealand's largest online newsletter

FRESH THINKING

NZCPR Weekly
24 Oct 2011

With the Rugby World Cup now almost behind us... the country's focus will soon turn to politics. With the 2011 general election just four weeks away, we should expect a flood of well rehearsed policy announcements from all political contenders aimed at attracting our votes. Since this is the season for new ideas we thought we would share some of the initiatives that we have come across during our NZCPR research work, that are being used by countries around the world to address their public policy challenges.

With the state of the economy weighing heavily on everyone's mind, the US State of Texas might be able to teach us a thing or two. Texas has a small government, with a legislature that meets for only 90 days every two years. Taxes are low and there is no state income tax. As a result, its economy thrives as large and small businesses generate new jobs. Unemployment rates have been below the national average for more than a decade. In spite of weak state sector unions, public services are said to be superior, with education test scores higher than those in many other states.

Americans have been voting with their feet and moving to Texas at double the rate of any other state. Texas is also a magnet to families from abroad, who are attracted by a small, low-tax government that encourages creativity and opportunity.

FRESH THINKING...continued

Lesson for NZ: smaller governments create jobs, opportunity and wealth.

Another example of economic transformation comes from Canada. In the mid-nineties, the country was an economic basket case - described by the Wall Street Journal as "an honorary member of the Third World". But within three years the budget was balanced and 11 years of budget surpluses followed.

This remarkable turnaround was achieved through reigning in government spending, reducing the size of the public service, tightening up on welfare, and slashing company tax rates. By recognising that it is the business sector that creates economic growth not the government - Canada has continued to reduce corporate taxes giving Canadian businesses a significant competitive edge. Company tax in Canada - now at 16.5 percent - will be reduced to 15 percent next year. This rate compares favourably with the company tax rate in some of the world's economic power-houses such as Hong Kong with a company tax rate of 16.5 percent and Singapore on 17 percent.

With Europe's average corporate tax rate having now dropped below 25 percent, it is clear that New Zealand's 28 percent rate is out of step...Imagine the boost to Kiwi businesses if New Zealand's company tax rate was reduced to 15 percent to match that of Canada. What a boom in jobs and growth that would create!

Lesson for NZ - lower company tax drives economic growth.

Sweden's progressive approach to education has long demonstrated that it is competition between schools to attract students, as well as the ability of parents to choose the best school to meet the needs of their children, that are the key factors needed to improve the educational achievement of students, and

the working conditions of teachers.

School choice was introduced in Sweden in 1992. It is based on the concept of each child being issued with a virtual 'voucher', which is equivalent in value to the average cost of educating a Swedish child in a state school. Parents can then use this 'voucher' to 'buy' their child a place at the school of their choice - either a state school, a private for-profit school, or a private not-for-profit school. With educational funding following students, state support flows to the most popular schools. These virtual vouchers cannot be 'topped up', so private schools participating in the scheme cannot charge additional fees. Nor can schools select students on any basis other than first-come, first-served.



FRESH THINKING...continued

Before the voucher system was introduced into Sweden, there were virtually no private schools, but by 2008 around 10 percent of all students attended private schools.

Lesson for NZ - educational achievement is improved through competition and choice.

For the past 10 years, public and private hospitals in Lombardy in northern Italy have competed directly for patients. In doing so, they are reported to have created one of Europe's most efficient health-care systems.

Like many other countries, health-care in Italy is paid for by the state, with patients charged a small co-payment. As a result, most Italians don't buy private health insurance, creating a virtual monopoly of state hospital provision. With little incentive to improve services or rein in costs, inefficiencies in the public hospital system were rampant, with long waiting lists for non-emergency treatment a tell-tale sign.

However, in 1997 the government decentralised the country's health-care system to provide regional control over public hospital funding. This gave regions the power to adopt their own quality standards, to set their own reimbursement rates, to decide which hospitals qualified for public funds, and to withhold reimbursement if hospitals did not meet their standards.

While many regions essentially maintained the status quo, giving public hospitals preferential treatment, Lombardy took a different approach. It increased quality standards, set new reimbursement rates, and made public and private hospitals equally eligible for public funding. That meant that any hospital that met their quality standards and charged an accepted reimbursement rate, qualified. Patients were

then free to choose between state-run and publicly funded private hospitals - their co-payment the same in either case.

