

Moana Jackson: Portrait of a quiet revolutionary | nzherald.co.nz

Transcript - autogenerated

Intro

0:01

[Music]

0:19

what are you doing here in waimana i came here to south my whanau because i'm

0:24

having treatment for cancer [Music]

0:35

the greatest challenge of the dance with cancer is that it becomes all-consuming

0:41

and it can take away your focus from other important things like whanau

0:47

like what's happening in the world [Music]

0:58

i take lots of deep breaths

1:05

one sort of doesn't has much choice one does the best one can

1:15

one dances with the cancer

1:21

[Music]

Who is Moana Jackson

1:40

[Music]

1:48

[Music] he is the thought leader of his generation i think one of the most

1:55

calmest coolest and most articulate advocates and leaders i think that down

2:00

maori's ever seen he's got a really good sense of humor he's actually quite funny

2:05

a lot of people only really remember that they laughed quite a bit while listening to him and he's telling the

2:11

most radical stories but especially pakis will come out say oh they really enjoyed that he was

2:17

really fun and they don't realize that they've just heard the jokes but the maori heard the

2:22

message well everyone called him the whispering jesus around here never raised his voice

2:29

never got demonstrative but each word was like a boom a hammer dropping i think that moana's

2:36

contribution is just to have articulated so strongly

2:41

that maori knowledge is valid and powerful he's one of the greatest

2:47

if not the greatest jurist in the maori world of the century so whether he sets

2:53

direction on that criminal justice space whether he's setting direction in that constitutional space he sets the

2:59

direction he's been a lot of things for a lot of people but he's always been there for us he was just a

3:05

younger brother yeah and he needed to kick up the ass every now and then he was obviously a really good student you

3:11

know prefect and all that and he blab on he was the bush lawyer we call him joe

3:16

blow because he was a great talker always was a great talker ray fred always a great talker yeah

3:22

[Music]

Moana and the Criminal Justice System

3:30

i first met mwana when i was very young and he was just starting his research on hifi panga ho it was maori and the

3:38

criminal justice system the minister jeffrey palmer was was shocked

3:43

at the statistics of maori in jail and so he commissioned this

3:48

report on basically why there are so many maori in prison

3:54

and what can be done about it we had over 6 000 people come to we talked to over 600

4:02

maori who had either been in prison or been the victims of harm so it's the

4:07

largest maori research-based project that's ever been conducted in the country

4:14

it's now a seminal piece of work that is referenced by really anyone that is talking about

4:20

maori concepts of justice the line of thinking i'd come back back to from his work is this idea that you can't get

4:27

justice in an unjust society criminal justice systems reflect the

4:32

communities or societies in which they operate same idea that where you have a

4:38

system that doesn't reflect all of the people in that community their ways of thinking being and doing

4:45

then you're not going to have a just just a system moana in his methodical

4:50

way basically said this is about colonisation and that wasn't something that the

4:56

labour government was wanting to deal with in the 1980s our report talked about

5:01

the re-establishment of a maori justice system which caused huge controversy at the time

5:08

every single community said we need to have our own legal system our own maori

5:13

criminal justice system whatever that might look like you could have parallel processes to the park our legal

5:20

processes it's not like his parking pakistan his maori system it is what tertiary promised us which is that

5:27

we'll take care of our own stuff and now we have to deal with the harm that colonization has caused us we've done

5:32

some doozy arguments in the criminal court challenging the criminals justice system saying that there was an

5:39

alternative criminal justice system before they arrived and there had never been the free prior informed consent

5:45

to dismantle that when people talk about uh you can't re-establish a maori justice system there can only be one

5:52

justice system for all there was a lot of opposition from within the criminal justice sector itself to being examined

6:00

by a maori lawyer we also faced resistance from the police who denied it they were over policing

6:07

mighty communities from the prisons and corrections they were all an

6:13

insistent that they were not the problem maori and mighty communities were the problem in

6:18

the issue and that they deserved what they got when there were the issues about the publication of hey phi pano

