Did somebody mention criminal justice psychology?! An intervention for thinking critically and constructively about the role of psychologists and psychology in the criminal justice and forensic arena.

Facilitators/Provocateurs: Tā Kim Workman & Armon Tamatea

There is a battle going on. Psychology in the criminal justice (i.e., corrections and forensic) field is facing a number of challenges with regard to human rights, ethical practices, the role of theory, the place of culture, a commitment to addressing oppression, and even the role of psychologists themselves. Furthermore, the context in which criminal justice psychology occurs is changing – but practices by and large have not. Using a mixture of presentations and conversation, this session aims to provoke new thinking in mainstream criminal justice psychology by exploring critical conceptual, cultural, practice, and ethical issues in this space – with a particular emphasis on Aotearoa. Topics for contemplation include:

- Unpacking the 'risks' of risk assessment... and why is this so risky?
- Questioning evidence-based practices... and who decides what counts as evidence?
- Navigating the tightrope between 'rehabilitation' and 'wellbeing'... and how do Māori perspectives inform these practices?
- Considering culturally safe practices in the light of relational accountability... and why does culture matter, anyway?
- Honouring the priorities of the community... and why should we care about what communities have to say?

Target audience: Practitioners, students, researchers, and Māori service providers who work in the criminal justice area. You have permission to be provocative.

A half-day workshop