As a result of the competition between public and private hospitals competing for patients and funding, services improved across the board. Patients in Lombardy receive among the widest array of treatments in Italy, and are covered for a longer list of prescription drugs than almost anywhere else in Europe. Waiting lists are a thing of the past. Today, it's difficult for people in Lombardy to even tell the difference between public and private hospitals.

Lesson for NZ patient care can be improved through competition and choice.

As we watch the unrelenting rise in the price of power in New Zealand - driven largely by politicians passing almost the entire cost of the world's most stringent emissions trading scheme onto householders - we can see no relief in sight. With the government's commitment to renewable energy favouring the use of expensive wind generation, the problem can only get worse.

This week's NZCPR Guest Commentator is acclaimed author and journalist Matt Ridley. Winner of numerous literary awards including the coveted Hayek Prize for 2011, Matt, a former Science and Technology Editor for the Economist, explains how technological advancements have meant an end to power price rises in some countries around the world through the discovery of enormous reserves of inexpensive shale gas:

"Which would you rather have in the view from your house? A thing about the size of a domestic garage, or eight towers twice the height of Nelson's column with

FRESH THINKING...continued

blades noisily thrumming the air. The energy they can produce over ten years is similar: eight wind turbines of 2.5-megawatts roughly equal the output of an average Pennsylvania shale gas well in its first ten years.

“Difficult choice? Let's make it easier. The gas well can be hidden in a hollow, behind a hedge. The eight wind turbines must be on top of hills, because that is where the wind blows, visible for up to 40 miles. And they require the construction of new pylons marching to the towns; the gas well is connected by an underground pipe.

“What's that you say? Gas is running out? Have you not heard the news? It's not. Till five years ago gas was the fuel everybody thought would run out first, before oil and coal. But a chap called George Mitchell turned the gas industry on its head. Using just the right combination of horizontal drilling and hydraulic fracturing, both well established technologies, he worked out how to get gas out of shale where most of it is, rather than just out of (conventional) porous rocks, where it sometimes pools. The Barnett shale in Texas... turned into one of the biggest gas reserves in America. Then the Haynesville shale in Louisiana dwarfed it. The Marcellus shale mainly in Pennsylvania then trumped that with a barely believable 500 trillion cubic feet of gas, as big as any oil field ever found, on the doorstep of the biggest market in the world.”

While some exploration companies are looking at the shale gas potential in New Zealand, at this stage it is unclear whether any reserves of a commercial nature exist. But what Matt Ridley has highlighted is that free markets provide powerful incentives for innovation that can create ground-

breaking solutions to seemingly insurmountable problems. In the long run technology-driven progress can provide enormous benefits for consumers and economies alike.

Lesson for NZ - markets free from excessive regulation can overcome resource scarcity.

With serious concerns that the welfare system was forcing taxpayers to subsidise drug dependency, the US State of Florida passed a law in June to require recipients of the equivalent of the Domestic Purposes Benefit to pass a drug test as a condition of receiving cash assistance. Non-cash benefits such as food stamps and housing aid are not affected by the new law. If a beneficiary fails the drug test, they will lose their benefit for a year unless they undergo rehabilitation (although their child assistance can be paid to a third party to administer - as long as they also pass a drug test). If they fail the test a second time, they will lose their benefit for three years.

Here in New Zealand, with many workplaces now drug testing employees to ensure they are drug free, it has been suggested that drug-testing of recipients of all work-tested benefits should become law - since it is a condition of welfare receipt that the recipient is ready and available for work. If they are taking drugs, then they have broken their side of the bargain, as many employees will refuse to give them a job.

If New Zealand was to follow Florida's lead, then recipients of all taxpayer-funded benefits would be drug-tested to ensure that taxpayers were not being forced to subsidise drug dependency.

Lesson for NZ taxpayers should not be forced to subsidise drug dependency.

GUEST CONTRIBUTORS 2011

The NZCPR is extremely grateful for the contribution to public affairs made by our Guest Commentators. Their expert opinion greatly strengthens the effectiveness of the NZCPR.

Baldock, Larry - Former member of Parliament, Leader of The Kiwi Party and current Tauranga City Councillor.

Baron, Steve - Author, regular columnist in various publications throughout NZ and the founder of Better Democracy NZ.

Barr, Hugh - A risk analyst, recreation advocate, and co-founder of the Coastal Coalition.

