Intergenerational transmission of minority languages in New Zealand

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Impetus

- insight that many bilingual parents in New Zealand are not speaking LOTE to their children
- a recent government report advising migrant parents to consider speaking English at home.
Percentage of NZ children of various ethnicities who speak more than one language, Census: 2013

- **Asian**
- **Middle Eastern/Latin American/African**
- **Pacific Peoples**
- **Māori**
- **Other Ethnicity**
- **European**
13-18 year olds % who are speakers of the heritage language (2013)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Language</th>
<th>NZ-born</th>
<th>Born overseas</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Samoan</td>
<td>51.00%</td>
<td>86.00%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Korean</td>
<td>91.00%</td>
<td>88.00%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>French</td>
<td>47.00%</td>
<td>75.00%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spanish</td>
<td>45.00%</td>
<td>67.00%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Russian</td>
<td>47.00%</td>
<td>66.00%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mandarin</td>
<td>49.00%</td>
<td>80.00%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>German</td>
<td>45.00%</td>
<td>67.00%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gujarati</td>
<td>46.00%</td>
<td>70.00%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Persian</td>
<td>43.00%</td>
<td>69.00%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dutch</td>
<td>9.00%</td>
<td>45.00%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Aim: Encouraging intergenerational minority language transmission

http://goo.gl/le5Nfh
Research questions

• What factors influence the linguistic choices parents make?
• What advice do parents whose children acquire their language have for new parents?
• What difference does being bilingual make to young people growing up in New Zealand?
• What policy is currently in place regulating the information and support available to children and their families
Method

• Collection and analysis of census and other official statistical data and documents
• Review of previous research on intergenerational transmission of languages and language shift in New Zealand and elsewhere
• Interviews with parents, professionals and young people
Outcomes

- New insight into the whether, how and why of intergenerational language transmission
- Website for research-informed advice and sharing
- Wide dissemination of information about bilingualism to parents and professionals
- Students writing Masters and PhD theses
Subprojects

- Teenage bilinguals in Chch
- Information to new parents
- Support in schools and ECE
- Family Language policy
- National language policy
- Language and identity
Teenage bilinguals in Christchurch

- Five-ten participants for each language being studied
- Experiences, attitudes, anecdotes
- 16-18 year-olds and their parents or carers
- Early childhood, childhood and teenage years
- Starting with Korean, the most successful language

13-18 year olds % who are speakers of the heritage language (2013)

- Samoan
- Korean
- French
- Spanish
- Russian
- Mandarin
- German
- Gujarati
- Persian
- Dutch

NZ-born
Born overseas
Programmes

• Master of Computer-Assisted Language Learning (MCALL)

• Postgraduate Diploma in Education endorsed in Teaching and Learning Languages (PGDipEd(TLL))
Programmes

• Master of Computer-Assisted Language Learning (MCALL)
• Postgraduate Diploma in Education endorsed in Teaching and Learning Languages (PGDipEd(TLL))

From 2016 subject to CUAP approval

• Master of Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (MTESOL)
• Master of Education endorsed in Teaching and Learning Languages (MEd(TLL))
• Postgraduate Certificate in Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (PGCertTESOL)
Courses

**EDEM681** Learning & Teaching Languages

**EDEM631** Foundations of Language Acquisition & Learning

**EDEM633** Foundations of Technology-Enhanced Language Learning

**EDMM633** Issues in Technology-Enhanced Language Learning

**EDMM632** Issues in Language Acquisition & Learning
Links

This presentation http://1drv.ms/1Pth7B5

Growing Up with Two Languages
website http://goo.gl/le5NFh

Courses and programmes in Learning and Teaching Languages
http://goo.gl/qPmOjF

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