

Is New Zealand delivering for our children/young people”

“Child Centred Practice”

Fad or Foundation?

He Ora te Whakapiri:

Unleashing the potential of life course research
in New Zealand

Te Papa, Wellington, 18 October 2018, Wellington



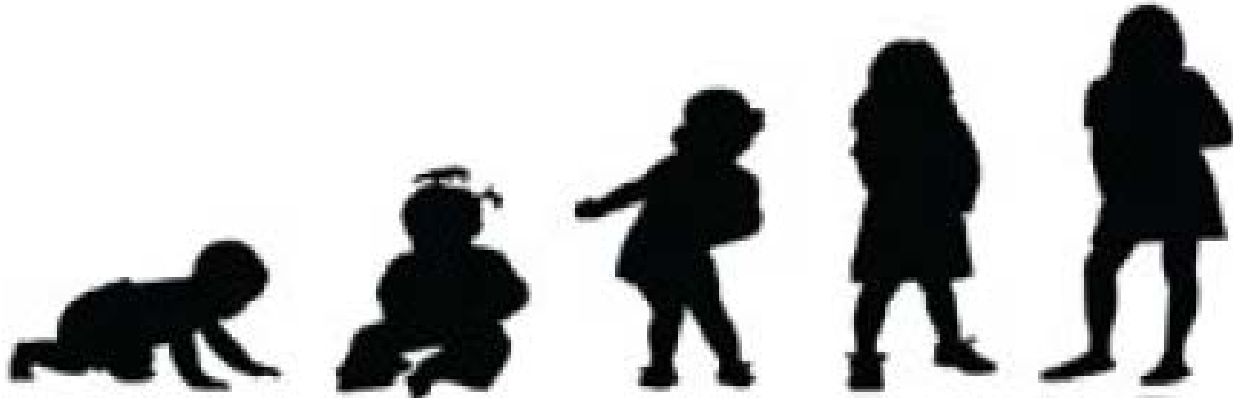
Judge Andrew Becroft
Children's Commissioner for New Zealand
Te Kaikōmihana mō ngā Tamariki o Aotearoa



MANAAKITIA A TĀTOU TAMARIKI

Children's
Commissioner

New Zealand
has 1,123,000 children/young people
– that's 23% of the population



(Stats NZ estimate as at 30 June 2017)

Aotearoa/NZ's children/young people... an overview

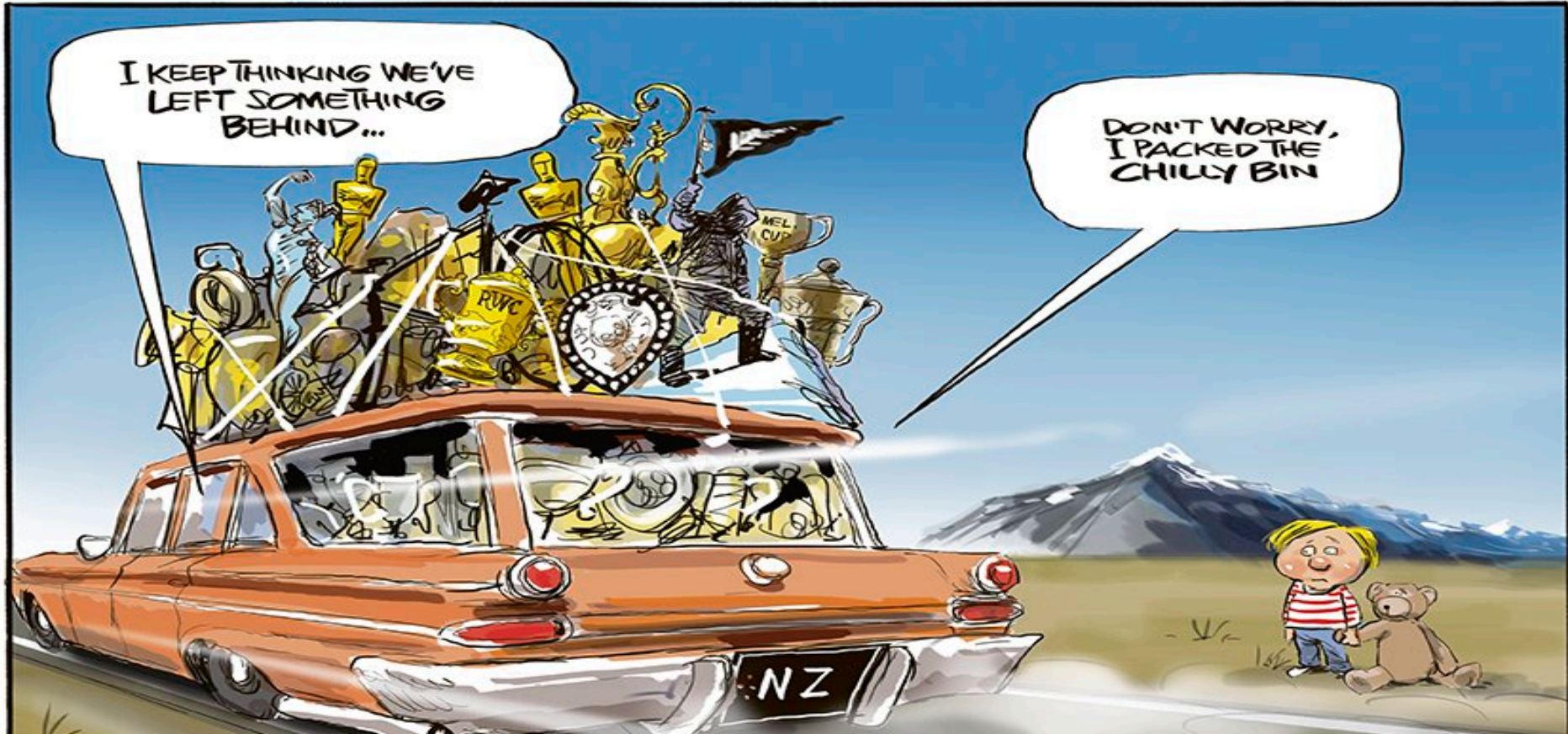
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Who's being left behind???

WE ARE BETTER THAN THIS

I KEEP THINKING WE'VE
LEFT SOMETHING
BEHIND...

DON'T WORRY,
I PACKED THE
CHILLY BIN



Examples of science intersecting with policy

1. Otago University Longitudinal Study

a) “Adolescent only” offenders / “desisters”

s208 of Oranga Tamariki Act 1989

(a) [[the principle]] that, unless the public interest requires otherwise, criminal proceedings should not be instituted against a child or young person if there is an alternative means of dealing with the matter:

Police Youth Aid practice changed as a result

b) “Life course” young offenders / “persisters

A different, rehabilitative approach as a result

2. Community based programmes work better than custodial interventions – reducing beds in larger institutions and redesigning them

Examples of science intersecting with policy

3. Most important predictor at age 3 of adverse life outcomes? Emotional dysregulation. Best thing we can do for infants? Poulton: "Develop impulse control and emotional regulation by the age of three". How do we teach it?
4. FFT / MST / MDTFC? (What are they?)
5. Smoking by adults in cars where children are passengers. What is stopping us? The evidence is overwhelming!
6. First year, and then the first 1000 days are crucial!
Does our policy match the current scientific knowledge on infant development?
The "in work tax credit" dilemma
7. Driving licence age?

Be sincere



“Sine” = without

“Cere” = wax

Genuine

Authentic

Consistent