

Letters to the Editor.

## **We are all immigrants to New Zealand**

Whether you came to NZ in a canoe, ship or jumbo jet we are all immigrants.

This being the case let us compare some costs to the Government of two groups of immigrants i.e. Maori against those from Europe and the UK.

Maori have received billions of dollars in treaty settlements over the years and still have many more to be settled. Maori make up the majority of criminals in our prisons costing the tax payer \$90,000+ per year each. Maori are one of the highest groups of unemployed receiving millions of dollars in benefits and Maori make up the majority of gang members in NZ who run the illicit drug trade. Taking all these facts into account, Maori cost the New Zealand tax payer many billions of dollars every year.

Now compare the immigrants from Europe and the UK.

These immigrants arrive in NZ most of them having already secured jobs. They bring with them millions of dollars adding to the economy by purchasing or building houses. These immigrants are mostly law abiding citizens and do not belong to any criminal organisations.

When they turn 65 and apply for their NZ pension the Government steals over \$350 million dollars per year (and rising) from their **overseas retirement savings** (similar to Kiwi Saver) stating they do not want the ordinary Kiwi to be disadvantaged.

Given the examples above and the costs briefly outlined - the question must be asked of Government which group are being disadvantaged?

We are all immigrant New Zealanders so why are we not all treated the same?

Paul Rea

24 Rimu Street, Hawera 4610

Ph: 06 2784515