



KIA ORA



"He went out into the outback and shot himself. He'd been there for about two weeks before the police found him."



"I said, Dad where's that girl I can't find her? She's in her room, he replied, as I got to her door, something came over me, and I said to myself, oh you little bitch, better not have.....as I walked into the room, there she was hanging by her karate belt, in the wardrobe".

"I saw her lying on her face in a puddle of water. I walked up to pick her up, but was stopped by the police, because now this is a crime scene. I just stood there staring at my girl, lying face down in the water".

"The call came early evening: fatal gunshot to the head, the death certificate read."

"Every year I visit my mokopuna (grandchild) at her gravesite, and I say to her 'moko, I still haven't forgiven you, I'm still angry at you".



This study is about posttraumatic growth (PTG) and in particular, how the notion relates to parents bereaved by suicide.

This study seeks to understand the experiences of parents by exploring their lived experiences of suicide grief.





Questions

Question 1

What are the mechanisms that influence the posttraumatic growth trajectory for parents bereaved by suicide?

Question 2

What are the outcomes of post traumatic growth for parents bereaved by suicide?



Methods/Methodology

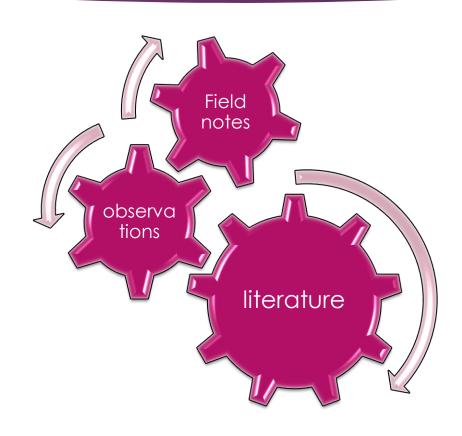
Qualitative

- Maori Centred
- Case Studies

- Kanohi ki te kanohi
- Open structured interviews
- Field notes
- Observations
- Literature









Maori Centred Approach

Personally

Maori wahine

Professionally

- Utilised as an Educator
- As a counsellor and social worker



Summary of questions and approach:

This is a qualitative, Māori centred, case study approach was designed to surface and provide a depth of understanding of the critical themes and features of suicide grief through analysis of the mechanisms that influence the posttraumatic growth of parents bereaved by suicide, along with the posttraumatic growth outcomes of surviving their child's suicide death.



Negative



Positive



Key findings – two trajectories to trauma



Table 7. Relational Growth Matrix: PTG Outcomes.

Meaning making

Relational growth with the deceased - Staying connected

Continued Bonds

Performative actions

Relational growth with significant others – stronger relational connection

Closer ties to family

Greater emotional disclosure and feelings of closeness to others

More compassion for others and more willingness to give to others

Performative action through the undertaking of social action

Relational growth with self - Personal positive growth

Changed priorities, Increased clarity about what is most important in Life

A deeper and often spiritual sense of the meaning of life

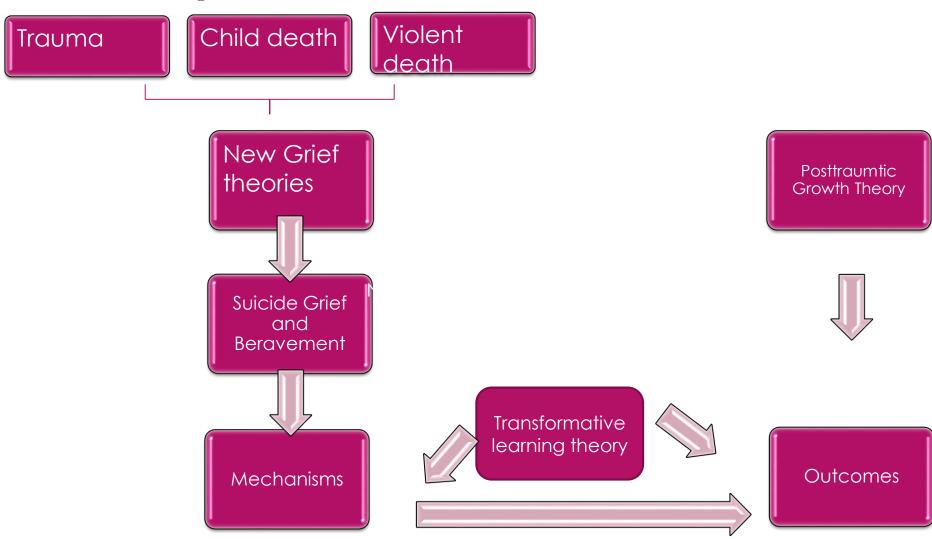
Reinvestment in life, new goals, new possibilities

Cultural strengthening, Religious strengthening

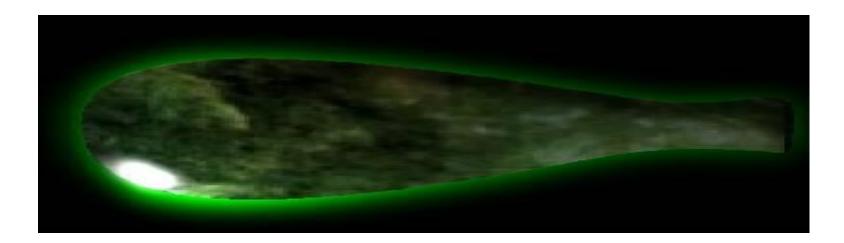
More empathy and compassion, altruism

An increased feeling of personal strength, confidence.

Overview of theoretical concepts significant for this study and linked to the questions in this research









Kia hora te marino, Kia whakapapa Pounamu te moana,

Kia tere te karohirohi I mua I to huarahi May the peace be widespread, may the sea glisten like the

Greenstone and may the shimmer of light guide you on your way