Bowden, Roger - Former Professor of Economics and Finance at the Victoria University of Wellington.

Brown, Wayne - Mayor of the Far North District Council (since 2007), former chairman of the Auckland District Health Board, Transmission Holdings, and Vector Limited. He has a diverse range of business interests.

Butler, Mike - Property investor and manager, author of *The First Colonist - The life and times of Samuel Deighton 1821-1900*, former contract writer for the New World Encyclopedia, chief sub-editor of the Hawke's Bay Herald-Tribune (1986-1999).

Coote, Michael - Freelance writer and financial journalist.

Costley, Nigel - Freelance journalist and writer.

Craig, Colin - Leader of the NZ Conservative Party, candidate 2010 Auckland Mayorality.

Crampton, Eric - Senior Lecturer in economics and finance at the University of Canterbury.

Eckhoff, Gerry - Member of Parliament (1999 - 2005), Kellogg scholar in 1997.

Epstein, Richard - Senior Fellow at the Hoover Institution, Professor of Law at the New York University Law School and a senior lecturer at the University of Chicago.

Fresne, Karl du - Freelance journalist and columnist, and a former editor of The Dominion.

Glenn, Owen - Founder, owner and executive chairman of OTS Logistics Group. Received an Officer of the New Zealand Order of Merit in the 2008 as recognition of his business achievements and his work as a philanthropist.

Grieve, Robin - A regular contributor to rural publications in New Zealand and Australia and specialist in the ETS.

Kerr, Roger - Former executive director of the New Zealand Business Round Table. Sadly, Roger passed away in October 2011.

Leyland, Bryan - A consulting engineer specialising in electricity generation and transmission. Chairman of the economics panel of the NZ Climate Science Coalition.

GUEST CONTRIBUTORS...continued

Malmanche, Gavin de - Retired advertising and marketing executive. Founder of the Wake Up New Zealand website.

McShane, Owen - Director of the Centre for Resource Management Studies and Chair of the Policy Panel of the NZ Climate Science Coalition.

McVicar, Garth - Founder of the Sensible Sentencing Trust.

Mitchell, Lindsay - Commentator on welfare issues.

Newman, Frank - Author of numerous books on investment matters and part-time lecturer in property investment at Massey University.

O'Reilly, Phil - Chief Executive of BusinessNZ, New Zealand's largest business advocacy group, representing thousands of businesses of all sizes.

Ridley, Matt - Journalist and author, the latest being *The Rational Optimist: How prosperity evolves*. His books have sold over 850,000 copies and translated into 30 languages.

Round, David - Lectures law at the University of Canterbury and author of *Truth or Treaty? Commonsense Questions about the Treaty of Waitangi*.

Smith, Rt Hon Iain Duncan - Former leader of the UK Conservative Party. Currently a member of the Cabinet, holding the portfolio of Secretary of State for Work and Pensions.

Smith, Ron - Co-Director of International Relations and Security Studies at the University of Waikato. He has a particular interest in nuclear policy and, more generally, in energy and security issues.

Thompson, Alasdair - Former CEO of the Employers & Manufacturers Association (Northern), and former Mayor of the Thames Coromandel District Council.

Tichbon, Bruce - A campaigner for the reform of New Zealand's Family Law.

Trotter, Chris - Principally known for his weekly political columns and his commentaries. The founding editor of *The New Zealand Political Review* (1992-2005) and in 2007 authored *No Left Turn*, a political history of New Zealand.

The NZCPR archives contain over 1000 articles produced by the NZCPR and its guests. These form a valuable source of information drawn upon by researchers, report writers and decision makers.

WWW.BREAKINGVEIWS.CO.NZ

Our blog site BreakingViews.co.nz has gone from strength to strength. During 2011 our team of 12 regular bloggers made thought provoking and sometimes comical commentary on the issues of the day.

The five most popular blog postings (by views) were:

1. Mike Butler: Objecting to the Maorification of NZ, July 10, 2011

"The treaty brought a new age for Maori that meant no longer did they have to go to war to assert land ownership claims." (see next page for full text.)

2. Frank Newman: The State of the Universe Address, January 31, 2011.

"Democracy is a wonderful thing; if for the only reason that we can correct the mistake we the voters made three years earlier, without resorting to violence once every thirty years as is the case in countries like Egypt."