6:25

there was this real struggle with moana's integrity
6:31
of maintaining the argument that was in that report and not bending
6:37
to the enormous pressure to rewrite parts of that to make it more acceptable
6:44
to the crown that was one of a number of examples where moana's integrity was
6:49
invaluable what i saw in moana was absolute
6:54
resolute determination to uncover the criminalization of our people as
7:01
connected to colonisation so they took what kim workman is often called the safe
7:07
parts of the report and set about by culturalizing the criminal justice system
7:13
but ignored the substantive issues you can't just you know put a moko on a police
car and
7:19
then expect that things are going to change in terms of policies about increased
visibility of maori and
7:25
criminal justice in terms of hiring practices and processes all of those
7:30
things have have kind of come to fruition in that 30-year period all of the really um
7:37
difficult sticky parts of criminal justice have not gotten any better
7:42
there are take tikanga things all over the criminal justice system there are lots of
maori staff
7:48
people who are doing good work but the situation hasn't changed in fact situations
got worse the tragedy is
7:55
at that time my incarceration was 50 now it is 53
8:01
it's what tracy mcintosh calls an accepted feature of the new zealand
8:06
landscape what we've learned since then is that that's not a maori experience it's an
indigenous experience in canada
8:14
for example in manitoba where the native population is less than 9
8:20
the total population of youth justice facilities is made up of 97 indigenous
8:25
young people goodness in fact the greatest increase in indigenous
8:31
imprisonment rate in the last 10 years has been among indigenous women and so
we decide to ask a slightly different

8:38

question that is why do states with the history of colonization and prison indigenous peoples they imprison

8:44

indigenous peoples because they need to control indigenous peoples what we both

8:50 recognize that at the moment the system reproduces that harm it doesn't make us

8:55 more collectively secure there was a report published that said well the reason for the disproportionate number

9:01

of maori in prison is because we come from

9:07

the lower socioeconomic group which brings with it considerable risk factors

9:14

more proportionately they're actually more poor parkour people than there are poor maori people so if

9:20

it was just socio-economic thing there'd be more poor parkour there's been research project after research project

9:27

which when you factor in for socioeconomics you factor in for

9:32

education all those other things the only difference is left is is race

9:38

and we can't deal with these issues until we address the legacy of

9:43

colonisation i think the biggest thing that we may not all agree on is about

9:49

having true structural change in how we get there is it a tinkering of the system or do we just change the whole

9:55

justice system can you work within it can you work outside of it he talks about completely

10:02

dismantling processes and getting rid of prisons you know entirely replacing the

10:08

justice system we have that's an incredibly radical thing to say it's not that i disagree it's just i don't know

10:14

that i have the same kaha the same strength or certainty that he has

10:19

about doing the right thing one of the first hui we had in this round of research this young woman said and said

10:25

i came to this hui 30 years ago with my mum i don't want to come back in 30 years

10:31

and ask the same question but that's the risk that we will take and the challenge

10:38

is whether this country is actually prepared to take that risk [Music]

Moanas family

10:49

i was named after manku uncle mono was my dad's cousin they

10:55

joined the maori battalion together uncle mona was killed

11:00

in egypt after the war so the story goes and mum was hapu they

11:06

went to visit nani madaya uncle moana's mother and said that this baby's a boy can we

11:13

name him they stayed at tupada with uncle peter

11:19

and he had a dream that night about another ngati tipuna called kofakatura and he said

11:26

this baby's a boy you call him my kudo just decided he wasn't going to

11:31

have any of his mokopuna just having ngati pro names are you kidding me is he going to be more

11:37

so he decides that i should also carry the name tadaya there's a lot of names and

11:43

weight and history to bear ray yeah there were six of us

11:48

there were also two other brothers born before mum and dad were married

11:54

bill nepia and bob jackson although they weren't brought up together uncle moana

11:59

was always very fond of the old man because there was a native maori speaker

12:05

and brought up in the old style also mum and dad phone lied two of our cousins

12:13

sons of um mum's sister who passed away our grandfather was ever jackson who was

12:20

a bit of a sports hero and his two brothers were were maori or blacks

12:26

born here rugby all black two eight maori battalion

12:31

if you've seen some photos of dad and warner at the same age spitting images

12:39

moana was also dad's godson and he doesn't like saying god's son he says no that's my uncle

