

# Whānau Whakapakari

**This SKIP training pack has been developed with a focus on supporting parents raising Māori children. The material is based on Dr Averil Herbert's PhD Thesis, Whānau Whakapakari: A Māori-centred approach to child rearing and parent-training programmes.**

Each discussion card contains some quotes from Averil's thesis. The cards can be used with small groups of parents (5 or 6 is a good number) to encourage discussion.

Allow 20 to 30 minutes for the small groups to discuss a card, make some notes on the main points they'd like to share and be ready to feed back to the main group.

Discussion works well when people share from their own experiences; when they make the connections about their own growing up, their own whānau and their own tamariki.

Some ideas to get the discussion going:

How do the ideas on this card link with the six things children need to grow up to be happy, capable adults?

*Love and warmth*

*Talking and listening*

*Guidance and understanding*

*Limits and boundaries*

*Consistency and consequences*

*A structured and secure world*

## **Karakia Timatatanga**

E te Atua

Manaakitia mai mātou

Arahinatia mātou

I tēnei rā

I runga i tōu ingoa tapu

Amine



# Wairuatanga

"To care and understand nature and people and the relationships between them. To value and respect life and property. The taha wairua is the one that binds all these things." *Koroua*

"Part of a whānau where whanaungatanga was paramount. Great care and sharing in things material and spiritual." *Kuia*





# Awhinatanga

**Adults give children information and instructions. Children respond to specific directions and need time to respond. Praise is important.**

"Long term support and being there when they recognised the problem and are ready to make the change."



# Mā te wā

- Taking time
- Wait and see
- Allowing time

"Your instinct kicks in, in quite a lot of cases. Don't rush it because it might be quite different from what you feel? Nei rā? I suppose the wairua part of you comes into play with the wairua of that whānau you are working with. So it is waiting and coming to the right conclusion."



# Whanaungatanga

**Whanaungatanga is the quality of the family relationships. All generations supporting and working alongside each other.**

Whanaungatanga should incorporate all the values of whakapapa, awhinatanga and wairuatanga.

Families can learn to interact on a positive basis with each other, and with other families in the community.

"I have one sister and her children are very close to me. I see them as my own children. My sister's mokopuna are my mokopuna."





# Māori Values

"Different ages – older ones protective of younger ones."

"We look after our own."

"We feel at home with our own."

"One person's grief is everyone's grief."

"If you win Lotto, look out!"





# Mana kāinga

**The importance of households in providing and nurturing and manaakitanga for tamariki and mokopuna.**

"Children stay in different households."

"Aunties and uncles and nans are very important."

"Instead of a cup of tea you get a meal."

"Everyone holds on to and picks up the baby."



# Whakapapa

**As children grow up they need to learn their identity. Each generation does this by starting with themselves and learning about their parents, grandparents, family and kaumatua. This can be from whānau hui, birthdays, weddings and tangihanga.**

"When a mokopuna was born, there was joy throughout the family. Every birth was a special occasion, and it reflected on the whānau and on the tribe." *Kuia*

"We learn from the photos that we have at home, from being around the marae and from kaumātua, family reunions and family reunion booklets. We ourselves will be pēpi, tamariki, rangatahi, mātua, whāea/papa, and kuia/koroua."

# Whakamā

**Being shy has come to equate with being humble which was seen as more desirable than being whakahīhī (showing off).**

There was also agreement that the concept had become a barrier to developing self-esteem and confidence and was seen as a Māori problem.

"Whakamā is connected to cultural identity. If they are strong in cultural identity you wouldn't see whakamā."

"Whakamā is a lack of understanding and generates a negative feeling. The more people understand whakamā the better we can deal with it."

"Whakamā actually restricts people from developing their full potential." *Pakeke*



# Changing Values

"I was brought up hard (discipline), and I try not to do the same with my kids."

"I learned about discipline when I visited a mother using Parents as First Teachers – That it can be a learning thing, and not just a hitting thing." *Kuia*





He mihi tēnei ki a Averil May Lloyd Herbert mo ngā mātauranga i waihotia ki a mātou i roto i tāna mahi – PhD Thesis: *Whānau Whakapakari: a Māori centred approach to child rearing and parent-training programmes* – University of Waikato 2001.