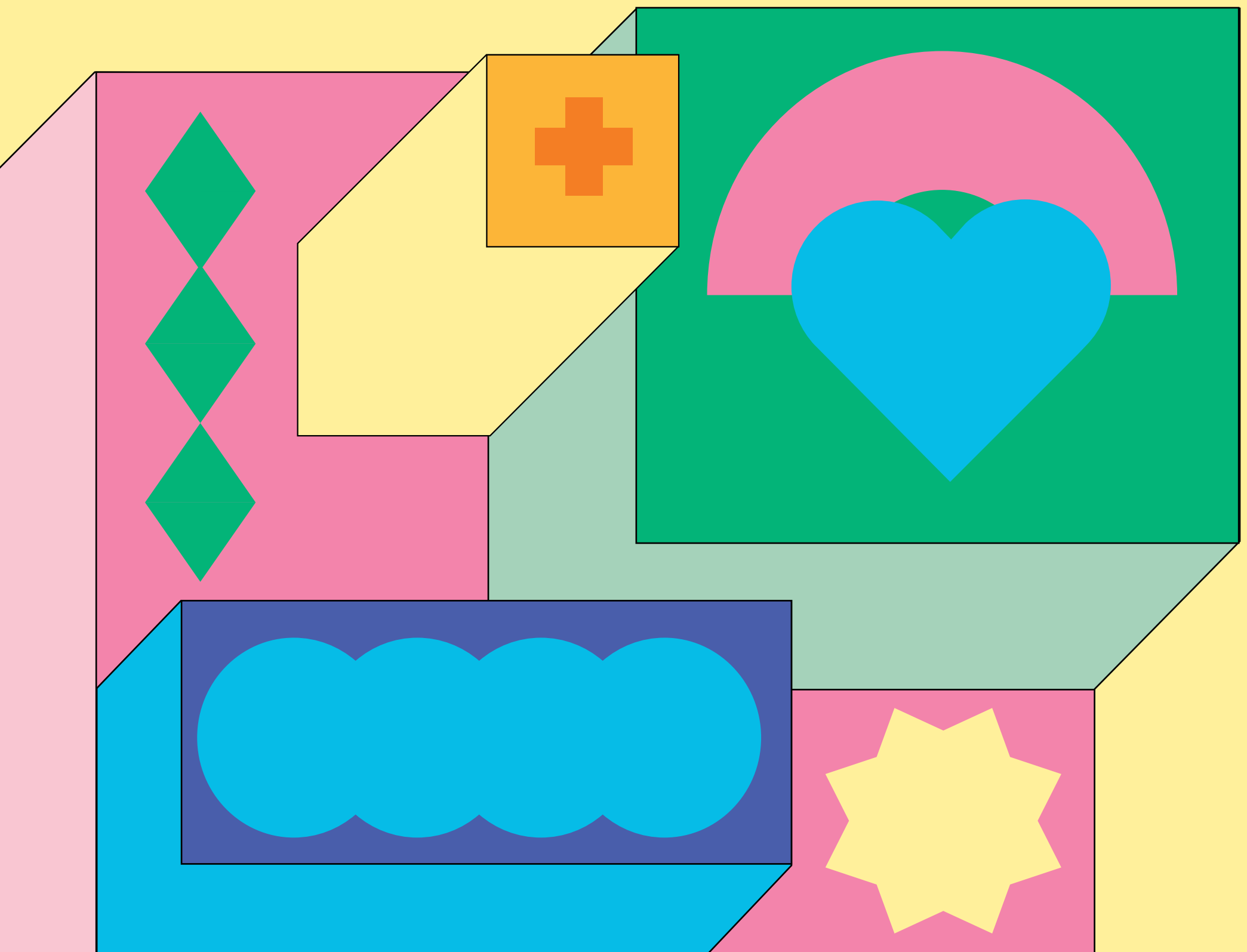
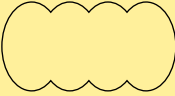
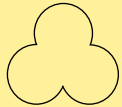
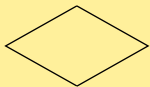
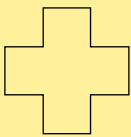
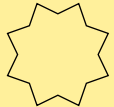