12:45

the guy part sort of doesn't sort of fit with moon he's saying oh my god no uncle could you say

12:51

i'm your son my dad was badly wounded when he was in the maori battalion the second world war

12:59

he was blown up by his own people friendly fire football had been his life

13:04

when he lost his leg overseas i think that played a lot on his mind that he would never play again

13:11

and secondly was the idea that he actually never saw

13:17

combat during the war i never really knew dad he was in and out of hospital because he was um

13:25

well what we now know is post-traumatic stress disorder he became very

13:31

mentally ill which led to his breakup with mum we never really knew where he was

13:38

most of the time because his father was in the sanitary mate so dad and then would look at his father and that

13:45

visited me how old were you when your dad died thirty

13:50

yeah i found it really uh really sad because after a buried dad he sort of

13:56

tidied up all his bits and pieces and you know there wasn't much to show for

14:01

her for her life other than us

The UN

14:07

[Music] the first delegation of maori who went

14:14

to the un led by nanakul and i was honoured to be in that it was 1988.

14:21

nganakum and hinek fought for years to stop the iron sands at waiuku being

14:27

dredged where the urupa were and she heard that there was this place called

14:33

the united nations in geneva geneva is one of the most expensive cities in the

14:38

world that first delegation that went over we all shared one room

14:43

and there would have been six of us seven of us so nano came back

14:48

and started talking to people and said they're setting up this working group from the rights of indigenous peoples

14:54

and we need to be there as far as first appearances go he made an immediate impact he came in

15:02

talking about tenoranga teratanga and self-determination it resonated with everyone because it

15:09

helped sort of pick us out of the issue-by-issue approach to looking at it

15:15

in a more strategic and political sense you know the years particularly as we began drafting the declaration on the

15:22

rights of indigenous peoples it expanded the impression that he made in geneva

15:28

wasn't just because of his brilliant mind there were many indigenous women who

15:34

fell in love with him have you had any big romances in your life no all the time that's been the

15:40

problem you silver fox dude [Music]

15:46

through our own journeys we'd all ended up in geneva and by 1992

15:52

when i was chairing the indigenous courts we had over 3 000 indigenous peoples the order of the day is that you would

16:00

talk about the issues that were facing your people and then from that people

16:05

would extract the core issues that could then be distilled into the un declaration on the

16:12

rights of indigenous peoples some countries like japan just said oh it's not an issue for

16:18

us we don't have indigenous peoples oops and then the i knew people say he's here

16:32

i would say that one of the greatest achievements of the un declaration was

16:37

actually the journey to develop it the journey of learning about what has happened to indigenous

16:44

peoples globally is something that is so rich and that no one can ever

16:52

take away all the indigenous indigenous representatives from around the world

16:58

we have traveled long distances physically but also in the struggle to

17:04

achieve your rights

17:15

[Music] was there anything binding that came out of that declaration no the way human

17:22

rights institutions function is if they begin as a declaration then they accumulate what becomes known as the

17:29

force of international law through practice and usage and then eventually

17:35

maybe recognizes the convention but none of those international conventions are

17:40

necessarily binding there was this notion that the sky would fall down if

17:45

society ever allowed indigenous peoples to have rights when new zealand finally reversed its position life just carried

17:53

on the struggle to have this declaration recognised has been a very long time coming and i would like to pay tribute

17:59

to all of those others in the maori community who just to name a few moana jackson aroha nikola menhini

18:07

there is an expectation that you're going to pick up the will because even when we got things through like the u.n

18:13

for the development of framework convention on tobacco control i rang him about three in the morning and then all

18:19

he said to me was oh good on you boy i'll see you when you get home and it's that quiet

18:25

kind of affirmation you know you hang up and go is that it and that is it

18:31

because he's achieved what he wanted to achieve and that will support you help your thinking and then when it's

18:36

achieved he's just like good on you

18:43

i was kind of saying he's my uncle when i was at the u.n saying hey he's his uncle actually so that helped a little

