



## NZSG Code of Ethics

The New Zealand Society of Genealogists and its members/staff are conscious that collecting, collating and sharing information about people, living and deceased is an essential element of family history.

Responsible family historians and NZSG Staff respect the law and the feelings of others and will always:

- Seek by all reasonably available means to inform themselves about the legal principles in force from time to time governing the protection of copyright and of personal privacy;
- Observe the legal rights of copyright owners where known or identified, by copying or distributing any part of their works only with their permission, or to the extent allowed under the copyright law's *fair use* provisions:
- Be sensitive to the hurt that revelations of criminal, immoral, bizarre or irresponsible behaviour may bring to family members;
- Obtain specific consent from living people that they are agreeable to further sharing of information of themselves;
- Inform people who provide information about their families of the ways it may be used, carefully recording and observing any conditions they may impose about its use;
- Recognise that legal rights of privacy may limit the extent to which information from publicly available sources may be further used, disseminated or published; and
- Recognise the views of and expectations of the tangata whenua and at all times observe the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi and the bicultural foundations of Aotearoa New Zealand.

This statement is based on the "Code of Ethics of the Australian Federation of Family History Organisations Inc (AFFHO)" and adapted by the New Zealand Society of Genealogists.