

Rae Munro Award 2019



Raewyn Ngaamo *University of Waikato*

Raewyn's thesis '*Through the eyes of whānau: Destruction of cultural identity through education*' explores the schooling experiences of one whānau across three generations. Through the use of Found Poems and the direct stories of the participants she uncovers the detrimental effect schooling and education has had on the identity, language and culture of her participants. Raewyn's engagement with Kaupapa Māori and critical theories enables her to sensitively unpack the narratives of her participants.

Raewyn's findings have significant implications for educators who wish to understand the impact of mainstream education on the language, culture and identity of Māori students. This is particularly pertinent for teachers and education more broadly in the growing desire for the truth of New Zealand colonial history to be widely understood and taught as an integral part of the curriculum. The stories of Raewyn's participants will provide rich and authentic examples of the impacts of colonialism.

The thesis is well-argued and of a high scholarly standard. We recommend Raewyn as a worthy recipient of the Rae Munro Masters Award.