

1 #Being a modern Kanak women

I have lived and grown up all my life outside of
my island home I have lived and grown up in a
pacific mixed culture

But when I return to my island home, I always
return to my roots I know my history, culture,
custom and family tree

I have become a woman now and I see myself as modern

Not because I am educated, employed or have material wealth
But because I do not always agree with what my
parents want of me I am independent, I don't need a
man, don't need to get married, and don't need to link
my clan to another

I am modern, I work and have a career and I am
very ambitious! Yes I contribute to my 'obligation
coutumier' I send money for engagements,
weddings and funerals

BUT HEY; enough is enough

I have my
responsibilities as a
mother, To bring food to
the table, to pay bills

I love my culture; my 'coutume' but I love my children even
more!

#3 "Should I cross the bridge"

On one side of the bridge

I see greener plains, cleaner roads and
happier smiles One the other side of the
bridge

I see rusted playgrounds, graffitied walls and idle bodies

Though they have
significant differences One
thing they share in common
Their criticism
towards each other
The hypocrisy and
irony

On one side of the bridge they say

Lazy useless good for nothing using up tax payers
money through welfare schemes

On the other side of the bridge they say

Colonial capitalist opportunist money faces racists

What happens when you
cross the bridge Do you
return and help the other
Or do you join the crowd and pursue more for
yourself . . . Whichever you decide
Look forward and onward from there
Prioritize your goals, change your spheres of
influence, create an enabling environment
Trust and Believe in yourself

Create your own future, you are the only solution to your
problem

Rose WETE est originaire d'Ouvéa de la tribu de Gossanah.

**Elle travail actuellement dans le secteur de la diplomatie et est
actuellement basé à SUVA aux iles Fidji.**
