

Table 6.02 "OHA Trustees Should Focus On . . ."

Focus	Hawaiian	Not Hawaiian
Education for Children	28.4%	20.4%
Land, Ceded Lands, Homestead land	22.9%	16.1%
Unity within OHA, Stop Fighting	7.9%	5.9%
Jobs, Training, Adult Education	6.9%	5.9%
Help Hawaiians, Eliminate Self-interest	5.8%	2.1%
Get Hawaiians into Homes	5.2%	5.9%
Bring Hawaiians Together	4.1%	6.2%
Health and Medical Issues	3.3%	0.4%
Get Hawaiians What they Deserve	2.8%	0.6%
Sovereignty	2.7%	3.1%
Preserve Language, Culture	1.3%	1.1%
Get Hawaiians off Welfare	0.9%	2.0%
Better Distribute Money	0.6%	2.5%
Public Education, OHA's Role	0.5%	1.0%

Source: Hawai'i State, Office of Hawaiian Affairs, 1999 OHA Public Opinion Survey. (Honolulu, 1999)

- “Respondents were not only adamant of how well OHA is doing but also what it should be doing for its beneficiaries. Among the population of Hawai'i many felt that Trustees should be focusing on education. Almost one-quarter of adults (24.4%) mentioned that OHA should address education in Hawaii, such as education for Hawaiian children, vocational education for adults and training for displaced workers. Many Hawaiian beneficiaries (15.7%) specifically mentioned education and schooling for Hawaiian children. Another important issue for Trustees to address were the problems with lands such as ceded lands, homesteads and homelands. Land issues were explicitly mentioned by 22.9 percent of Hawaiians and 16.1% of non-Hawaiians.

Unity was an important theme among respondents. For Hawaiians, unity meant focusing on “unity within OHA” and stopping the in-fighting (7.9% of Hawaiians). On the other hand, non-Hawaiians saw OHA was needed to provide unity among Hawaiians and to bring Hawaiians together (6.2% of non-Hawaiians).” — 1999 OHA Public Opinion Survey

- Only 1.3% of the Native Hawaiian respondents thought that the OHA Board of Trustees should focus on preserving Native Hawaiian language and culture.