THE HIVE

NEWS FROM THE FUTURE ISSUE 1 • 2023 AS WRITTEN BY OUR RANGATAHI



WE ARE THE FUTURE

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Get a Little Closer

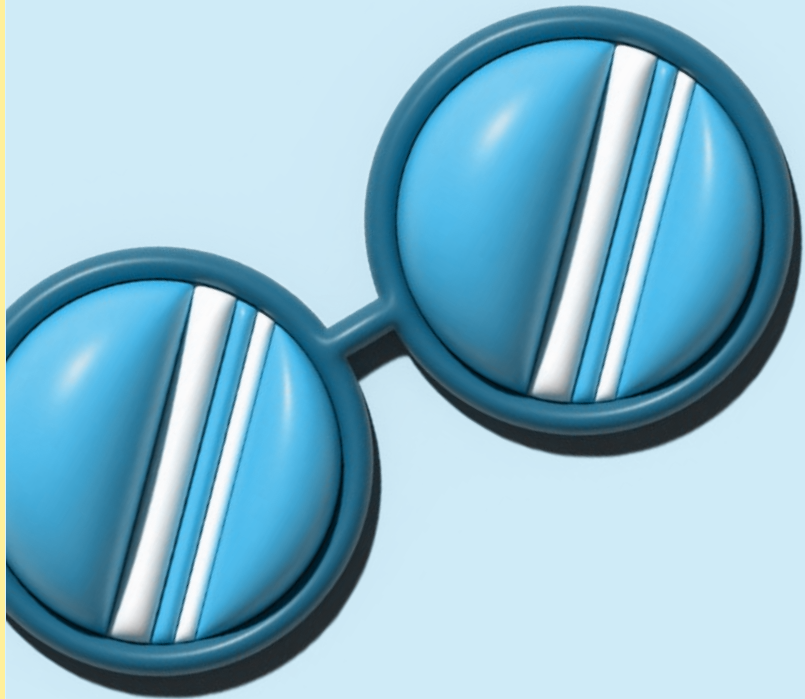
Rangatahi make up a good chunk of the population.

But a lot of us aren't old enough to vote on the things that impact our future. And even if we are, politics can feel like a hard world to dive into. There's complicated processes, things seem to take a looong time, and it's full of adults who don't always look, talk or think like us. Sometimes we aren't invited into the conversation - and sometimes when we are, we can't tell if anyone's listening.

But we know there's heaps of decision makers out there thinking about us and our future. Working hard to do what's best by our generation, and the next.

We also know y'all love a report. Words on pages! So this Zine is our gift to you. Words on pages.

It's an invitation to get a little closer to us.



WHAT'S ON OUR MINDS



MY GENERATION

Hope Cotton

WE ARE THE FUTURE OR SO YOU SAY, AS YOU
SELL IT ALL AWAY, BUT WE'LL MAKE IT OKAY,
WE'RE GENERATION Z, WE'LL PAVE THE WAY, SO
WE RALLY, WRITE THINK PIECES, GIVE SPEECHES,
FORGET OUR HOMEWORK, RAISE OUR FISTS, SHOUT
FOR CHANGE, WE HAVEN'T SEEN OUR FRIENDS
IN WEEKS, BUT WE NEED THIS, THIS PROTEST,
THIS PETITION, WE ARE THE FUTURE, WE CAN'T
LET OPPORTUNITY PASS US BY, WE ARE THE
CHANGE, US, WHO KNOWS WHY, OUR SHOULDERS
ARE HEAVY, OTHER MISTAKES MUDDY A FIERY
SKY, THE SOLUTIONS HAVE ALWAYS EXISTED,
BUT WATCHING THE NEWS FEELS LIKE HAVING
OUR RESPONSIBILITIES LISTED, SO WHO CARES IF
WE MISS CLASS, OR CRY UNDER THE WEIGHT OF
IT ALL WE'RE GENERATION Z, THE FINAL LINE
OF DEFENCE, WE CAN'T FALL, WE'RE REBELS,
REVOLUTIONARIES, CHANGEMAKERS, WE'RE NOT
ALLOWED TO FEEL SMALL, WE'RE THE CHOSEN
ONES, WE'LL ANSWER TO YOUR CALL, WE ARE

ANXIOUS AND AFRAID BUT YOU CALL US BRAVE
AND THERE'S A WHOLE WORLD TO SAVE, WE
ARE THE CHILDREN OF CHAOS AND UNREST, WE
WERE BORN BURNING, CHOKING ON SMOKE AND
STRESS, WE ARE YOUR SAVIOURS, YOUR FREEDOM
FIGHTERS, WE ARE WANDERING REBELS,
WITH TOO MANY A CAUSE, WE ARE THE YOUNG,
IDEALISTIC FOOLISH, WE ARE THE SILVER BULLET
TO FIX IT ALL BUT GOD FORBID WE DO THINGS OUR
WAY, WE SPENT OUR CHILDHOOD WATCHING
IT FADE AWAY, WE WERE NEVER TRULY
INNOCENT, ALWAYS ANGRY AND AFRAID, RACING
THE CLOCK UNTIL WE COULD HAVE OUR SAY,
FORGET WHEN YOU WERE YOUNG AND DESPERATE,
BEGGING FOR THE SAME, YOU IGNORE US,
DISMISS US, PUSH US AWAY, BUT YOU CAN KEEP
ON MAKING YOUR MISTAKES, YOU'LL IGNORE US
UNTIL YOU NEED US, THEN BRUSH YOUR GUILT AWAY,
BUT IN THE END, YOU ARE RIGHT, IT'S ON US
TO SAVE THE DAY.