3. David Round: Customary rights claims lack validity, March 21, 2011.

"Finlayson's basic claim is that the 2004 Foreshore and Seabed Act overrules 164 years of common law development. This is not so. It is completely untrue that the law of New Zealand recognised these customary rights for 164 years."

4. Karl du Fresne: Scandal seems a mild word in this context, January 8, 2011.

"Helen Clark justified this touchy-feely, Defence-Lite approach with her famous pronouncement in 2001 – in

justification of the decision to axe the air force's combat wing – that we lived in an "incredibly benign strategic environment". That was four months before 9/11. It's interesting to square Clark's statement against the reality today, when the entire planet has been destabilised by Islamic terrorism, an ascendant China is flexing its military muscles and any number of flashpoints (Pakistan and Korea being two of the more obvious examples) could ignite at any time."

5. Ron Smith: Pornography and the public interest, November 26, 2011.

"Media stories about proposed Auckland University research into the place of pornography in society, raise much wider issues than the deliberate deception involved in the Marsden Fund reporting of this issue. Apart from the obvious questions about the importance of this particular investigation and others in the recently issued Marsden list, there is a general question about the desirability of awarding more than fifty million dollars to public institutions (largely universities), that are already in receipt of public funds, and about how the decisions to allocate these funds are made."

To read these and other blog postings go to www.breakingviews.co.nz. Use key word search to locate the article, author, or topic of choice.

Breaking • Views •
Opinion
 informed

2011 #1 BLOG

Mike Butler: Objecting to the Maorification of NZ,

July 10, 2011

Separatists described this week's ACT Party advert featuring the headline "Fed up with pandering to Maori radicals" both "deeply offensive" and a "dog whistle back to the 19th century". But ACT Party leader Don Brash told Radio New Zealand the ad reflected a "very deep frustration on the part of many people that successive governments, Labour and National, have been trying to appease a group of quite radical Maori, who have a view of New Zealand that is not only fundamentally different from what most New Zealanders want, but fundamentally different from any reasonable interpretation of the Treaty of Waitangi."

Poles apart after 171 years of living in the same country. How have we come to this? Part of the reason is that there are two opposing interpretations of the treaty. The view Brash takes is that by the first article, tribal ancestors had transferred their chiefly authority to the Queen forever, and the second article confirmed rights of possession. The separatist view is based on the second article's guarantee of complete ownership, the Maori phrase "tino rangatiratanga".

"...Rangatiratanga means a range of things..."

The problem is that "rangatiratanga" means a range of things including "sovereignty, chieftainship, right to exercise authority, chiefly autonomy, self-

determination, self-management, ownership, leadership of a social group, domain of the rangatira, and noble birth".

In drafting the treaty, British Resident James Busby and Governor William Hobson used the phrase 'tino rangatiratanga' to convey "complete ownership". Maori sovereignty proponents take 'tino rangatiratanga' to mean both "ownership" and "self-government", which allows the treaty to both cede and retain sovereignty.

Some generous souls argue that the chiefs who signed the treaty had neither concept of sovereignty nor ownership since in the stone-age world they occupied, everything was tied up in a system dominated by the chief. Therefore, the word "chiefly-ness" or "rangatiratanga" could explain sovereignty and ownership.

But British sovereignty was quickly explained many times back in 1840, to chiefs deciding whether or not to sign, as "the Queen will be a chief over you". Similarly, the chiefly ownership of and the ability to sell land was equally well understood at that stage, as was evidenced by the large areas of land already sold by chiefs to some entrepreneurial English.

"...the Queen will be a chief over you..."

The Maorification of NZ... continued

The two conflicting interpretations of the treaty have co-existed for 171 years and have overlapped a much longer Maori tradition, of squabbling over land.

The treaty brought a new age for Maori that meant no longer did they have to go to war to assert land ownership claims. The struggle could continue under the auspices of British law. Chiefs could sell land, not only for financial gain, but to settle old scores or to get up the noses of other chiefs, as happened with the Waitara block. When it became apparent that the Governor would investigate land-sale disputes, there were the additional benefits of compensation, the possibility of having the land returned, so it could be sold, yet again.

"...a new age dawned for the Maori land-sale grievance economy..."

When the Fourth Labour Government made it possible to air grievances back to 1840, a new age dawned for the Maori land-sale grievance economy. The raft of treaty claims and settlements that appeared since then has been a part of that new age, the so-called Maori renaissance.

