

The wave: where we stand in relation to the Treaty of Waitangi

The purpose of this activity is to enable participants to think about where they stand in relation to the Treaty of Waitangi and to understand that people have different perspectives on the Treaty.

Activity 4

Time: 20 minutes.

Materials: Whiteboard, or overhead transparency / slide on page 15 and projector; or space in the room large enough for the group to spread out. Copies of page 15 may be used as a handout.

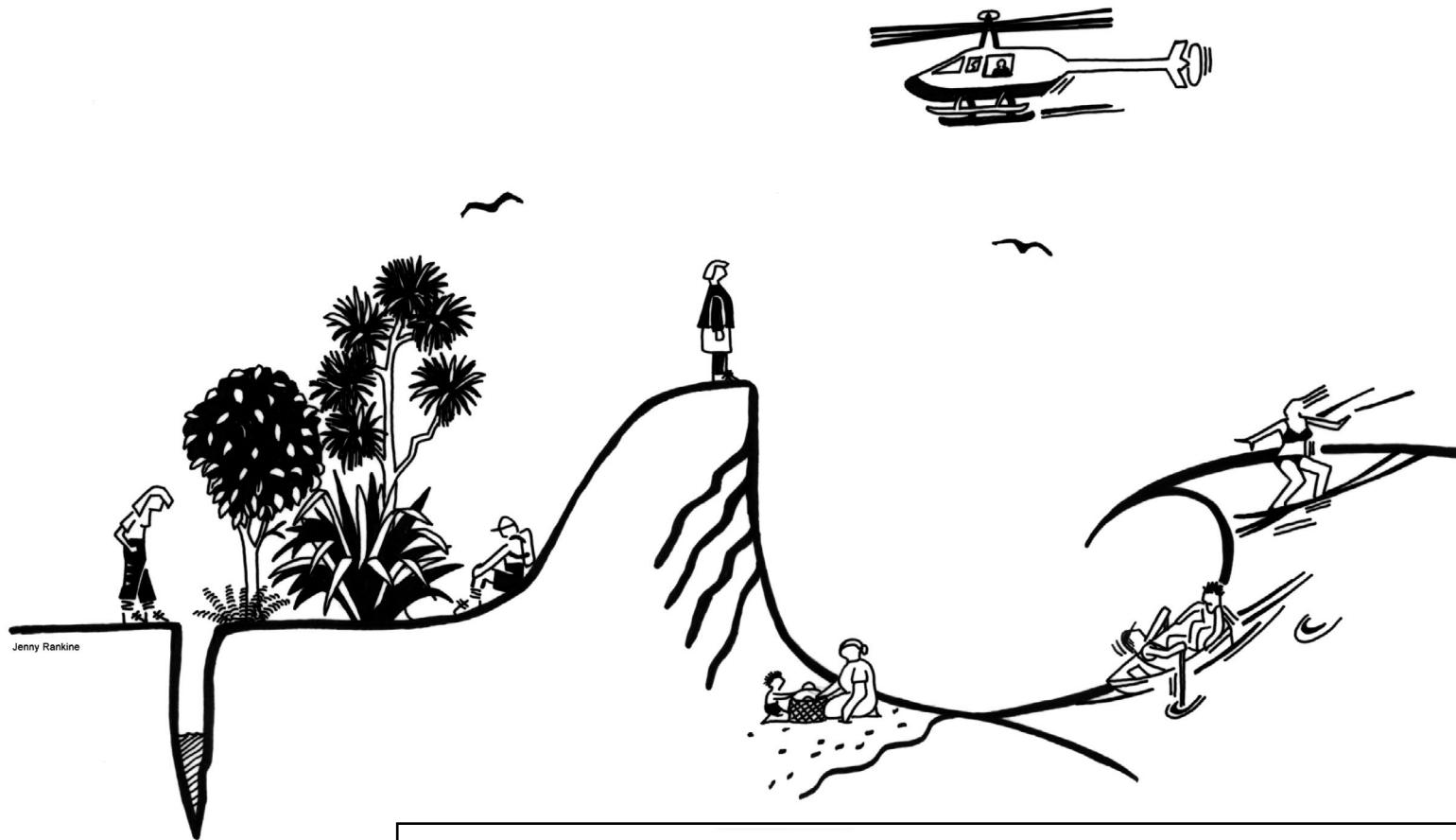
This activity can be done very effectively in a short time, or more time can be allowed for people to discuss their choices of position in more depth.

1. The facilitator draws the picture of the wave on a whiteboard or uses the wave slide and/or designates spaces in the room as the seven different positions of the people in the wave picture.
2. The facilitator describes each position in relation to the wave.
3. The facilitator asks the group – “If you wanted all the information you could get about the wave, who would you talk to in the picture?” See the box below the picture for examples of different information.
4. The facilitator asks the group to think about how big the wave looks to each person. Ask – “Would the people on the beach describe it as big, medium or small? What would the people in the helicopter say? Who is right?” Each person will have different view of the wave and different information about it according to where they are standing; the wave will appear to be a different size from each position. Explain that there is no ‘right’ or ‘better’ position.
5. The facilitator explains that these positions can provide some ideas about where people are standing in relation to an issue at any one point in time, and that the issue today is the Treaty. The facilitator asks participants to place themselves according to where they see themselves in relation to the ‘Treaty wave’ – (for example, on the surfboard – where it is exciting, etc.) and to think about why they are standing where they are and/or about what that place means to them. Allow time for participants to discuss this with the person closest to them.
6. The facilitator engages the participants in further discussion, perhaps asking where different groups (Māori, Pākehā and migrant groups who have been in Aotearoa/New Zealand a long time) might place themselves in relation to the ‘Treaty wave’ and why.
7. Participants can also record their positions on a photocopy of the wave handout so that they can compare their choices at the beginning and end of the workshop.

Notes

We stand in different places for various reasons; for some people at any one time the Treaty may be a big issue in their lives while for others it may be very small. This activity is repeated at the end of the kit to allow the participants and the facilitator to reflect on their learning. (See *Activity 27, Where we stand*, page 111.)

The wave



Surfie: The bigger it is, the more exciting.

Boatie: The bigger it is, the more scary.

Collecting pipis: Who cares how big it is as long as I don't get wet.

Clifftop: The wave is only one of many things to look at.

Sitting tramper: I can't see what you are talking about.

Standing woman: I don't know about waves, but let me tell you about this water I can see.

Helicopter: Which wave are you talking about?