

Kia ora,

While I welcome the **“A fair chance for all. Breaking the cycle of persistent disadvantage Interim report - Overview”** I am quite concerned about the lack of spotlight on the older person.

You mention sole parents, people from families with no high school qualifications, Māori, Pacific peoples and disabled people were generally between one-and-a-half and three times more likely to experience persistent disadvantage in one or both of the two domains than the average New Zealand population under 65 years.

I can tell you from experience of working in the older person sector, that people over 65 years old experience persistent disadvantage in all three areas:

- *left out (exclusion or lacking identity, belonging and connection);*
- *doing without (deprivation/material hardship or lacking aspiration and capability); and*
- *income poor (income poverty or lacking the foundations to grow prosperity).*

This is also exacerbated because society views this sector as somewhat redundant, having served their purpose and are, often, looked over in statistical data. This is further cemented if the older person in question is already represented in the groups you have mentioned above.

If you have written about this in your main report then I stand corrected and I applaud you for including them, if you have not then I suggest you include a large cohort that is really doing it tough.

I have walked into too many homes of an older person and have been confronted with abject poverty, loneliness, depression and absolutely no whanau support.

They deserve better and so will we when we get there.

I am happy to be contacted.