RANGATAHI ASK:

WHY IS IT
STEREOTYPED
“NERDY” TO LIKE
POLITICS?

HOW
CAN OUR
LEADERS
HEAR OUR
VOICES?

HOW MUCH
PUBLIC OPINION
DOES PARLIAMENT
ACTUALLY TAKE ON?

HOW CAN
WE GET OUR
THOUGHTS
AND IDEAS
HEARD?

HOW CAN I
KEEP UP WITH
POLITICS?

How can anyone find politics boring?

Michael Ferguson

I find it hard to understand how anyone can find politics boring.

The decisions it creates have the most direct impact on society at large as anything else. Every three years in elections, the political arms of differing ideologies clash, connect and engage with one another, loudly.

They decide what to do with 20% of my income, they decide the speed my car moves at, they decide how much privacy I deserve.

We're all impacted, and that creates this huge ongoing debate that I take part in with family members, teachers, friends... Everyone's perspectives are different and unique. And I have opinions, strong ones.

But my perspective doesn't count for anything. I can't vote.

I will have the same real impact on the outcome of the next election as the corpse of a peacock.

So you don't have a reason to read this. You can skip ahead. If I'm not a voter, there's no political calculation involved so ultimately, I'm irrelevant.

Even though I've kept up with every political event, continually challenged my own ideas. Applied for The Hive. Joined a campaign.

I take every opportunity I can to have my voice mean something.

And that shouldn't be necessary.

And maybe you're thinking...

"No, but that's different - you're an exception. Most 16 year olds don't care about that stuff. All 16 year olds care about is making dumb decisions, drinking and driving too fast. You don't know what's going on. You're not educated on it."

BS.

I might be more passionate about politics than most, but this is something we all talk about. Don't tell me that the conversations I have, with the exact type of people that you claim don't care, and don't know what they're talking about, aren't real or aren't important.

The only difference between the discussions I have with 16 year olds about politics and the discussions I have with adults, is that most 16 year olds aren't as stubborn and condescending. They are more likely to listen and to take these conversations seriously, than my uncles and aunties.

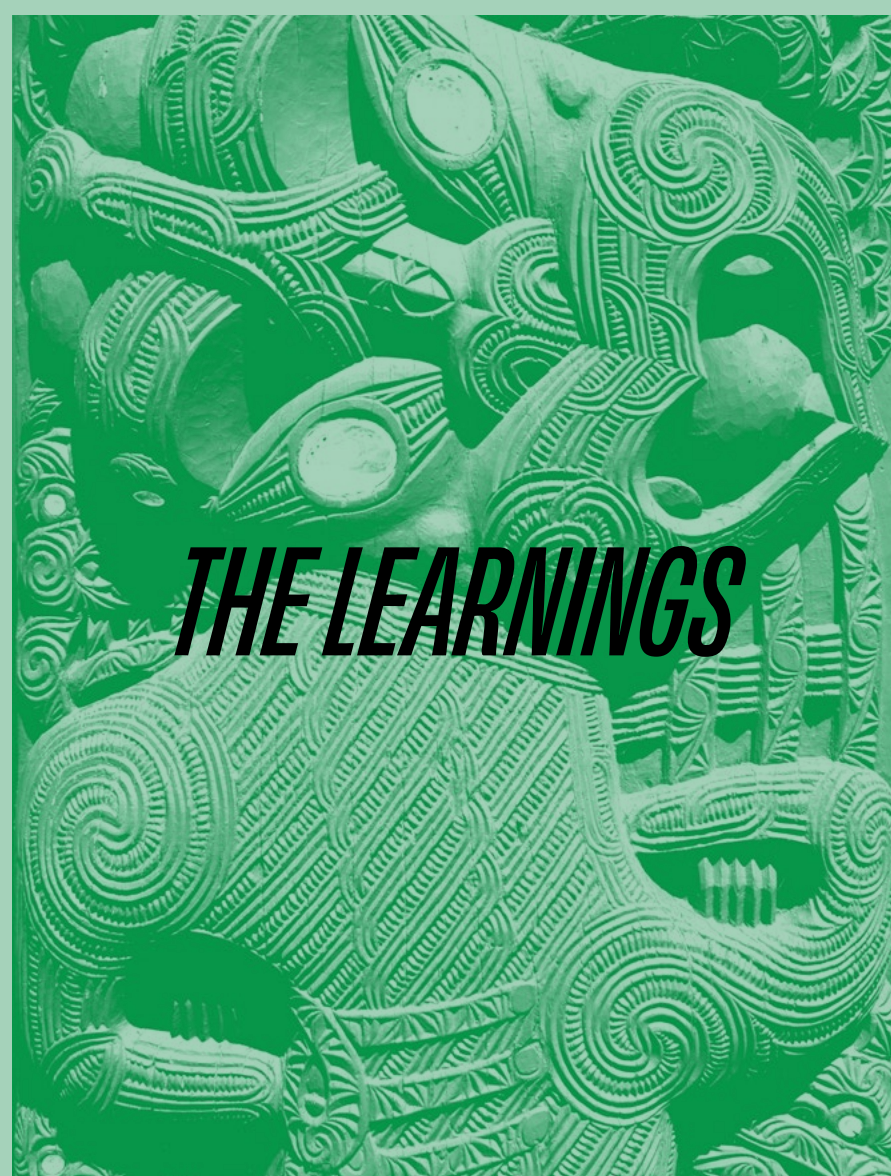
We have our own perspectives on issues that deserve to be heard. Why aren't they?





