Counterfutures is a multidisciplinary journal of Left research, thought, and strategy. It brings together work from across Aotearoa New Zealand’s Left, aiming to intervene in, and inaugurate, debates about how to understand and influence our society, politics, culture, and environment.
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LEFT THOUGHT AND PRACTICE AOTEAROA

ISSUE 10 2020

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Militarism and Indigenous Futures
Remembering Dick Scott
The Christian Question
Monuments of the North
Building Left Hegemony in the Pacific
Children of Godzone
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Hard to Centre
SUE BRADFORD & JACK FOSTER
After a landslide victory for Labour in the 2020 general election, what can we expect from the second Ardern administration?

Community Organising
MOHAN DUTTA & SUE BRADFORD
Two veterans of community organising discuss their work co-constructing voice infrastructures at the margins. A critical interrogation of the tensions that emerge in the relationships between communities, activists, and academics, and lessons in the role of community organising in building socialist futures.

Keywords: Militarism
EMALANI CASE
A treatment of militarism in the Pacific, tracing its interconnections with the structures of settler colonialism and white supremacy. Against the steady advance of US-led imperialism, Indigenous temporalities are positioned as the keystone of demilitarised futures.

The Weapon beneath the Woodpile
MARK DERBY
A retrospective on the life and work of the late historian Dick Scott, author of the ground-breaking Ask that Mountain: The Story of Parihaka. Instinctive outsider and refuter of the high-polite style, a historian who relentlessly unearthed well-buried episodes from Aotearoa New Zealand’s past.

The Christian Question
ROLAND BOER
An interview with distinguished professor Roland Boer on his five-volume epic On Marxism and Theology. In a wide-ranging discussion, Boer illuminates the myriad connections between Marxism and Christianity and considers the contemporary struggle over the Christian legacy.
**Auckland’s Inner-City Monuments**  
**MURRAY EDMOND**  
A fast-paced dérive through Auckland’s inner-city monuments. What messages do the monuments of Aotearoa New Zealand’s metropolis send out, and how can the frequency of these transmissions be altered?

**Towards a Left Secretariat for the Pacific**  
**TIM BRYAR**  
Prey to global warming, geopolitical competition, and class divisions, the Pacific Islands region is united by a shared experience of economic dependency and vulnerability. What might a Left secretariat in the Pacific offer?

**Welcome Home, Prodigy**  
**MURDOCH STEPHENS**  
In light of a great repatriation, what emotional states might be provoked by returning New Zealanders? Written during lockdown, Murdoch Stephens looks to the history of the ‘coming home’ essay and song for clues as to how returnees could be productively drawn back into the collective.

**The Team of Five Six Million**  
**RICHARD B. KEYS**  
Chantal Mouffe’s reading of ‘Schmitt against Schmitt’ is employed to discuss the politics of the returnee. In an era punctuated by global crises, what does the figure of the returnee tell us about citizenship, sovereignty, and globalisation?

**Imagining Beyond Decolonisation**  
**SIMON BARBER**  

**Making Socialism within Capitalism**  
**DAVID NEILSON**  

**Faustian Politics**  
**COLIN BARTON**  
Review of David Renton, *The New Authoritarians*. With the intellectual exhaustion of conservatism and the mainstreaming of far-right ideologies, how should the Left respond?
Contributors

SIMON BARBER
Kāi Tahu, Pākehā. Te Tomokanga postdoctoral fellow in sociology at the University of Auckland and researcher for Economic and Social Research Aotearoa. He is interested in Indigenous thought and politics, Marxian and critical theory, black studies, communism, and conjunctions thereof.

COLIN BARTON
PhD candidate at Victoria University of Wellington.

ROLAND BOER
Distinguished professor at the School of Marxism Studies, Dalian University of Technology. His previous research focussed on the complex relations between Marxism and religion in European and Russian traditions; his current research concerns the distinct tradition of Chinese Marxism.

SUE BRADFORD
Activist on jobs, welfare, and housing issues for many years and a former Green MP (1999–2009). She has a PhD in public policy and currently works for Kotare Research and Education for Social Change in Aotearoa.

TIM BRYAR
Independent researcher and writer based in Suva. Tim has worked in the Pacific region for more than a decade, with both non-government and inter-governmental organisations. He has a PhD from the University of Sydney.

EMALANI CASE
Lecturer in Pacific studies at Te Herenga Waka, Victoria University of Wellington. She is a Kānaka Maoli (Hawaiian) writer, teacher, and activist. She came to Aotearoa from Waimea, Hawai‘i.

MARK DERBY
MOHAN DUTTA
Dean’s chair professor and director of the Center for Culture-Centred Approach to Research and Evaluation (CARE) at Massey University, directing community–activist–academic interventions in the areas of Indigenous livelihoods and land rights, migrant rights, labour, sex work, and poverty.

MURRAY EDMOND
Lives in Auckland. Poet (latest book, Back Before You Know, 2019); critic (Then It Was Now Again: Selected Critical Writing, 2014); fiction-writer (Strait Men and Other Tales, 2015); editor, Ka Mate Ka Ora; and dramaturge for Indian Ink Theatre.

CHAMSY EL-OJEILI
Teaches sociology at Victoria University of Wellington.

JACK FOSTER
PhD candidate at Victoria University of Wellington and researcher for Economic and Social Research Aotearoa.

RICHARD B. KEYS
Artist and writer working with the intersections of sound, image, and text. His current research interests include the political economy of the pandemic and the existential dimensions of the climate crisis. He lives in Taupō.

DAVID NEILSON
Senior lecturer in sociology at the University of Waikato. He publishes mainly in the fields of class theory, political economy, and Marxism.

MURDOCH STEPHENS
Author of Rat King Landlord (Lawrence and Gibson, 2020), Doing Our Bit: The Campaign to Double the Refugee Quota (BWB, 2018), and Critical Environmental Communication: How Does Critique Respond to the Challenge of Climate Change? (Lexington/Rowman, 2018).
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