



School of People, Environment and Planning
Massey University
Private Bag 11 222
Palmerston North

Conversations with the unsettled: Small stories of colonization in Aotearoa New Zealand

INFORMATION SHEET

Researcher

My name is Richard Shaw, and I am a Professor of Politics in Massey University's School of People, Environment and Planning. I am interested in the 'small stories' of colonization – the ones involving encounters between friends, family members and neighbours that take place far from the 'big stories' forged in ministers' offices, government departments and the courts.

Project Description and Invitation

More specifically, I am curious about the personal histories, recollections and views of Pākehā/European New Zealanders, particularly those who are descendants of settler-coloniser families.

Last year I published a small book, [The Forgotten Coast](#), which included an account of my ancestors' participation in the invasion of Parihaka in 1881 and the farming of land confiscated from Māori. I had not expected that the book (or the [media articles](#) associated with it) would resonate with others, but since its publication I have been contacted by a number of other Pākehā/European New Zealanders, many of whom make reference to their own small stories of colonization and the uncertainty and discomfort these can engender.

The purpose of this research is to gather together some of these small stories and make sense of them in the political, economic and historical context of the colonization of Aotearoa New Zealand – and I would like to invite you to participate in the project.

Participant Identification and Recruitment

In the first instance I am approaching people who have directly contacted me following the publication of my book and/or associated media articles, but I imagine that the questionnaire might also find its way to others with an interest in the topic.

I do not anticipate that participation in the project will produce discomfort or risk to those who choose to engage. However, it does deal with sensitive topics: family stories, settler history, colonization and so forth. For that reason, if you wish to discuss the project with me before deciding whether or not to participate, I would be only too willing to have a conversation with you (see below for my contact details).

Project Procedures

If you do choose to participate, I would like you to complete a written questionnaire, which will take you between 30 minutes to an hour (or perhaps longer, depending on how much detail you choose to share with me).

Data Management

All completed surveys will be securely stored in a digital repository to which only I will have access. Participants' responses will be included in standard academic publications (journal articles, book chapters and so on): however, because the project concerns issues of significant contemporary relevance, what I really want to do is to publish a book which appeals to a wider, non-academic audience.

If you choose to participate you can have your responses treated anonymously and in confidence; equally, you can allow me to attribute your words to you by name in the publications that will flow from the project. If you choose the latter, I will send you the relevant sections of draft publications to ensure that you are comfortable with the contexts in which I use your words.

Participant's Rights

Of course, you are under no obligation to accept this invitation. If you do decide to participate, you have the right to:

- ask any questions about the study at any time during participation;
- decline to answer any particular question;
- withdraw from the study at any point, including after you've completed the questionnaire (however, I will not be able to remove any material included in articles, chapters or books once these have been submitted for publication);
- request that some or all of your responses not be included in publications;
- provide information on the understanding that your name will not be used unless you give me permission to do so;
- be given access to a summary of the project findings when the project has been concluded.

Informed Consent

Completion and return of the questionnaire implies that you have consented to participate in the project.

Project Contacts

If at any point you wish to get in touch with me with questions about the project, please email me at R.H.Shaw@massey.ac.nz, or phone me on +6469516656.

This project has been evaluated by peer review and judged to be low risk. Consequently, it has not been reviewed by one of the University's Human Ethics Committees. The researcher named above is responsible for the ethical conduct of this research. If you have any concerns about the conduct of this research that you wish to raise with someone other than the researcher, please contact Prof Craig Johnson, Director (Research Ethics): humanethics@massey.ac.nz