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Editor Hannah Earl

We citizens of New Zealand have a decision to make. Many people are asking themselves the question 'should the Maori be sent to war?' I strongly believe that they should be given the opportunity.

Firstly, I simply cannot understand why some people are questioning their ability to maintain fighting. Maori have been brought up battling - it is part of their culture. From their perspective, fighting is an art that has been passed through generations. Among the Maori, it is considered brave to die for the god of war, Tumatauenga. They have courage in the face of danger, and would do our country proud.

Secondly, as Sir Apirana Ngata states, by going to war the Maori will 'gain the respect of our Pakeha brothers.' If they fight, the bond between our two races will be strengthened. We might finally be connected by friendship, and live in harmony side by side. Besides, the Maori have a right to go to war. They lived in this country before us, and they deserve to be able to defend it. It would be downright offensive to their culture if we barred them from battle.

In my opinion, the duty of war calls to the Maori as much as anyone else. They should not be treated differently to Pakeha. Everyone should have the option of fighting. I believe that the more courageous soldiers we have representing our country, the sooner we can achieve world peace.



This image is of Sir Apirana Ngata. He believes the Maori should fight in the war.