**WHAT WE
CARE ABOUT**

RESTORE



THE LIVES

RANGATAHI TOLD US:

**“I STRONGLY STAND WITH
THE MĀORI COMMUNITY
DESERVING THEIR LAND
BACK AND BETTER SOCIAL
AND SYSTEMIC TREATMENT”**

**“NORMALISING TE REO
MĀORI & MĀORITANGA
IS MOST IMPORTANT”**

***"CLIMATE
CHANGE MATTERS
TO ALL OF US"***

WHEN WE COME HOME FROM PRIDE

◆ Cindy Xiong

Written after viewing a series of photographs taken in the aftermath of a Pride march



It's a foreign city so nobody knows us here. I clutch my friend's hand as we board the subway, flushing cheeks dusted with queer little rainbow stickers that we peel off, wild-eyed,
when we come home from Pride.

The crowds disband and trickle home. A boy my age rubbing off smeared rainbow paint with fingers and tears, alone. With wet wipes I sat by him, curbside,
when we come home from Pride.

#heterosexualpride lights up my page, the twitter of a straight man's love child to himself and his entitlement of rage against our interlocked fingers and marshmallow kisses,
when we come home from Pride.

The doors lock and the cold bites,
when we come home from Pride.

The kind man sneers and the sober spits,
when we come home from Pride.

The mothers cry and turn away as if we weren't this all along. The righteous scrabble in older corners to tell us we are wrong. But we scrape the names off the back of our teeth, and like revolutionaries side by side, we paint our faces for strength, for war.
And still, we go to Pride.

+ DOS

\$\$\$

- + Pay us
- + Reward us
- + Appreciate our time

Relationships

- + Provide kai or activities - something to break the ice and build community
- + Build long term relationships, not just extracting data and information.

Safety

- + Make the space safe
- + Use gender inclusive language
- + Find out what makes a space safe/accessible to different young people

Accessible

- + Present info in an accessible way that can be understood easily. Translate it!
- + Use accessible fonts and infographics

Youthful + real

- + Add fun!
- + Include authentic youth voices
- + Be real, don't just talk in big, idealistic language
- + Ask about personal experiences. Everyone has a unique perspective and something valuable to share from that, but "knowing enough to share an opinion i s a big fear



RULES OF ENGAGEMENT

The voices of young people are crucial to building an equitable world. That's why it's important to value our contributions, and make things as easy as poss for everyone to engage with.

If you wanna craft a winning partnership with us, here's what you have to do:



1

Feed Us

Young people need to be fed - literally, and metaphorically. They're hungry for knowledge, opportunities, connections, validation - and always food.

2

Value Our Time

Remember we live full lives; we're juggling school, work, after school commitments, and supporting at home. Value us and our time, and design your engagement around when we're most likely to be available or online.

3

Decode the Jargon

Help us make sense of the content, and don't confuse us with convoluted language or questions. Say it straight; if you make it easy for us to understand what you're asking of us, then we're more likely to participate.

4

Create Easy Access

Think about how accessible your engagement really is. Do we need transport or technology to participate? Are you convening in a place that's easy for us to get to? Are you able to remove any barriers to our participation?

5

Connect to the Things we Care About

Sometimes it's not immediately obvious to us why we should care about the deeply important policy that you're pouring all of your time and energy into. Find ways to connect it to things we care about like: climate, whānau, friendships, identity, purpose, place (our hometowns), or our future.

