

Caring to care-- the health and well-being of early childhood education teachers

Professor Colin Gibbs



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Colin is a teacher, teacher educator, education consultant and professor of education and teacher education. He has taught early years, primary and intermediate, and as well he has specialised in teaching art.

Colin advocates for education with special character. He initiated the first degree-based teacher education programmes in Montessori and Steiner primary and early childhood education in Aotearoa-New Zealand.

Colin's interests focus on the personhood of teachers—on teaching from the wholeness of the authentic self. Inevitably, this includes the nature of relationships between teachers and students, teacher effectiveness, spirituality in teaching, holism in education, art education, and teachers' beliefs and motivation.

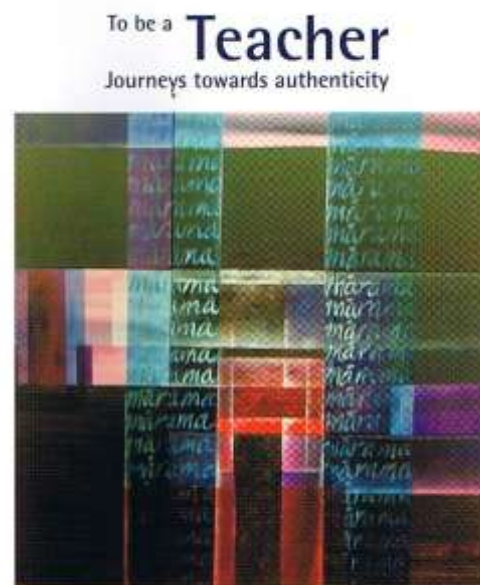
He has presented nationally and internationally and has authored over 100 publications. Recently his co-edited book *Conversations on Early Childhood Education: Voices from the Working Forum for Teacher Educators* was released in Dublin.

Reflecting his belief that effective teachers seek to create, Colin is also an artist based at the *GibbsLang Contemporary Art Gallery and Studio* in Matangi, Hamilton, and is artist-in-residence at the Whanganui Awa School in Ranana where he paints alongside children.

As teachers, our concern is for the whole student, including their spiritual wellbeing. But in caring for others, we need to first care for ourselves.... to care for ourselves, we must care for others, and to care for others, we must care for ourselves

Colin Gibbs (2006). *To be a teacher: Journeys towards authenticity*. Auckland, New Zealand: Pearson Education, p. 25

Copies of this book will be available at the seminar. \$59.99



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