Kakala Research Framework
Engaging Tongan youth

‘Aulola Lino
Background Information

• Increase of deaths to suicide in Tongan youth in 2011

• Those who died, predominantly were not accessing services and lived in South Auckland, NZ

• Capture voices and experiences of Tongan youth to explore their understanding of what communication meant to them and whether this was associated to Tongan youth suicide

• Methodological design – appropriate to the Tongan community and empowered and courageous talanoa about challenging issues
My companions in research

❖ Whakapiri - Engagement (Fakafeangai)

❖ Whakamana – Empowerment (Fakaivi’i or Fakamafai’i)

❖ Whakamarama – Enlightenment (Fakamaamangia or hulungia)
Methodology

• Qualitative

• Phenomenology

• Kakala Research Framework

• Talanoa Method
Kakala Research Framework

(Helu-Thaman, 1999; Taute’ulungaki and Johansson-Fua, 2005)
Kakala in action
How did Kakala enhance the research process?

- Value cultural knowledge & protocols
- Identify key connectors in their community
- Strengthened the va for equality
- Challenged conformed research ideas
- Transformational process for community and I
Conclusion

“If this is going to save one life – then the pain of opening up old wounds is worth it and what better way to honor the life of my loved one”

Malo ‘aupito
Tu’a ‘ofa atu