6

Close the Loop

We want to know our voices have been heard. If you're engaging with us, make sure you loop back to let us know what you've heard through the engagement - and what you're going to do with what you've heard.



DON'TS

- Talk at us
- Act like we should be grateful to be listened to
- Use outdated internet slang
- Forget to run your ideas by youth. An adult's idea of youth vs actual youth voice can be quite different
- Use heavy jargon
- Expect us to have an answer for everything
- Oversimplify - youth are capable of understanding complexity and nuance when the information is presented in an accessible way
- Make everything formal. If the place, presentations and activities are super formal it can be both intimidating and boring
- Show us boring PDF pages filled with words
- Promise to pay us then forget to follow through



Grey Area

Ray Oakley



- Stuck in a liminal void
- An asteroid floating through space
- Disintegrating into oblivion
- Everything and nothing at the same time
- One thing fading into the next
- No label to encapsulate it
- No clear definition
- Between Pluto and Charon in a gravitational tug-of-war
- The limbo of gender

RANGATAHI WANT:

"GENDER INCLUSIVITY"

"BETTER ACCESS TO TRANS HEALTHCARE"

"SUPPORT FOR QUEER KIDS IN THE EDUCATION SYSTEM"

"CRIMINALISE UNCONSENSUAL INTERSEX SURGERY"

"GENDER NEUTRAL BATHROOMS"

Autistic Expectations

✦ Ray Oakley

Autistic Expectations

I didn't know I was autistic until I was 18. I had to find that out for myself as no one ever suspected. I went through life trying to live up to neurotypical expectations of myself, which is pretty unrealistic for a person whose brain is wired differently. Being autistic may seem like a minor thing but it affects my day to day life.

My Expectations

When I found out I was neurodivergent I still had the same expectations of myself when I thought I was neurotypical even though my brain is functionally different and I wasn't going to be able to function, exist and perform in the same way my neurotypical counterparts did. I felt like things had just gotten a lot harder to do after I figured out I was autistic but it was just the fact I was

Others' Expectations

Around my age people expect people to have a job or be studying, know what you wanna do in future, be able to drive, move out, be in a relationship. Due to these expectations I often felt like I was behind in life, like I should have done these things by now. Only a couple months ago I got my learners license after putting it off for years. Lots of my friends were doing these things so why wasn't I?

That timeline doesn't work for me and my needs. That's normal. I don't want a relationship (I'm aro/ace.) Nothing strikes passion enough for me to amass thousands in debt to study it. I'm not financially stable enough to support myself and move out.

Colonisation and capitalism has created this narrative of how one's life is supposed to look.

Graduate high school, get a job, go to university, get a degree, get another job, make money, meet your partner, get married, have kids, continue working and making money, retire, have grandkids, die.

My life just isn't going to look like that and thats okay. ✦

“Autism isn't a program running on a mental computer. Autism is the operating system”

@1Schoolhouse on Twitter

We live in an ableist society that isn't built for neurodivergent people.

The environment isn't accessible which just makes life a lot harder and more stressful.

Growing up I learnt to mask from a young age. I learnt how to act and what to say in a way that was 'correct' and 'normal'. It was a script though.

“Remember to say please here and thank you there, oh remember to smile also.”

A big symptom of masking for me was people pleasing. Always trying to be kind and polite, saying yes to everything and overcommitting myself, excusing any harm they caused me and saying 'its fine'. Masking is a social survival tool but it is extremely draining.

Last year I was really struggling with stress and sleep due to the pressures of study, deadlines and my own neurotypical expectations of myself. I found it hard to reach out for help so I kept trying to break through those walls by myself. This lead me to getting burntout.

