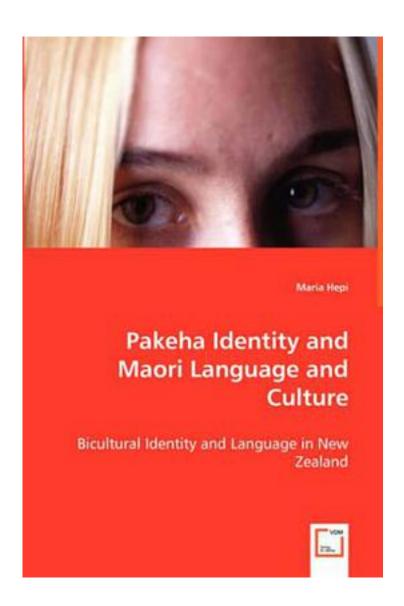
Pakeha Identity and Maori Language and Culture



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著者:Hepi, Maria

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Since European contact with Maori, fluency in te reo Maori (Maori language) in New Zealand has dramatically declined, however there has been a revitalisation of te reo Maori in the last 25 years. However, not only have Maori undertaken to keep the language alive but additionally some Pakeha (non-Maori New Zealanders) have also taken on the challenge. This work explores the experiences of European New Zealanders who have learnt te reo Maori (Maori language) and how through their learning they have gained a better understanding of what it means to be Pakeha in New Zealand. This monograph looks at the reasons why Pakeha New Zealanders want to learn te reo Maori and their experiences from learning te reo Maori and being involved with Maori culture within both te ao Maori (the Maori world) and te ao Pakeha (the western world). The concept of a Pakeha identity, one that involves a relationship with te ao Maori is also investigated along with the exploration of the idea that te reo Maori can be the basis of a shared national identity that could bring all New Zealanders together.

Zealanders together.
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