18:48

bit to break the ice but yeah he he played a huge role in the u.n kind of paved the way for

18:55

you know the younger generation that have been going over there we call on the permanent forum to reaffirm our rights to self-determination and status

19:02

as tangata to our lands when you travel the world in there don't you find that everyone's always fascinated with

19:09

maori yeah one things that i hope happens too is that

19:14

our mokapuna will have to devote less time to reclaiming the beauty from all the

19:22

hutter that's been imposed upon us and they'll have more time to enjoy it enjoy the respect that should come to being

19:28

maori here at home and not so often wait to go overseas

19:33

and we're getting there in that regard i think but we're not there yet

19:39

[Music] all of them absolutely adored their

19:45

mother she's a woman that never had to say much but she certainly commanded respect when his mum and his mum's

19:53

friend they were voting for kagane and his mum could vote because she's of course but she wanted her friend to

19:59

vote he was a and i'm at the polling business said your friend can't vote aren't he

20:05

why not she's not going any and she's not even maori but i wanted to vote next

20:10

minute i get a call from moana i'm taking kaguni to the united nations because my mom's freaked out right i

20:17

said whatever yeah but she's my mom and he couldn't say no he says just him and my mother

20:22

please just say yeah let her have a vote you don't even have to count it manu became

20:28

a solo mum before there were benefits or anything like that so our kudo her

20:34

father came and lived with us he played a very important role in in our

20:39

upbringing and his greatest sorrow was that we never learned to speak to our

20:46

bloody kids can't even speak your own language were there any teachers that

20:51

particularly resonated with you yes there's one who told me i should write that i should put down in words what i

20:58

thought and if you believe in justice you have to be able to write what you think and i thought it was waffling at

21:05

the time but i realized how perspicacious he was really how what

21:10

perspicacious it's a flesh word full of flash words what does that mean full of insight um

21:18

your brother told me that you were pretty good at rugby like most state boys schools rugby was gone and if you

21:24

could play rugby make the first 15 then you had a certain cinequeue in the school and i quite enjoyed that special

21:32

first 15 rugby cap and blazer and things like which are very important to an

21:37

adolescent boy you know he broke this collar bone and that sort of

21:42

did his rugby career in and the person who broke his collarbone was a cousin of

21:48

ours oh there what was that doc wheeler bro that's right lisbon boys girls

21:54

he was always a bit of a sports nut brought up in the jackson family they're all sports nuts moana's grandfather was

22:01

in the english rugby union team we were brought up in a very

22:08

labor family our grandfather's australia's mum was a trained unionist

22:14

during the privatisation agendas in the 1980s her home became the home for all

22:19

of the unionists to go and strategize there about how to stop the freezing works from closing down in whakatu she

22:26

would be in the kitchen cooking for all of these great union people it ran through the whole family

22:33

this commitment to the labour cause so um what were you like at school were you like the brainy one

22:43

oh my reference from hastings boys high school the last sentence said here's a

22:48

fine example of the native race i guess i must have been something it may not have been what they intended so

22:55

when you finished school what were you wanting to do i went to law school to save the world

23:01

didn't surprise anyone because his big brother jim he started off doing law too

23:09

now i think mourinho followed in his footsteps did you get admitted to the bar and all that the

23:15

hair thing no no no got your degree i got what i call the trade training certificate but not not

23:21

the uniform he talked about when he went overseas to um columbia to do his masters his

23:27

professor there was a key mentor of his in teaching him about critical thinking so i'd heard about

23:33

native american organisations which were essentially community law centres yep

23:39

start by native americans working for native americans and i thought well if

23:44

they can do that here we can do that back home we became i think involved at that time

23:52

establishing which was a alternative legal advocacy

23:59

institute that he provided legal advice from wellington with karen wickliffe she was judge fox

24:06

as she is now in a number of other young lawyers and we also established the maori law

24:11

commission as an alternative to the new zealand law commission if you're prepared to stand up for your land your

24:17

mana is not lost we see this as just simply the beginning of a whole decade of protest

24:24

and of intensified struggle the jacksons are

24:29

a family that were very respectful of each other's views but their views weren't that diverse from each other

