

**NEW ZEALAND ASSOCIATION FOR RESEARCH IN EDUCATION**  
**TE HUNGA RANGAHAU MĀTAURANGA O AOTEAROA**

## ***Rae Munro Award 2016***

***Shil Bae***  
***University of Canterbury***

Shil Bae from the University of Canterbury is this year's recipient of the Rae Munro Award. Her thesis entitled "*Is positive parenting really positive for children and families? Early childhood parenting as a site of governance in New Zealand*" is a well written, theoretically and methodologically robust piece of research that clearly meets the high values specified by the Rae Munro award.

Drawing on Foucault's theory of governmentality and discursive normalisation, Shil's thesis is a critical analysis of the Incredible Years parental education programme offered in early childhood settings. Through the skilful use of a range of complex theoretical frameworks Shil has documented how a colonised, scientific/clinical, and economic/neoliberal norm of parenting has been constructed. In doing so Shil disrupts the static place where only one particular way of parenting is considered to be true or normal. Importantly, she also makes space for the examination of alternative approaches to parenting thus opening up possibilities for future.

Without doubt Shil is an outstanding and worthy recipient of the 2016 Rae Munro Award.



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