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Return to Article Details Watching the Kiwis: New Zealanders' Rules of Social Interaction - an Introduction

Victoria

The 'no. 8 wire' tradition

Perhaps because they live a great distance from any other country, New Zealanders have always had to invent things they could not easily obtain. Māori developed skills in weaving and carving, and at making voyaging canoes, stone weapons and fortified pā, that astonished the Europeans ...

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Picture not available

A look back at New Zealand school uniforms

As families get ready for the start of the school year students across the country will be pulling crumpled uniforms from the bottoms of school bags. While some schools have chosen to do away with uniforms, they remain a strong part of the identity and culture for many. As the start of

Stuff

Have a play with Hofstede's country comparison tool for other countries, like your own country of origin, too!

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Hofstede-insights

Lifeswap Episode 6 - Just Sharon

Ah New Zealand. The land where "mister" and "missus" are all but obsolete terms. Episode 6 investigates Kiwi squeamishness with formality and Jörg gives some advice on German supermarket check-out protocol... If you haven't already, follow our YouTube channel: youtube.com/lifeswap Like our ...

Vimeo

Political values

It has been said that if New Zealand was to erect a huge statue like the Statue of Liberty, it would be the Statue of Equality. Like other countries, it has developed its own national character, and equality, fairness and honesty are values which most New

Govt

Prep-work

There are the SNAKS, or Sensitive New Age

Kiwis, the foolishly trendy New Zealanders who live mostly in urban neighbourhoods with a strong focus on lifestyle choices. Then there are the TORKS, Traditional Old-fashioned Rural Kiwis all over the rest of the country, among them conservative businessmen or ultra-conservative 'redneck' farmers. The conservatives have a burning desire to inhibit change, and are often members of parliament or active in local politics. Particularly the younger generations of Māori call themselves IWIKS, Independently Willed Indigenous Kiwis. BENZERS, Better Educated New Zealanders, regard themselves as the elite and would never call themselves or others Kiwis.

'Some TORKS have ambitions to become SNAKS. Other SNAKS, finding IWIKS' demands too radical, might think of converting to the TORKS. To complete the confusion, an IWIK can simultaneously be a SNAK, TORK or BENZER. TORKS see themselves as the defenders of global agriculture. SNAKS – very much aware of the widening gap between Haves and Havenots – see themselves as integral to global society in their roles of economic and social leaders. IWIKS consider themselves a sovereign people with all of the rights of other New Zealanders, though without all of the obligations. BENZERS believe the world would be an enlightened place, if only everyone was better educated. All of these groups have one thing in common: they feel they are also pioneers who can fix anything with Number 8 wire, and who can take on the entire world, especially in sports.'[1][2]

In some regions of New Zealand, hierarchies are more evident than in others. There is a pecking order according to whose family has been in New Zealand the longest. These are regions in which it is likely that immigrants will have a more difficult time than in the more multicultural cities like Wellington.

Original source:

The Xenophobe's guide to the Kiwis

The Xenophobe's guide to the Kiwis | Catley, Christine Cole, Nicholson, Simon | ISBN: 9781906042417 | Kostenloser Versand für alle Bücher mit Versand und Verkauf duch

Amzn

...This has to do with what James Belich calls the 'Pakeha Treaty', the conditions and promises of settlement in the nineteenth century.' The deal for coming to New Zealand was that people would not have to put up with the 'paraphernalia' of the English class system. That did not mean that class would be absent in New Zealand, but the promise was that it would not pervade every single aspect of everyday life. All people, regardless of their background, would have similar clothing, housing and food, and while employer-employee relationships still existed, bosses would have to treat you as an equal outside of the working relationship. This contract of 'sameness' was and is a wonderful thing, but it has, over time, mutated into a somewhat delusional egalitarianism, into an inability and unwillingness to acknowledge difference, talent, expertise and excellence. It has become something that New Zealanders still carry as a promise and a burden without realising it, and on which they are quite unable to reflect. It is just part of the national character. Small poppies have to be encouraged to think more highly of themselves than they really are, while tall ones are put down, moaned about and taught to crouch and bend.

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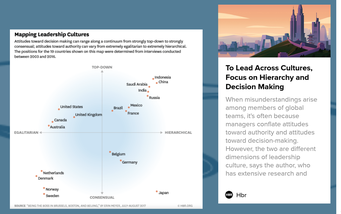
Alexander Thomas: Polnische Kulturstandards / Polish culture standards

- Personenbezogene Emotionalität / people oriented emotionality
- Soziale Beziehungen / social relationships
- Hierarchieorientierung / hierarchical orientation
- Flexibler Umgang mit Regelsystemen / flexibility with regulatory systems
- Status und Etiquette / status and etiquette



To Lead Across Cultures, Focus on Hierarchy and Decision Making

When misunderstandings arise among members of global teams, it's often because managers conflate attitudes toward authority and attitudes toward decision-making. However, the two are different dimensions of leadership culture, says the author, who has extensive research and

Hbr

Compare Countries - Trompenaars Hampden-Turner

Explore what binds and divides for reconciliation In this section, you can extract a country specific profile from our database to compare it to another. This will help you to develop on your journey to developing understanding that reconciliations rather than choosing between two desired

Thtconsulting

Discuss these images and take notes.

How does it relate to your own culture?

Kiwi ingenuity

no. 8 wire

Looking at the images again, inhowfar have you discussed the following topics?
Which ones were missing and you would like to remember?

pragmatism

surnames in business communication

"nice guy" in business

egalitarianism

attention to detail

(academic) titles

critique

planning

small talk

process

quality

relaxed behaviour

solutions vs. problems

She'll be right (optimism)

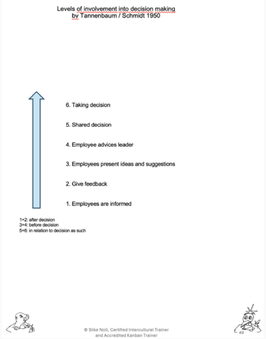
formal versus personal behaviour

status symbols

Kiwi ingenuity

How long do decisions take?

no. 8 wire

Waiho ma te tangata e mihi -
Let others sing your praises.

B/S/H/