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A Pakeha of Scottish descent, I grew up in rural Canterbury. I now know that to be part of the rohe of Kai Tahu although I was completely oblivious to that at the time. After completing secondary school at St Andrews College I spent a year as a Volunteer Service Abroad worker in Tonga: in many ways, that was the beginning of my education! I then completed a BA in English at the University of Canterbury. A short career as an English teacher and a longer one as a Probation Officer followed, with the near obligatory OE in between - during which I (more or less) figured out what it meant to be a Pakeha New Zealander. During my time in the Probation Service – another great place to get an education – I completed undergraduate and graduate study in psychology at the University of Waikato. I joined the Department of Psychology in 1986, and have been here ever since, teaching mostly community psychology and evaluation research, with minor forays into social psychology and the psychology of gender.

A curiosity about gender saw me get involved in one of the big passions of my life; domestic violence research and intervention. For about 30 years I have facilitated stopping violence programmes and conducted research, usually evaluations of domestic violence interventions of various kinds. I've had the privilege of rubbing shoulders with some of the gutsiest people in this land, both women and men, who support victims of (usually) men's violence and who compassionately confront those men to guide them towards a life free of violence. These people too have been an important part of my education. Along the way, I have been lucky enough to be part of research which really has made a difference, particularly in relation to domestic violence legislation. I have also undertaken various advisory and consultancy work, served on local and national domestic violence committees and conducted workshops and seminars (just push "play" and I'll talk). I am now discovering that one of the privileges of age is that people seem to assume that I have learnt something.

My CV lists about 50 publications and about the same number of commissioned reports (mostly programme evaluations). However, it is important to note that almost none of them are my work alone. I have had the privilege of working with some marvellous co-researchers: often Maori, sometimes Pakeha, occasionally Pacific and South Asian. More of them have been women than men. Quite a few have been students. To all of these people I owe a debt of gratitude for extending my education.

I am married and the father of two adult children who are fond of pointing out my failings and forgiving me for them – in equal measure. I've always been something of an exercise nut, beginning with rugby (it was practically compulsory in my youth), then rowing, running, orienteering and cycling. At the moment, one of the greatest pleasures in my life is getting up at 5 am to enjoy pushing my skiff across the tranquil waters of Lake Karapiro, just as the sun starts to warm the day.

Thank you for the invitation to join the Taumata. I trust there is something that I can contribute to the continued growth and development of **anzea**.