24:35

anyway i think we're pretty much all on the same page really hey fred i mean we did there were lots of discussions and

24:40

arguments that's for sure especially as everyone got older my dad and his two brothers they were very politically

24:48

energetic they'd select the flag one day and then they'd be swearing about the crown the next day

24:53

so when morning said we're hitting the headlines come here my nephews i think you should join the pakis

25:00

and of course moana and said would look aghast reporter ron taylor asks sid jackson

25:05

what he hopes to learn from colonel gaddafi's regime we will be looking at the way in which that country

25:12

operates we have never talked about any desire to import violence into this country about

25:18

essentially violence has been visited upon us by colonialism uncle sid was the sort of

25:25

brash out front one you know take anyone on uncle moyne is more like dad understated but he's especially

25:33

brilliant how did your mum respond to the kinds of conversations that you both raised in

25:39

public she would often just sit and listen and by a look

25:46

we would know whether she approved or disapproved but she never questioned the

25:51

stance that any of us have taken either because in many ways it was a stance that she and

25:57

her generation had taken anyway [Music]

Moanas emails

26:06

i always get emails from him at four or five in the morning before he does his walk that's his best

26:13

thinking time quite often it's the most provocative questions in the morning like have you

26:18

read the papal bills or the recommiento and i said i haven't read

26:24

that for a long time and he said we need to read them and challenge the inculcation of the values from the

26:30

church into the design of sovereignty through the indigenous nations now who re writes to you at four o'clock in the

26:36

morning you know the crown has based its whole power on what i call an illusion

Moana in Parliament

26:42

that on the 6th of february 1840 every maori in the country woke up and said we don't want to make our own decisions

26:48

anymore we're going to give it to that lady in london we've never ever met i don't know of any iwee that's ever done

26:54

that we are in an interesting phase where there have been more maori in parliament

27:00

than ever and friends of yours along the way in relations like tariana and willie how

27:06

has that changed things you think well in the end sometimes we bear in mind that parliament is not

27:12

aranga a house it's the kawalitanga house and there's a place for kawanatanga but it's

27:18

not a place that will deliver he told me not to go to parliament

27:25

he said to me i don't know how you can reconcile it believing the things that you believe

27:31

and you're going to go to parliament he told me that i would regret it

27:38

and he was right i was in la la land thinking

27:43

that maybe we could change the system the way it was and of course we couldn't

27:50

i felt angry i thought god i must be so arrogant to believe that i could help create that

27:57

change he's not a condemning type bloke you know he you know he understands the

28:03

pressures on people and and he's quite supportive actually that's why he's a guy who's worked with the police

28:09

he's a guy who's work within the system the big element that one always brings to us is

28:15

that what may be necessary is unlikely to be sufficient we've learnt to

28:21

understand the limits of participation in the system that period of protest from the early 70s to the early 1980s

28:30

made us rethink some of our participatory roles the ongoing tension is always

28:36

do we reform do we stay outside and try and slam it over it's a pretty immovable beast

28:44

what are your observations now about the way forward you know i think in many ways that's a false choice that's been

28:51

given to our people you must go and reform the system from the inside but what do you reform it to

28:57

you you can't reform it to it because that's not what it's established to do but at the same time our people

29:04

has driven since 1814 to make a safe space as that house gained more power

29:12

rather like the doctor's hypocritical oath that maori people do the best they can to ensure that no harm is done but

29:19

it's never been and should never be the end goal of our people and at the same time we need our whanau

Moanas vision

29:26

and advocates and people working within the system to be the patu against the harm that it's causing our whanau every

29:33

single day in our children every single day he makes you think is is it really

29:38

possible to to roll out some of the things he wants i don't think so

29:44

sometimes and i've seen that in saying that it doesn't mean to say that we can't roll out aspects of of

29:50

what he's talking about but it's just how far can you go within the system

29:55

that we have now he has been very generous in

30:00

understanding that for many of us the system as it currently stands is important so we have

30:08

to reconstruct with care it's still a system that's based on western

30:15

thinking and it doesn't seem to be making room for

30:20

maturanga fast enough or with enough enthusiasm i

30:25

have been in ewi space i've been aniwi chair and it is difficult when you're when you have that crown hat on because