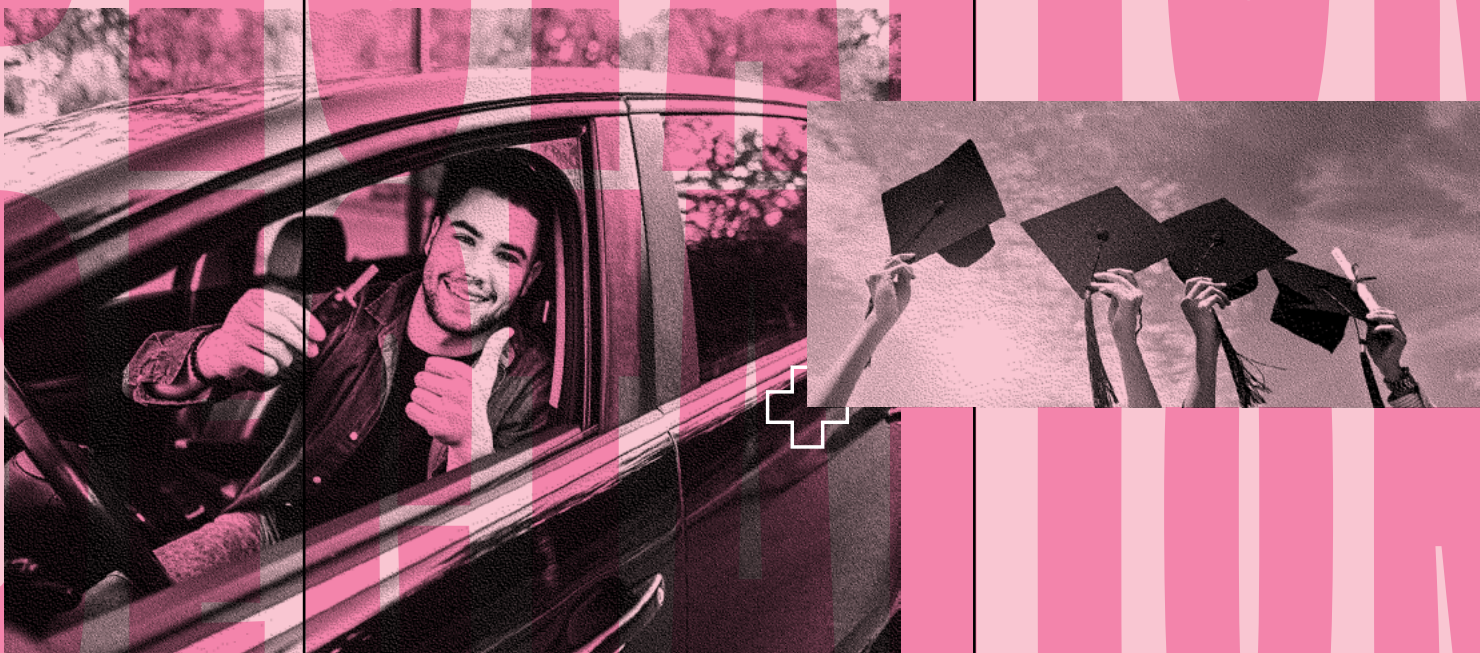
“Autistic burnout is a syndrome conceptualized as resulting from chronic life stress and a mismatch of expectations and abilities without adequate support.” - autism.org.uk

more aware of my struggles and the things I find difficult.

I learnt to be kinder to myself when I identified what had negative effects on me and adapted around them. I learnt to give myself more time to recover and not overload myself with too much stuff I couldn't handle.

I often get stuck in the perpetual cycle of “I need to do this one thing but my brain says no. Why can't I do this one thing? Why can't I just be normal? Oh yeah... But I still need to get this thing done. I need accommodations but I don't know how to ask for them/I'm scared to/ I expect if I do I will just be rejected.”

One common experience of neurodivergent people is being told 'you are just making excuses'. I heard it so many times that I internalised it and started telling it to myself as well. I would tell myself 'my neurodivergence shouldn't stop me from doing what I need to do, it's not a big deal' But it is a big deal, it effects every part of my life. It's not something I can separate from myself. People saying stuff like 'you are not your autism' as if it's depression or anxiety. You can't stop being autistic, it isn't something that you grow out of or that can be cured.



