THE IMPACT OF PAC POLICY ON PACIFIC WOMEN’S HEALTH AND WELLBEING: THE EXPERIENCES OF KIRIBATI MIGRANTS
Overview of the research
Framing the Problem

- Most successful PAC applicants come on a visitor visa or short-term work visa, and experience difficulty accessing healthcare services.

- The current conditions of the PAC policy have created stress on the health and wellbeing of migrant women and their children, which is the primary interest of this thesis.
Research goals

- Assess the health and wellbeing experiences of PAC migrant women, using Kiribati women as a case study to comment on issues of responsibility for healthcare and wellbeing.

- Explore personal and policy related aspects of healthcare and wellbeing that directly affect these women, and how access to appropriate healthcare and social services for PAC migrant women can be facilitated.
Research methodology

- Positionality
- Ethical considerations especially around pseudonyms and confidentiality with reference to naming.
- Indigenous Methodology, Te maroro feminist oral history, Story-telling
- Governmentality, Articulation theory
New contributions to academia and policy makers
Governmentality, migration schemes and exacerbation of inequality

- The expectation on PAC migrants to be self responsible under neoliberal governmentality works for those with a higher socio-economic status.

- The PAC policy has a strong neoliberal flavour and is clearly disadvantaging PAC migrants from lower socio-economic status and those who have limited support networks in New Zealand.
Drawbacks of political and economic systems

**Neoliberal governmentality**
- Self-responsibility
- Lack cultural competency
- Inequality/poverty

**Maneaba governmentality**:
- Respect – shyness and silence not appropriate
- Burden on existing families
- Poor health status
Aspects of *te maneaba* that relate to wellbeing (traditional setting)
Neo-*maneaba* health and wellbeing model in the New Zealand society

- Cultural competency
- Sense of belonging
- Rights
- Gender
- Health equality
Extension of this research

➢ Climate change, immigration policy, and social impacts on mental health and wellbeing among I-Kiribati migrants to New Zealand

➢ Pacific economy research – Kiribati people voluntary contribution
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