



Cervical Cancer: Government funding urgently needed for HPV self-testing

**What is a Feminist Green New Deal?
It's the deal to save the world!**

**Gender Gap Facts
Did you know...**

Cervical Cancer: Government funding urgently needed for HPV self-testing

With Kiritapu Allen's recent diagnosis of stage 3 cervical cancer, the Government's woeful neglect of HPV screening (as well as HPV vaccination) is in the spotlight. Eight out of ten cervical cancer cases in New Zealand are a result of inadequate screening; cervical cancer could be a blight of the past if the Government steps up and funds HPV self-screening in their May budget.

The burden of New Zealand's inferior screening system falls on women with less privilege. Wāhine Māori are 2.5 times more likely to die of cervical cancer than non-Māori, making it the second leading cause of cancer related deaths in Māori women aged 25-44 years (in total, around 140 women a year are diagnosed with cervical cancer and 55 die of the disease).

Difficulties for trans, non-binary and intersex folks cannot be forgotten, with discrimination and gender dysphoria commonly reported. Socio-economic status also plays a role. As deprivation increases, rates of late cervical cancer diagnoses follow.

HPV self-testing addresses each of these barriers. Now the gold-standard for screening pre-cancerous changes in the cervix, it is not only more effective than the cervical smear at detecting cell change, but also less invasive, self-administered, and cost-effective. Research has shown that self-screening

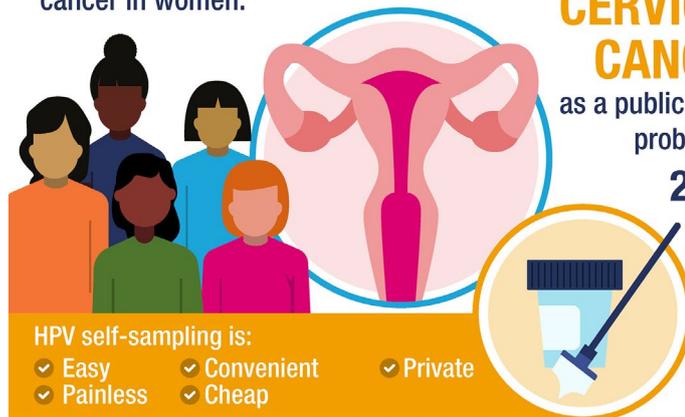
is culturally appropriate and preferred for both Māori and non-Māori.

HPV self-testing in New Zealand was expected to roll out in 2018, however funding was pulled. Australia and England implemented HPV self-testing in 2017 and 2019,

HPV SELF-SAMPLING IMPROVES SCREENING FOR CERVICAL CANCER

Cervical cancer is the 4th most frequent cancer in women.

This can contribute to **ELIMINATING CERVICAL CANCER** as a public health problem by **2030.**



#SelfCare

human reproduction programme **hrp**
research for impact

World Health Organization

respectively. Why then, in 2021 is New Zealand still relying on antiquated cervical smears as our primary screening measure? The Government must catch up and include funding for HPV self-testing in their May budget. ■

What is a Feminist Green New Deal?

It's the deal to save the world!

Climate change is a feminist issue. It's easier to minimise the impact of the climate crisis on yourself if your responsibilities don't also include looking after children.

It's easier to move away or batten down the hatches if you have money. If global warming reaches 2 °C – which it will, unless we act immediately – then we will see extreme weather, rising sea levels, diminishing Arctic sea ice, and loss of ecosystems. The effects for humans include loss of land, jobs, pleasure and even life. As [Hinemoa Elder](#) reminded us at her kōrero a year ago, Indigenous mothers and children already in poverty will be among those bearing the brunt.



an economic system that encourages unsustainable production and profit-seeking. A political system that responds to COVID-19 by increasing inequities for women,

Māori and families in poverty. Globally, we run “an extractive and unequal economy, one intimately bound up with ongoing histories of empire and colonialism, where those least responsible for the crisis are most exposed to the consequences of accelerating breakdown,” as one [UK thinktank](#) puts it.

Here's where the hope comes in: transforming our economy to be grounded in justice, equity, rights, and respect for nature is not only necessary in order to reduce the climate crisis –

it is better for people as well. As [Laura O'Connell Rapira](#) recommended at her forum, we must invest far more in low-carbon jobs such as caring and teaching, both for Papatūānuku and our future generations. Such investment both requires, and leads to, better respect for women, particularly women of colour who are the most likely group to work in low-paid jobs in the healthcare industries. At the same time, we must protect and support those workers whose industries disappear, so they can retrain.

To avoid the worst effects, scientists advise we keep global warming to a maximum of 1.5 degrees. The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change don't sugar coat what this means; instead, they warn it will require “rapid, far-reaching and unprecedented changes in all aspects of society.”

