



**Ma te whakatau, ka mohio**  
***When we are shown, we come to know***

**Ma te mohio, ka marama**  
***When we know, we come to understand***

**Ma te marama, ka ora ai tatou**  
***When we understand, we all achieve wellness***

Between July 2005 and April 2007 a Confidential Forum was held for former In-patients of psychiatric hospitals. Over 400 former patients spoke about their experiences. The final report of the Confidential Forum Te Aiotonga (2007, available from [www.dia.govt.nz](http://www.dia.govt.nz)) outlines the themes that emerged including occurrences of physical violence and sexual misconduct; and de-humanising environments.

Phoenix Group, a Wellington group of people who have experienced mental distress are using the publicity surrounding the release of Jim Marbrook's film Mental Notes to call on the government to make a formal apology.



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Dear Prime Minister,

**Facts do not cease to exist because they are ignored\***

It is time for the government to formally acknowledge the findings of the confidential forum in which over 400 former patients of psychiatric institutions shared their experiences.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

My message \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\*Aldous Huxley

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**Rt Hon. John Key  
Prime Minister  
Parliament Buildings  
Wellington**

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