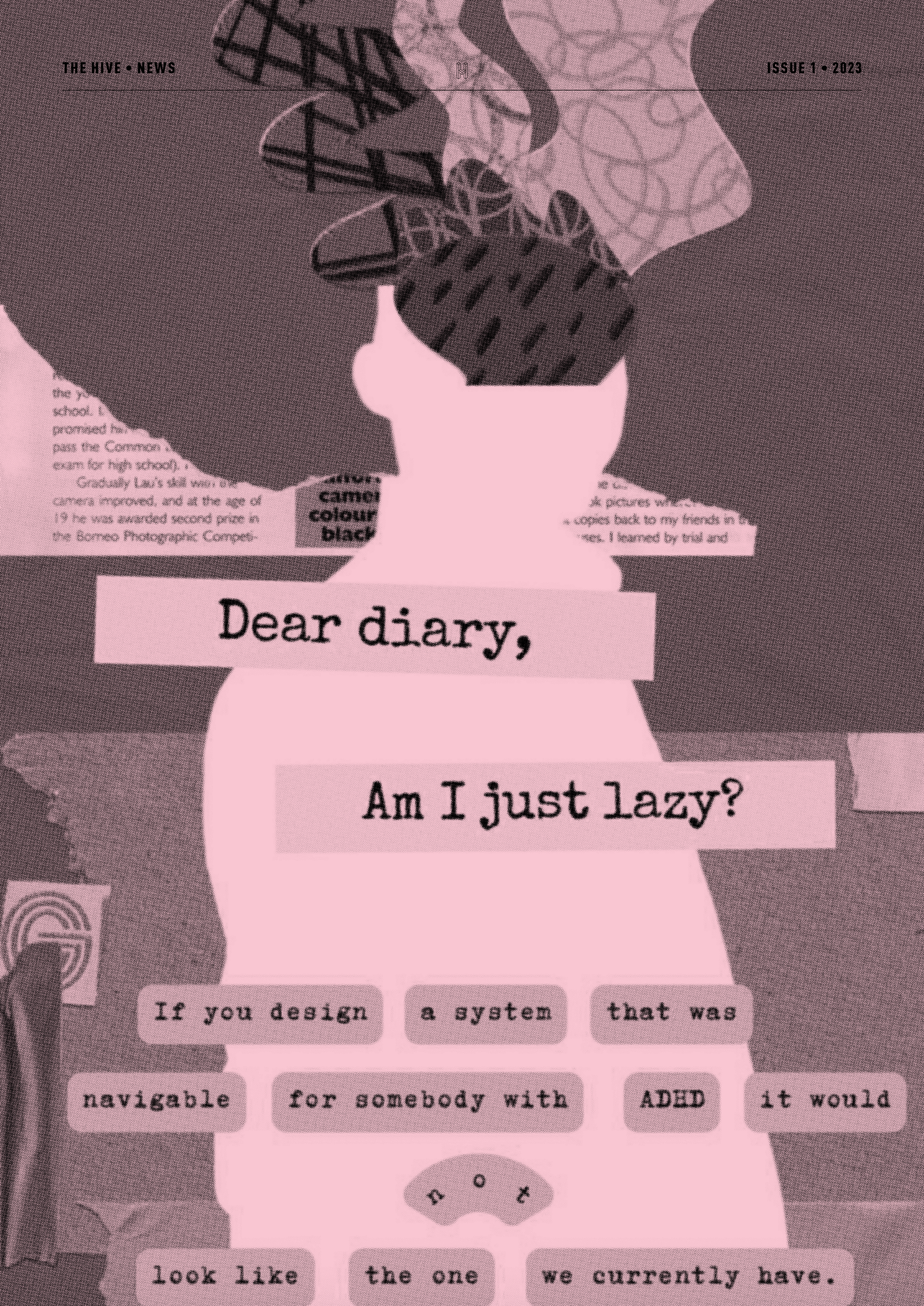
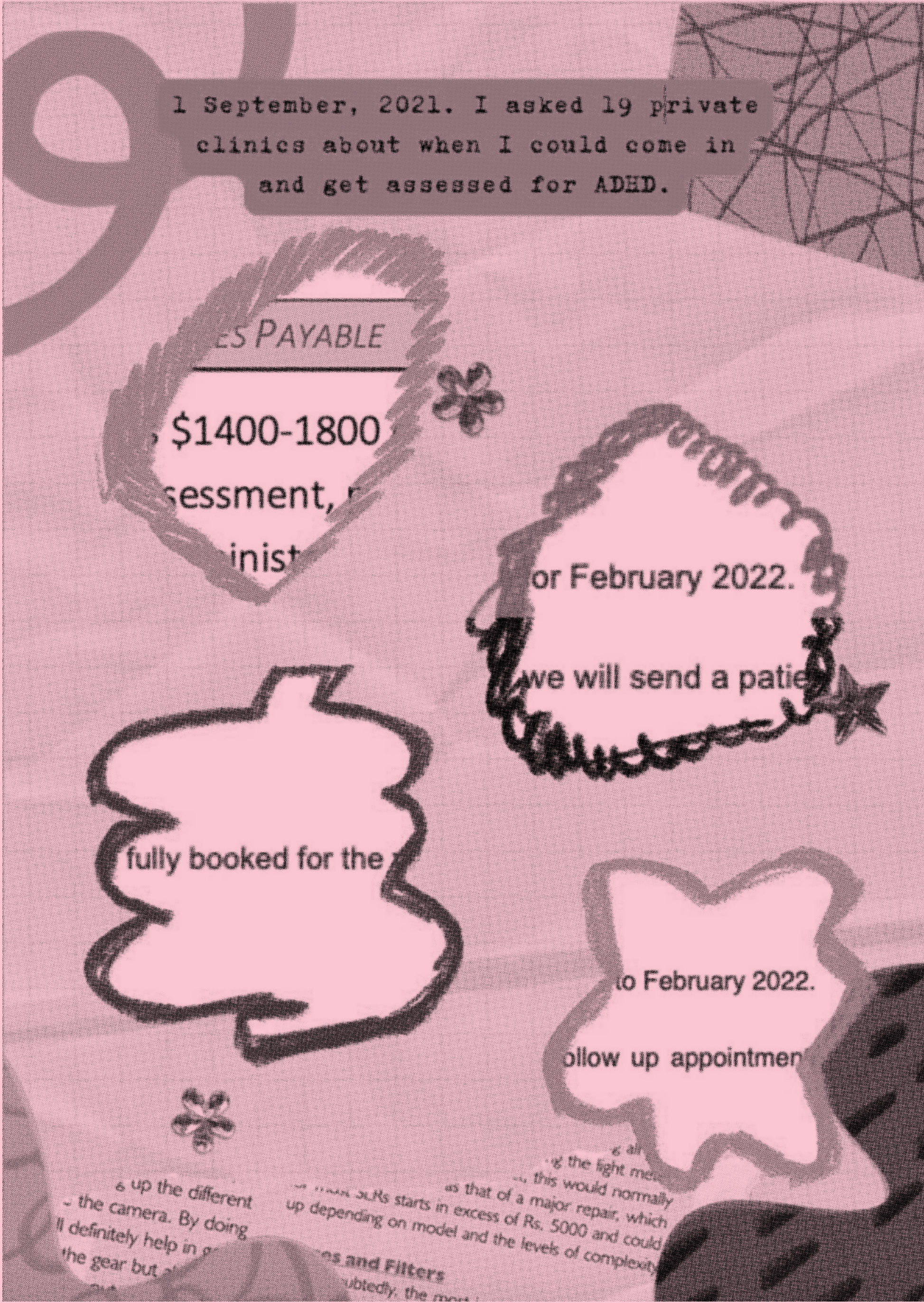
RANGATAHI TOLD US:

