

Pacific Climate Conference  
Two ideas to share  
Regarding climate and justice  
Jean Kahui Feb 2018

First climate: For New Zealanders to be taken seriously on the regional and world stages in regard to addressing issues around climate change, we really must clean up our own backyard first.

Fossil fuel exploration and development must be stopped- and subsidies to the oil and gas industry, must be stopped.

It is pretty simple; continuing to encourage exploration is to minimize the extent of the problem and the rights of future generations to health and to life itself.

So it is simple but very important, we need to stop oil exploration and stop subsidizing the oil industry.

The other idea I would like to share with you for consideration, is that of justice.

I think we could all agree, the culture of unbridled capitalism have landed us here today. And that is up a polluted creek, and for many of us without a paddle.

I would suggest, that most everyday people realise that capitalism is not going to save the day, the environment, the atmosphere or our communities.

Capitalism as a culture is our problem.

And whether it be: national party capitalism, labour party capitalism or even Green Party capitalism, we know that whatever colour it is, capitalism is the problem and more of it, even green, is not the answer.

In my experience, native cultures are where the answers for the future can be found. And luckily for us, Native people with the needed knowledge are very often in the room.

So, those of us born, raised, educated, and colonised into capitalist culture, need now, to educate ourselves out of it and into a more humane and holistic culture, based in inclusion.

And if we do decolonise ourselves from capitalism, we could, I believe, offer a future worth having to the coming generations, and that would be a dream come true.