Networking in New Zealand
Migrant Strategies in Establishing a Political Presence

Professor Paul Spoonley
Massey University
New Zealand

Vasantha Krishnan and Bev Hong
Department of Labour
New Zealand
# Political presence of women

## Table 3: International Comparison of Women in Parliament

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Percent</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sweden</td>
<td>45.30</td>
<td>158</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>New Zealand</strong></td>
<td>29.16</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Australia (House of Representatives)</td>
<td>25.30</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United Kingdom (House of Commons)</td>
<td>17.80</td>
<td>118</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United States (House of Representatives)</td>
<td>14.25</td>
<td>62</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Biculturalism
- Indigenous focus (Maori as Tangata Whenua)
- Recognition of the Treaty of Waitangi (Article 2: recognition of Maori)
- Reparations for colonialism
- Group rights (incl. resources such as fisheries)
- Cultural responsiveness of government services
Cultural Transformation

(1984-1989)

Deracialising Immigration Policy

1986 Immigration Policy Review
- Deletion of racial/source preferences
- Geo-political connections to Asia

1987 Immigration Act
- Points system
- Economic migrants
Birthplace of new immigrants

Statistics New Zealand
Managing migration

- English language requirements
- Qualifications verification and recognition
- Job offer
- Pre-settlement and settlement information provision
- Mangere Refugee Branch six week orientation course and follow on support
Government approach

• Current government priority of “National Identity”

• Establishing a positive platform to move forward

• Whole of government

• Central-local-community partnerships

• Consultation and dialogue
New Zealand Settlement Strategy
New Zealand Settlement Strategy

- Obtain employment appropriate to their qualifications and skills
- Become confident using English in a New Zealand setting, or able to access appropriate language support
- Access appropriate information and responsive services that are available in the wider community (for example, housing, education and services for families)
- Form supportive social networks and establish a sustainable community identity
- Feel safe expressing their ethnic identity and be accepted by and become part of the wider host community
- Participate in civic, community and social activities.
Te Ngira: The NZ Diversity Action Programme
NZ Diversity Forum 2006 Special Topic Forum: Women and Diversity
Redefining Immigrant Identities

- Demographic growth
- Gateway city concentration
- Economic contribution
- Self-awareness

Issues
- Anti-immigrant politics
- Indigenous biculturalism vs Immigrant multiculturalism
Networking

- Computer-mediated communication
  - News
  - Homeland connections
  - Understanding New Zealand
  - Political commentary

- Newspapers

- Television
Articulating an “Asian” Presence

By TZE MING MOK

Most of the Going Bananas Chinese identity

Tze Ming Mok

- Publications
  http://www.publicaddress.net/default,yellowperil.sm

- Bananas Conference
  http://www.goingbananas.org.nz/

- Columnist