**“IMMIGRANT FAMILIES NEED
ACCESS TO HEALTHCARE AND
MENTAL WELLNESS CENTERS
WITHOUT THE FEAR OF LOSING
THEIR VISAS”**

**“I DONT KNOW A
SINGLE PERSON
IN MY LIFE THAT
WOULDN'T
BENEFIT FROM
MORE READILY
AVAILABLE AND
ACCESSIBLE MENTAL
HEALTH CARE”**

**“DOMESTIC VIOLENCE
AND MENTAL HEALTH
ARE THE TWO CENTRAL
ISSUES FOR YOUTH”**

**“WE SHOULD BE
TAUGHT PERSONAL
WELLNESS, HOW
TO REGULATE
EMOTIONS”**



Head between hands between knees
spine (curved) like a scythe,
my mind the sun and gangly
limbs a **SOLAR SYSTEM** ●
veins, rivers of asteroids and faraway
STARS, all (circling,) orbiting
at impossible speeds and directions,
(around, around) around,
THERE IS NO AIR.

**DREAMS FOR
THE FUTURE**

***"MY DREAM FOR THE
FUTURE? THAT EVERYONE
IS HEARD AT THE TABLE
OF DECISION MAKING"***



Seeking:
someone* we can
share our future with.

Likes:

Honouring Te Tiriti o Waitangi
Supporting marginalised communities
Spending big on education
Looking out for the rights of renters
Improving healthcare for all
Lowering the voting age to 16

Dislikes:

Maintaining broken systems
Poverty
Under-resourcing
The status quo
Underrepresented youth voice

Do our priorities match yours?
You might be the one for us!

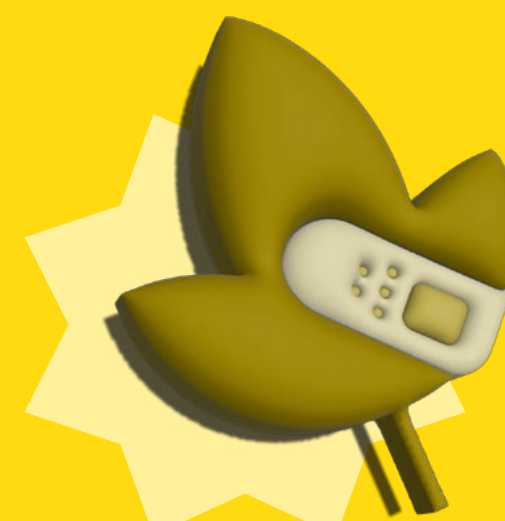
*a politician

Future Forecast

We asked rangatahi what they want the future to look like. Here's what they saw in the crystal ball:



The future is indigneous.



The future is green
and thriving.



The future is
in your hands.



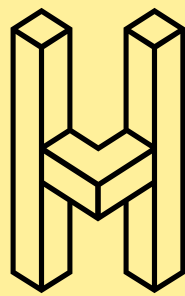
The future is healthy
and affordable.



The future is
prosperous.

The future is simple
and accessible.

Our hope is that the
next time you're making
calls about the future,
you think of us.



As that future, is ours