Social media and the opportunities for expression and action of tino rangatiratanga (self-determination)

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Abstract
Colonialism remains active in Indigenous communities across the world, dominated by western value systems that continue to have devastating impacts on communities and aspirations. These impacts have stifled the realisation and practice of self-determination, prompting new ways of doing things. Social networking sites such as Facebook and Twitter provide Indigenous communities with unique opportunities to express and action different modes of self-determination and become a space for establishing and developing online Indigenous citizenship (OIC). OIC is an innovative approach to addressing self-determination, enabling communities to discuss and debate issues, express identity, practice culture and values, mobilise political agendas and be self-determining as individuals, groups and communities. In this presentation, I will discuss the notion of online citizenship in ways that work for Indigenous communities and how online experiences of empowerment and self-determination shape and are shaped by Indigenous advancement and transformation.

Bio: Dr Sciascia has tribal affiliations to Ngāruahine Rangi, Ngāti Ruanui and Te Āti Awa tribes based in the Taranaki region of Aotearoa New Zealand. She recently completed her doctorate in 2013 and has widely published findings from her doctoral research that looked at Māori peoples’ use of social media. More recently, her research has extended into online Indigenous citizenship and the expression and actions of tino rangatiratanga (self-determination) by Indigenous communities through socially mediated spaces.

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Social media & Tino Rangatiratanga

Expressions and actions of tino rangatiratanga (self-determination) in socially mediated spaces

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Ko wai, no hea - who am I
Tino rangatiratanga

Autonomy
Independence
Self-determination
Decision-making
Philosophies and values
A way of doing things

A way of being
Maori renaissance has been significant
#RISEUP

Socially, Culturally, Politically and Economically
Online Indigenous Citizenship
Social media provides the potential to

discuss and debate - openly

express identity

practise culture and values

mobilise political agendas and aspirations

advance issues of wellbeing

connect with Maori diaspora and Indigenous peoples worldwide

be self-determining as individuals, groups, and communities
Future research to look at
this new approach to realising self-determination and autonomy

#AUTONOMY
#RECLAMATION
#SELFDETERMINATION
INDIGENOUS PEOPLE
RISE UP

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