



Hohou Te Rongo Kahukura Research principles

Research for, by and with Takatāpui and Rainbow communities. We are community researchers who research within the diverse communities we belong to.

The purpose of our research is to inform the prevention and responses to violence experienced by Takatāpui and Rainbow people. This includes all forms of violence - structural, institutional and interpersonal - occurring within Takatāpui and Rainbow communities or to Takatāpui and Rainbow people.

The Hohou Te Rongo Kahukura mātāpono form the foundation for all our mahi, including research. The following principles further support our research mahi and are inspired in part by the [Community Research](#) principles in Aotearoa - nei rā te mihi.

Rangatiratanga

- Te Tiriti o Waitangi informed
- The power to dream
- Positionality, equity and power divestment
- Accountable

Our research is underpinned by acknowledging Te Tiriti o Waitangi and the impact of colonisation on understandings of sex, sexuality and gender diversity in Aotearoa New Zealand. We consider the dreams and aspirations of Tangata Whenua and Tangata Tiriti in all we do, recognising considerable diversity in both groups.

We respond to the dreams and aspirations of our communities and build capacity to prevent and respond to violence. Our research seeks to decolonise knowledge, challenge power and promote social justice and equity. We offer opportunities for Takatāpui and Rainbow people to name experiences of violence, so they are not alone, and we ensure safe supports are available.

We celebrate the strength and resilience of survivors. We centre, stand with, and are led by, survivor voice. We are accountable back to our communities, making our research findings, resources and materials freely available back to our communities.

Manaakitanga

- Manaaki ki te tangata
- Reciprocity – koha atu, koha mai
- Reduction of harm and enhancement of wellbeing
- Transparency

Manaakitanga, generosity and kindness guide our research. Before we take, we signal our willingness to give – koha ahu, koha mai – and be open to diverse community expertise and knowledges. Reciprocity is culturally informed and encompasses koha of kai, gifts, payment, space, expertise, time and service.

Our research seeks to reduce harm and enhance wellbeing in every stage:

- designing research questions and objectives to address violence in our communities
- protecting stakeholders by assessing and actively mitigating risks
- planning safe, confidential data collection, including transparency and trigger warnings about research topics and who will see participant responses
- ensuring all participants are aware of their rights and seeking dynamic and ongoing informed consent
- reporting our findings in ways which do not identify participants, particularly those with multiple minority belongings

Whanaungatanga

- Aroha ki te tangata – mutuality that acknowledges and nurtures relationality
- Trust earned by our behaviour
- Clarity of roles and responsibilities during and after research
- Collaboration

Takatāpui and Rainbow communities are diverse and intersectional across many different belongings. We hold multiple relationships in our communities before, during and after research. Our relationships and research live on beyond project timeframes, meaning that we earn trust in our communities through our behaviour across time.

For both community and researcher wellbeing, we ensure our rights, roles and responsibilities are clear to all. We develop awareness of our own cultural beliefs, values and practices and practice cultural humility. This includes respecting context-specific ways of doing and being and following cultural norms for engagement.

We collaborate with our communities, other researchers, and intersecting communities and researchers to co-create knowledge, informed by cultural intelligence and the recognition and celebration of differences and diversity. We are responsive to community feedback, and open to adapting our approach to fit community needs.

Tikanga and tukanga

We recognise the specific, diverse contexts in which violence is directed towards Takatāpui and Rainbow people, and actively seek researchers with diverse belongings. We support autonomy and self-determination in research exploration.

For every research project, we develop specific responses to these questions posed by Linda Tuhiwai Smith:¹

- (i) What research do we want to carry out?
- (ii) Who is that research for?
- (iii) What difference will it make?
- (iv) Who will carry out this research?
- (v) How do we want the research to be done?
- (vi) How will we know it is a worthwhile piece of research?
- (vii) Who will own the research?
- (viii) Who will benefit?

¹ Smith, L. T. (2015). Kaupapa Māori research- Some Kaupapa Māori principles. In L. Pihama & K. South (Eds.), *Kaupapa Rangahau A Reader: A Collection of Readings from the Kaupapa Maori Research Workshop Series Led* (pp. 46–52). Te Kotahi Research Institute.