

## **WHAKAWHANAUNGATANGA AND ANTIRACIST RESEARCH PRAXIS**

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Colonization, imperialism and institutional racism all work in the continued disenfranchisement of Māori in Aotearoa. These socioeconomic and historical factors, in part, shape current health inequities between Māori and non-Māori. As researchers it is imperative we consider how our research is implicated in reasserting the status quo.

Whakawhanaungatanga, uniquely Māori, is one means of critically engaging with Māori. Whakawhanaungatanga attempts to forge sincere connections between researchers and Māori participants by positioning both within the context of their lived experience. In part this process identifies the power differentials implicit in the researcher/subject relationship and facilitates genuine collaboration.

By applying whakawhanaungatanga in antiracist, specifically anti-Maori racism, research praxis we can critique power and knowledge production and together work toward a radically different world.