For example, we will have to end the use of any and all fossil fuels. Zero emissions means zero: no coal, gas, petrol. Solely renewables. That will dismantle or radically change all transport industries: haulage to tourism – with knock-on effects for virtually all industries in Aotearoa and around the world.

To work out how we can transform as quickly and radically as required, we need to look at the causes of the climate emergency:



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And that – in a nutshell – is the Feminist Green New Deal: saving the planet in a way that creates equity and strengthens communities. Following the leadership of Indigenous women such as Hinemoa and Laura (both of whom chose to speak about the climate emergency, with Te Wāhi audiences, without prompting). Ensuring no one gets left behind, regardless of their current paid and unpaid work, when we reduce our carbon emissions to zero. As a US coalition for the [Feminist Green New Deal](#) puts it:

“A just transition requires that women are actively brought in and benefit from green jobs and social policies, including pay equity, paid family leave and free child care. A just transition must also recognise and redress gender-based violence across industries, from sexual violence in mining towns to the exploitation of women farmworkers by industrial agriculture.”

We need a total emergency footing of government and society in order to be successful. Incrementalism is a dangerous false comfort. Instead, we must meet the interlinked systemic crises of climate change, gender inequality, colonialism, racism, and wealth inequality with an agenda for systemic change. All our systems are broken. Yet that urgency just isn't there. While some action is happening in the US and elsewhere, disappointingly, in Aotearoa New Zealand, the Climate Change Commission's approach is not ambitious enough: it's hesitant rather than bold and wastes opportunities. It does not acknowledge the size of the issue here. We need to clamour for more, for action; follow the leadership of our young people on the school climate strikes.

Laura showed us that being guided by whakapapa past and future works: what is good for Papatūānuku is good for wāhine Māori, other women, our children and future generations. We face a stark choice between misery and hope. ■



Te Wāhi Wāhine o
Tāmaki Makaurau
AUCKLAND WOMEN'S CENTRE

Kōrero with Qiane Matata-Sipu

Te Waiohūa ki Te Ahiwaru me Te Akitai, Waikato,
Ngāpuhi, Ngāti Pikiao and Cook Islands

NUKU Women founder & creator,
Uri of Ihumātao
Director of QIANE+co, activist and storyteller

Wednesday 28 April
7:00pm – 8:30pm

with **Stacey Morrison**



Ngāi Tahu, Te Arawa
award-winning
broadcaster, author,
Te Reo advocate

Western Springs Community Hall, 956 Great North Road
Bookings essential to info@womensz.org.nz
Donations between zero and \$20
All genders welcome, NZSL interpreters
Tea & coffee provided

Girls Self Defence

Morgan Libeau

This personal safety workshop helps girls to develop strength and confidence by increasing their knowledge of their bodies, their feelings and their rights.

Fri 18 June, 4:00pm - 6:00pm &
Sat 19 June, 10:00am - 4:00pm **\$50**



They will learn how to say no, remain calm, tell a trusted adult, and use verbal and physical ways to deal with abuse and assault.

Please enrol and pay by Fri 11 June
info@womensz.org.nz

\$50 for one daughter, \$90 for two sisters,
\$130 for three sister.



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Gender Gap Facts

Did you know...

... that half of all mothers in NZ will have experienced sole parenthood at some point by age 50?

This is one of 28 facts in our updated hot-off-the-press at-a-glance, quick-reference guide to "Gender Gap Facts". It offers a handful of illustrative facts (from the most recent research and statistics available) about gender discrimination on the themes of violence against women; representation; health; gender identity & sexual orientation; labour & pay; family & poverty; and incarceration. Specific gaps for wāhine Māori, women of other ethnicities and women with disabilities are also highlighted.

You can find an online version [here](#). ■



Menopause Information Session

Robyn Fausett, Nest Consulting

A four-hour presentation open to all women who want to know more about managing peri-menopause (the lead up to menopause) and menopause.

Saturday 15 May
1:00pm - 4:00pm

\$20



Humorous, informative and current.

Please enrol and pay by Fri 7 May
info@womens.org.nz



info@womens.org.nz
P. 09 376 3277 ext. 0
4 Warnock St, Grey Lynn
www.awc.org.nz

Contact

09 376 3227 x 0
info@womens.org.nz
www.awc.org.nz

Centre Hours

Monday to Friday 9:00 am - 4:00 pm

Library Hours

Monday to Friday 9:00 am - 4:00 pm

Services

- Women's Support: free support, info, advice and referral
- Community Education
- Community Events
- Counselling
- LGBTQ support
- Low Cost Massage
- Self Defence Classes
- Opportunities to talk and support feminism
- Diversity Forums
- Support Groups
- Support for High School Feminism

Designed by Toni Chase