30:32

you're thinking come on a couple of people will break here we want co-design here we want code

30:39

governance and so you're trying to shift the crown into that space the trouble is you start to

30:46

think that any of the changes that you are able to make are great

30:52

we get thankful when we stop the state from taking our kids willy-nilly we think

30:57

we've done a great job but we don't ever address the underlying issues

31:02

because they're too hard i think everybody has doubt self-doubts about whether you're doing anything

31:08

valuable or whether you're a sellout and he he's incredibly affirming to come back and say what you're doing is really

31:14

important someone needs to say those things i really appreciate it the strength of
colonization and the success

31:20

of colonization is that when we as maori are existing in the different spaces trying to
push for others as you

31:28

get so distracted in our lanes that we don't get the time to operate how we would
which is

31:33

the together spaces well i'm thinking back to when there was no maori in parliament
and that was a

31:39

deafening invisible void that we were in as a people i mean we've got more allies

31:44

and champions now what are those choices i think the question is when does increa

31:50

incrementalism become stardust the consolidation of an injustice whether it's

31:57

the increase from four maori seats to seven that has not fundamentally changed

32:03

the injustice that is a classic tension in anyone who is a radical thinker

32:10

from one who is still willing to work within a system it's whether you just promote big
change

32:18

constitutional change or you look at things in incremental ways

32:23

of steps towards a something bigger he's extremely understanding that

32:30

there's no perfect place to be and that sometimes you have to have time and time
out

32:36

and it's just having someone to think that through with change is happening and i
think

32:41

that that's the important thing not to to feel too overwhelmed and i say this to myself
as well as someone who's like

32:47

got the patience of this much and who's like a warehouse like this much but then
i'm reminded like

32:53

when i looked at muscle and i'm just like i'm so exhausted and then it's just like sit
down little girl but you carry on

Reclaiming sovereignty

33:02

[Music] his latest most greatest endeavor which

33:07

was mata kimbai with the assistance of the ewe leaders group and professor margu

33:14

when it came to talking about constitutional transformation the question we were asking people was

33:22

if tomorrow you could make your own decisions about your own lives what would it look

33:27

like and that was really the fundamental question and then the question that came

immediately behind that was and what sort of values would you base

that decision making on he would put an idea up and it would actively require

debate and then would seek a confirmation of strategies and outcomes about how we're going to

33:50

ensure by 2040 that we would have reclaimed sovereignty in

33:56

this country mataki mai has had such an incredible impact on young people

34:02

that gives them they actually see the tools to create change i was in the earlier stages involved in the magic in

34:09

my group it was an awesome opportunity to actually be able to work alongside my

quorum you know he had one of the 15 year old young people right through to people that participate as

34:21

capitalists in the system those were doozy debates about whether or not economic sovereignty provides

34:27

maori sovereignty right through to ewe leaders that were doing treaty settlements to people in jail to people

34:35

that recently um released from dao he always used to go to the solo mothers who he sees as the real

34:41

leaders of our communities looking after their children in situations where they've suffered the risk of trial

34:47

removal so for those kinds of groups and of course he would always search out

philosophers wherever they were moana went to every single one of those 252 hui i went to about 50

35:01

of them and it was very clear that we cannot proceed

35:07

in a way that upholds the values and upholds the original agreement we had

35:13

with the british unless we go back to those original agreements justice is simply the maintenance of air that's ea

35:21

the maintenance of balance and relationships now for that

35:27

you are not going to be fiddling with the existing constitutional arrangements

35:32

you're going to have to look at something quite different in other words you are going to have to do

35:38

a transformational work on it and think within a completely

35:43

different framework altogether in order to come up with a constitutional

35:50

arrangements that will allow maori to make our own decisions about our own lives in our own country

35:56

the current power structures that we have cause massive damage and if we're looking at aotearoa for

36:03

what an alternative looks like there's only one place to look

36:08

the treaty required as the waitangi tribunal said the establishment of

36:13

separate spheres of influence and this country is yet to take to the stage of establishing a

