"WITHOUT RACISM AOTEAROA WOULD BE BETTER"

MOKOPUNA SHARE THEIR EXPERIENCES OF RACISM AND SOLUTIONS TO END IT

⚠ Solutions grounded in te ao Māori

We heard from both mokopuna Māori and mokopuna tauiwi that te ao Māori and te reo Māori are important in their lives and for their education. This included making te reo Māori compulsory in all schools and early childhood education.

> **Teach every culture about the Māori traditions and life style.**
> *(Mokopuna Māori, aged 14-18, Te Moana a Toi)*

Solutions which support whānau and families

Mokopuna supported solutions which provided their families with opportunities, resources and financial support as they recognised that racism was ingrained in systemic issues which have left people, particularly Māori, with very little.

> **Give money to people to deal with the problems, our family struggle and we do what we need to do to survive. Then people judge us and say we do things because we Māori.** *(Mokopuna, aged 14-16, Remand Home)*

Solutions need to focus on the community

Mokopuna spoke about the importance of community and having a safe place to talk. They shared that different cultures should come together, and that representation is important.

> **Needs to be driven by community.**
> *(Rainbow Mokopuna, aged 14-18, Porirua)*

🌐 **@childrenscommnz**

childrenscommnz Mokopuna have lots of solutions to end racism, but they emphasised that action is essential.

Solutions to empower mokopuna

Mokopuna want opportunities to engage and participate through youth led initiatives. They were clear that they have important views and perspectives that must be heard.

> **Workshops – run by young people for young people – talk about different cultures, experiences in new country and belonging.** *(Mokopuna, aged 12-14, Ōtepoti)*

🗺 Solutions to create societal change

Mokopuna shared that they think racism exists where society is not accepting of differences. When this happens, expressions of culture or religion such as language, types of clothing, religious practices, and ways of celebrating are seen as being outside the 'norm'. The following solutions that mokopuna shared look to disrupt the norm and encourage people to express who they are.

> **Being able to understand that you can speak up and encourage groups of people to speak up.**
> *(Mokopuna, Secondary School age, Nationwide Engagement)*

% Solutions targeted at the system

There were many solutions shared that provided practical actions for the government to take and improve government services which would help make improvements to the system and end systemic racism. Mokopuna shared ideas that ranged from suggesting that the government should invest in communities to having translators at essential services.

> **Having more representation and have culture become normalised (eradicate stereotypes).**
> *(Mokopuna, aged 14-17, Tāmaki Makaurau)*

Education-focused solutions ✎

Mokopuna in all groups identified the need for education around racism. They told us solutions to end racism should start within school and the education system.

> **More cultures & diversity represented in kura -> staff, cultural narrative, buildings, slt, boards etc.**
> *(Mokopuna, Secondary School age, Ōtautahi)*