Various incarnations of a Maori sovereignty movement have existed for nearly 171 years, including flagpole-chopper Hone Heke, the Maori King movement, the Kotahitanga and the Kauhanganui movements. In his influential "Te Tiriti o

Waitangi: He Whakamarama", written in 1922 for a Maori audience, Sir Apirana Ngata explained that since parliament was the embodiment of chiefly authority ceded in 1840, demands for absolute Maori authority, such as the Kotahitanga and Kauhanganui movements of that time, were wishful thinking. Nevertheless, continued brooding by some disaffected Maori has kept separatist dreams alive, and these dreams have been nourished with the appearance of the Maori Party, and a National-Party-led government which officially flew the Maori separatist flag, set up the Whanau Ora Maori social services organisation, signed up to the United Nations Declaration of the Rights of Indigenous People, signed away rights to the coastal area, and fast-tracked dubious treaty settlements.

"...separatists have infested government departments, universities, schools, as well as the news media..."

Fellow-traveller separatists have infested government departments, universities, schools, as well as the news media, as was shown by the Dominion Post's refusal to run the ACT Party advert.

Without saying Herald columnist John Roughan is a separatist, in his column "Tino rangatiratanga is more than a flag - it is the autonomy every person needs" he appeared stunned at the result of a TVNZ Close-

The Maorification of NZ... continued

Up poll in which of 40,000 responses, 81 percent said that they don't think Maori have a special place in New Zealand.

Roughan wrote: "Everybody knows Maori have a special place in New Zealand" and went on to call those who didn't believe that were "deniers" who generally leave to live in Queensland. It's a bad day for news when beliefs get in the way of facts. But, Roughan was writing an opinion piece, and he has shown that his opinion is out of step with reality.

Sentiments like "tino rangatiratanga is the autonomy every person needs" help massage the separatist dream into the subconscious of readers and viewers who would otherwise reject the notion of dual government or Maori-governed areas.

Ad man John Ansell created the "Fed up with pandering to Maori radicals" for the ACT Party. He had created two much more lively adverts that popularity sensitive ACT MPs rejected, causing ructions within the party, according to the New Zealand Herald.

Even so the milder published advert sparked howls of outrage from two of the pandered-to Maori radicals. The "dog whistle" outburst came from the retired professor Ranginui Walker, who was a member of Maori activist group Nga Tamatoa, and the "deeply offensive" comment was from Maori Party co-leader Tariana Turia. Both try to present their extreme views as mainstream.

This is what people are saying about the NZCPR.

"I have just finished reading your latest NZCPR Weekly update and would like to congratulate you on your year of very profound reporting clearly stating the real facts and views."

"I think the Centre does enormously valuable work and I read the many contributions with considerable interest. The sad fact is we cannot expect the spectrum of political perspectives to be reflected in the mainstream media..."

"There are bugger all people I admire, but you are one of them. Really appreciate your efforts and energies."

"You have done a great and an important service to New Zealanders. Thanks for your tireless efforts to bring matters of importance to the attention of us all."

““

You cannot legislate the poor into freedom
by legislating the wealthy out of freedom.

What one person receives without working for,
another person must work for without receiving.

The government cannot give to anybody *anything*
that the government does not first *take from*
SOMEBODY ELSE.

When half of the **people** get the idea that they do not have
to work because the **Other** half is going to take care of them,
and when the *other half* gets the idea that it does no
good to work because SOMEBODY ELSE is going to get what
they **work** for, that my dear friend,
is about the *end of any nation.* ””

- Adrian Rogers

LOOKING FORWARD - PREVIEW 2012

2012 promises to be an even busier year for the NZCPR than 2011. The second term of the National led coalition government is likely to include long-overdue reforms. It is important that the public make their views known.

NZCPR policy initiatives

- Ongoing promotion of the Citizens Initiated Referendum on the foreshore and seabed.
- Advancing the cause of direct democracy.
- The MMP review.
- The Constitutional Review campaign to oppose the adoption of a new Treaty based constitution for New Zealand.
- Closely monitoring the effectiveness of the government's welfare reform changes.
- Education research to highlight the benefits of parental choice.
- Reducing the size of central and local government.
- Taxation reform to move towards a low flat tax.
- Breaking down the barriers for business to create wealth, including suspending the ETS.