36:19

rangatiratanga sphere of influence carbonatosphere of influence

36:25

and what we called in the matekima report a relational sphere of influence

36:30

where the two houses can come together to make joint decisions his vision for the future is

36:37

can be quite daunting around constitutional transformation in matikimay around the justice system but

36:42

you know i want to see those changes do you feel optimistic we've set 2040

36:49

as a goal for some quite profound changes and i think that that will happen people just have to be brave

36:55

enough and if enough people can be brave if enough people can unlearn

37:02

racism and injustice then we can actually build good relationships in this country we really

37:10

we can reclaim what te tereti promised [Music]

Wairarapa College

37:19

this guy came up to me who i didn't know and started talking turned out he was principal of wainuimata college and he

37:25

rang me about a week later and said i'm just running have you ever considered teaching and i said no

37:32

and he said well we we're going to set up next year and this is what makes him i think one of the unsung heroes the

37:39

real movement because wai nuyamata college became one of the first if not

37:44

the first state school that introduced the teaching of maori language is a core

37:49

part of the curriculum yeah jim mcgregor he was our principal and he had a real

37:56

vision about where one almaty college could go in terms of advancing the aspirations of maori and education so i

38:03

went for a year ended up staying for nine so hang on did you have a teaching degree no how does it work then in those

38:10

days you could just work in i met moana when i was a student at wainua mata

38:15

college he taught english and te reo maori he was a role model model and an

38:20

inspiration for all students actually that went to that school he's the teacher i introduced

38:27

people like patricia grace all those maori authors and poets and so we'll go

38:33

into the library and there's honey reading a poem wind furrowed

38:39

are the sea pastures where white horses prance

38:44

your eyes marry me the corners of the heart

38:50

a mouth up tilted simple do it like that thank you

38:58

[Applause]

39:03

moana was also the school first 15 coaches well i became a part of that team we went as big as other teams but

39:10

we kind of like punched above our weight a lot of people can't imagine him being

39:16

a rugby coach because all they know him was this lawyer so-called activist and that's all they have seen him

39:26

during 1981 you were coaching the school rugby team how challenging was that year

39:32

for you well we talked about it as a team that i was going to protest the difficulty was

39:38
that if i hadn't coached at that time there was no one going to be available to coach so i found coaching that year

39:44

very difficult and often it meant rushing from coaching the boys to

39:50

protesting on the motorway at wellington or something but that's an involvement that my whanau had had for a long time

39:57

opposing rugby contests of south africa he would visit every maori whanau

40:04

and meet with your with your parents and work through issues if he felt you were

40:10
going off the rails he used to just sideline you for a moment and talk to you about your responsibilities in my

40:17

own home things weren't going too well and then i was given a choice

40:22

and i ended up being with mona he not only became my father but he also became my

40:28

mama because it was just us too so he provided a roof over my head he's provided that opportunity for me to

40:35

grow really as a person when anime she left the auckland

40:41

university in waikato university to set up her own maori laws and philosophy paper and she asked for a small group to

40:49

assist her i taught for the first few years of that but moana stayed there for several years

40:55

to build up the course from laws 1 to laws 4 over a period of about 12 years

41:01

he's a mentor i think and he's still a teacher you can't get rid of that he's a teacher if you had to rate the crown

41:08

what would you put on their report card if they do not improve their performance

41:13

by the end of the next academic year i will expel them it's very ruthless

Cancer

41:21

[Music]

41:33

there was a well-known parkour scientist rory fennick who had cancer and he said

41:39

i don't see it as a battle i didn't invite him to the fight so i prefer to look for life beyond that

41:46

i think is a very complex business especially in terms of the layers of understanding it

41:53

there's so many different types of cancer and so when you just hear the word you go

41:58

through various stages of grief and then it's very difficult to come to grips with my cancer

42:05

[Music] tell me about the beautiful book that

42:10

you were given how did that feel the two in part carlo miller approached

42:15

some other writers and wanted to make a contribution that might honour me

42:22

and also help me when i was unwell and the way they felt they could do that was

42:28

to put together publication of poems and artwork and so on and it's

42:34

one of the most touching amazing gifts i've ever received

42:41

my role is sometimes translator sometimes a negotiator

42:46

sometimes staring down the people who want to give us less

42:52

because in our literature we see doctors and nurses and treating physicians make assumptions that we want

