

# *Tihei Mauri Ora!*

*You are able to change it*

**Nōku te tūranga, nō koutou te mana**

*Mine is the position, yours is the prestige*



John Te Rangianiwaniwa Rangihau (BEM), Māori welfare officer, university lecturer, and consultant on Māori affairs made a lasting intellectual contribution to the cultural and social renaissance of Māori with the release in 1986 of his seminal DSW report, *Puao-te-ata-tu*. This highly respected Tuhoe leader considered "mana is when you know something has to change, **and you are able to change it** - that's

mana."

Mana is earned by the actions you take every day, and that's a credo worth remembering. What can we learn from John Rangihau? It's just this – address your challenges head on, stand up for what you believe, do not compromise your values, and do what you believe to be right and correct especially when major change is needed. In *Puao-te-ata-tu*, Te Rangihau and others argued that institutionalised racism existed in the department of social welfare, as it did throughout NZ's institutions, and that the nation was facing a major social crisis unless things changed. It took courageous leadership, inspired movements, visionary paths – all these things are the marks of a true leader – and they should be your marks as well. *Kia pai tō wiki!*



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