**How government data is not an accurate representation for Māori**

By using administrative datasets through Stats NZ instead of a census, there will not be an accurate representation of New Zealand's population. This is because Stats NZ is a government department that collects data for the government. However, this data lacks Whakapapa as it was not collected for the purpose or needs of Māori. Consequently, the data is biased because Māori are less likely to access government services, hence they are not included in the data. Therefore, the data ecosystem lacks Kotahitanga as Māori are excluded, meaning they will not benefit from any policies, actions, or procedures created from the research. To mitigate these consequences, Māori governance over data collection should be considered. This could be done using a full enumeration national survey of populations and dwellings for Māori. This would result in Whakapapa as the data would be collected to prioritise Māori needs and aspirations. Furthermore, this would support Rangatiratanga as the data collected would be Māori data that Māori have control over and rights to, these include the collection, access, and analysis of Māori data. Overall, Māori governance and Māori Data Sovereignty should be used to guarantee Māori are represented in the dataset.

195 words