42:59

less you know we accept death and maybe we do but we want to give this innings a

43:04

good whack too i think we cope with it as what i do to make sure

43:11

warner is is fine as as as good as can be i just do what i

43:17

think i need to do we also have place where he doesn't have to be all on all the time and doesn't

43:24

have to always be thinking about what he's going to do next and how else he's going to save

43:30

the world i guess we're kind of a safe place where he can just be

43:35

cruel i hear that you are a bit of a neat freak is that

43:41

true i try to be yes every plate every cup

43:47

everything in the pantry was always exactly in the same place when he cleared the
43:54
table so i go into the bathroom and i just brushed my hands on the soap and i put the
soap back in his particular place
44:01
he coming after me almost invariably and he turned the soap back to the position he
had before when we'd go sid would go
44:09
warner will be going crazy now he'll be in the pantry because i put everything out of
order
44:15
and he won't be able to stand it so is that part of your drive with the crown to force
them to tidy up their
44:22
mess yes and to trust us to look after ourselves because we will
44:28
make a mess at times too but they'll be our messes to fix
44:33
our messes to prevent goodness we can't do any worse than they've done
44:39
he's seen his brother go through cancer and treatment is hard on bodies
44:46
and treatment is hard on minds it challenges you and your family
44:52
to think about where we are in the future in the past
44:58
sid before he died he said here's my dying wishes i want you to carry them out here's
my haki and he gave me three
45:05
pages of instructions and same with mourner mona says i'm dying here here's my
instructions
45:14
you know don't pre-empt forecast because it will happen is a
45:19
self-fulfilling prophecy has this experience that you're a part of now is it kind of
giving you a different focus
45:26
or sharpening it somehow i don't think it's crystallized my attitudes towards
45:32
what should be happening for our people towards a sense of justice and fairness in
fact it is frustrated that's entirely
45:41
i sense a real sadness there with him because he's someone who loves life and he's
so giving
45:48
it's not about him it's about maori he's spoken to thousands of people he holds their
45:55
stories and the cost of doing that work for him the
46:00

cost of getting it right how hopeful are you that we might be able to
46:07
mobilize towards real transformation there's a group of young people maori
46:14
and parker who are actively working towards constitutional transformation
46:21
and i take real heart from that because that's a conversation which wasn't even on
the
46:26
horizon 10 years ago pacquiao in very powerful positions
46:32
reflecting commenting actually using his words and thinking about system change
there's a
46:38
tiny group of people called papa people against prisons in aotearoa which has
46:44
for a number of years now been advocating the abolition of prisons and there are
46:50
other groups like asians and supporters just speak and and many others now
46:57
which weren't there before we're still a long way off i do think we have a duty to be
optimistic
47:03
he still thinks he has to carry the world on the shoulders right to the end he says if i
can do work
47:10
i know i'm well that's his yard stick some people when they when they get in this
position
47:17
that you're in being very ill they find religion some kind of
47:22
something i'm just you know just canvassing just canvassing you know i think he has
coped remarkably well
47:30
with his illness because knowing that you've only got a limited time it must be very
very
47:36
difficult you know facing up to what he's facing i just think he's been
47:42
has shown real strength he's really grown to my um estimation
47:48
and from that point of view because it's kids we think it was a little whimpered in me
47:55
we could never do anything wrong in those eyes even when we were wrong
48:01
the moku's are very important to moana [Music] his whole wider just lifts when he's
48:08
easy [Music] we love to have him close we're all
48:15

pretty hopeful though so it's one of the strongest men i know so

48:24

[Music] i've just always believed that there's a psychical nature to whakapapa

48:31

i've often said that whakapapa is a series of neverending beginnings one end comes at a different beginning

48:39

and i'm at that point in my life

48:46

[Music]

48:57

[Music]

49:08

[Music]

49:16

you

English (auto-generated)