- Closing the growing racial divide.
- The Treaty of Waitangi Settlement Analysis Project as an on-going priority.
- Legislation Watch as an on-going priority.

NZCPR working groups

We intend to address a number of these issues by establishing NZCPR Working Groups to combine the strengths of the NZCPR with the expertise of leading advocates in their field.

The first of these groups will be the NZCPR Constitutional Advisory Panel. The independent NZCPR panel will mirror the government's advisory panel which was appointed in 2011 by agreement between the Parliamentary parties.

The NZCPR also intends to add balance to the "Poverty" debate by establishing a working group similar to the committee foreshadowed by the Maori Party in their Confidence and Supply agreement with National.

Organisational initiatives

To meet the growing demands of advocacy and the demands of growing traffic to nzcpr.com we will be undertaking a number of organisational initiatives in 2012.

KEY ACTIVITIES... continued

The first priority is the upgrading of the NZCPR website. When the NZCPR was first established we ran it off the smell of an oilyrag (and still do in many ways) but with more than a million visitors to the site in the last year, it's time to upgrade!

The second priority is to improve the timeliness of our newsletter delivery service. With 27,000 newsletter going out weekly an upgrade to a managed system is required.

And our third priority is to expand our media reach through both traditional and social networks. We will achieve this by establishing a dedicated NZCPR Media unit.

Tail wagging
MMP
dog.

Full and final...
 until next time.

Work not
welfare

*Governments consume
 wealth
 created by others.*

One people or
 two races?
You choose.

HOW YOU CAN HELP US

There are many ways that our supporters can help the New Zealand Centre for Political Research.

Most importantly, like many organisations that provide a free service, funding remains our greatest challenge. The existence and effectiveness of the NZCPR depends entirely on the generous contributions of those who understand the influence that our work is having on the future direction of the country and want to see it remain a totally free service.

We rely on donations of every shape and size, and our small team ensures every dollar goes a long way. Each and every contribution is valued.

Spreading the influence of the NZCPR remains a key goal. This can be done by growing our mailing list, and to that end we encourage everyone who receives our newsletters to send them on to friends and family - inviting those that are interested to register for the mailing list themselves.

We are also more than happy for our website address and our properly referenced articles to be published across the Internet including to social networking sites, and we greatly appreciate our supporters bringing our work to the attention of

CONTINUED OVER

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email

I would like to make a one-off donation.

Please indicate the amount of your donation:

\$10,000 \$5,000 \$1,000 \$500 \$250
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I would like to make a regular automatic donation.

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 \$25 \$20 \$10 Other.....

Please download an AP form (PDF) from www.nzcpr.com.
Complete and mail to: NZCPR, PO Box 984, Whangarei 0140.

Post cheque and send to: NZCPR, PO Box 984, Whangarei 0140.
(Please make cheques payable to "NZCPR")

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OR fax to 09 4343 836

The NZ Centre for Political Research
PO Box 984
WHANGAREI 0140



Please cut along the dotted line, place in a window envelop, and post.

media through direct approaches, letters to the editor and talkback radio.

Finally, we always appreciate hearing your suggestions and feedback on issues to tackle, potential guest contributors to invite, or concerns to investigate. Please don't hesitate to get in touch.

And if you are keen to direct your donations to a particular project - the CIR, Direct Democracy, Economic and Tax Reform, Local Government Reform, Welfare Reform, Education Reform, the Treaty Settlement Analysis Project, the Constitutional Review Campaign, or any other specific project - please let me know that as well.

Thanks again for your interest and your valuable support - we can only do what we do because of your help!

Warmest regards,

Dr Muriel Newman
FOUNDING DIRECTOR

“

You cannot help the poor by destroying the rich.
*You cannot strengthen the weak by
weakening the strong.*

You cannot bring about prosperity
by discouraging thrift.

YOU CANNOT LIFT THE WAGE EARNER UP BY
PULLING THE WAGE PAYER DOWN.

*You cannot further the brotherhood of man by
inciting class hatred.*

YOU CANNOT BUILD CHARACTER AND COURAGE BY
TAKING AWAY MEN'S INITIATIVE AND INDEPENDENCE.

*You cannot help men permanently by doing for
them, what they could and should do for
themselves.*

- Abraham Lincoln

”

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