Olivia and Karen

**Visual**

**The video begins. In the middle of the screen is the word ‘Listen’ with each letter in a different colour. Underneath that is a line, and under the line is written ‘Karen and Olivia’s story, A positive experience of culturally responsive maternity care’. The screen changes to show two women sitting on a couch. The woman on the left is holding a baby. The woman has dark hair in a bun on the top of her head, and is wearing a dark blue jacket over a lighter top. The baby has dark hair and is wearing a blue top. The woman of the right is wearing an orange roll neck sweater, and has shoulder length dark blond hair. Behind them is a window with white floral curtains. In the bottom left of the screen the words ‘Karen and Olivia Nilsson-Udarbe’ appear. The woman on the right, Olivia, is speaking. The view changes to a side view of Karen in the foreground smiling down at the baby and Olivia next to her.**

Audio

[Olivia] So, our decision to start a family started at the end of 2017, when Karen and I put our hands up to care for a baby in need and unfortunately

that fell through at the last minute but it did make us realise that we really wanted a family of our own.

**Visual**

**The screen changes to show Karen and Olivia standing in their living room, with Olivia holding the baby. It changes to a close-up of their son, who has a dummy in his mouth, in Olivia’s arms, then back to the three of them on the couch. It changes to the side view then back to the front. The screen changes to show Olivia holding the baby who is looking over her shoulder at the camera, then to Olivia holding the baby (Raph) with Karen standing next to her, smiling and resting a hand on Raph’s back. In the background on the wall is a brightly coloured painting**.

Audio

[Olivia] So from there we put our names down on a waitlist for a donor with a fertility clinic. Luckily, for us in September last year they called us up saying that we're at the top of the list. So we went ahead and look at some donors and there was a Filipino donor which was really great because obviously it meant that we could have a child that represented kind of both of us, given that I was the one carrying and yeah, a few months later we've got Raph.

**Visual**

**The screen changes to show a black and white French bulldog sitting on Karen’s lap. The screen goes back to the three of them on the couch and this time Karen is speaking. It goes to a side view then back to the front. It changes to a close-up of Raph being held by Karen looking over her shoulder at the camera, then to a side view of Karen smiling down at Raph while patting his back, then of Karen kissing the top of his head.**

Audio

[Karen] Even before Raph was born I started joining different rainbow family groups on social media and all these places wherever I can get my hands on just because in general New Zealand isn't really set up for

that just yet. Through there I actually found Arlene so who is our midwife, amazing midwife.

**Visual**

**The screen changes back to the three of them on the couch. It then changes to a floor-level view of Raph lying on his back on a white blanket on the floor with Olivia putting socks on him, then shows Raph from above, the Olivia finishing putting a nappy on him. Then back to them on the couch**.

Audio

[Karen] She advertised herself as a rainbow community-only midwife, so I'm like sign us up. [Olivia] So we booked quite early with Arlene knowing that she was the only midwife who specifically cares for the rainbow community and that was important to us, and we wanted to get in before she got busy.

**Visual**

**The screen changes to show Olivia holding and smiling down at Raph, with Karen smiling at them, then a close-up of Raph’s hand on Olivia’s shoulder, then back to them on the couch. There is a side view then back to the front.**

Audio

[Olivia] When we first met her she brought along some materials that she created herself. So kind of the standard things that you'd expect and what we've got from our GP except the difference was that these were all very inclusive I guess from a gender perspective and no assumptions were made. To us it really showed us how much she cared about what she did.

**Visual**

**The screen changes to show them standing in the kitchen, with Karen holding the dog and Olivia holding the baby, introducing them to each other. It changes to show Raph in Olivia’s arms sucking on a dummy, then to a close-up of Karen holding the dog, then of Karen lifting Raph up and down into the air. She is standing in front of a window with red curtains. It goes back to the three of them on the couch. It then shows Karen throwing back her head with laughter while holding a sleeping Raph, then back to them on the couch.**

Audio

[Olivia] From our perspective the biggest thing that we were looking for with the midwife or an LMC was that they would ensure that Karen was included in this journey just as much as I was. So even though I was the one carrying, it was our pregnancy and not just mine. You know small things like Karen came along to every appointment that we had and you know when we'd be setting it up and Arlene would ask first of all was I free but then was Karen as well.

**Visual**

**There is a close-up of Raph on Karen’s shoulder, then of Olivia sitting in front of a wall covered in cards looking towards Karen who has her back to the camera, then back to them on the couch. There is a side view then front view, then same again.**

Audio

[Olivia] The birth experience wasn't actually what we expected, it did last a while so it was having contractions for a few days, wasn't dilating. Finally went up to the assessment unit to get induced, to get the ball rolling. Things were going well and until they kind of weren't, and at that point we actually called Arlene. It was probably earlier than she would normally come in but she came in and I'm so glad she did because once she did things just took a turn for the better.

**Visual**

**The screen changes from them on the couch to a view behind Olivia of Raph looking over her shoulder, then looking down over Olivia’s shoulder to Raph in her arms, and then back to them on the couch. There is a side view then front on.**

Audio

[Karen] One of my mates at work who did have a few children of his own gave me some advice. And the advice was you're gonna be the support person sure but be prepared to feel very helpless, be prepared to feel like you've got you know, you're there sure but you're also watching someone you love go through such pain and there's nothing you can do about it, just be there because we have such a good relationship with our midwife, with Arlene. She knows me as well, she knows I'm organised, she knows I'm concise, she knows I'm pretty articulate with what we need.  And to the point where I texted her, I said I'm out of options, I don't know what else to do. Then she's up, she’s out of her jammies, she's come to hospital and honestly it's like the heavens opened up, it was so good having her there.

**Visual**

**It goes back to show them on the couch, with Karen wiping her eyes. A close-up of Raph on Karen’s chest, then of her rubbing his back, then from over her shoulder down at him being held and comforted, then a close-up of his face, then back to them on the couch.**

Audio

[Olivia] I think for any midwife it's important to actually get to know the family that you that you'll be supporting and bring into the world. What's important to them and actually just to know them on a personal level.  When you're trusting someone with bringing someone into this world, someone is you know that you've waited for so long for and you just can't wait to meet.

**Visual**

**It changes to a close-up of Raph in Olivia’s arms, then of Olivia standing and holding Raph, a close-up again of him in Olivia’s arms while Karen stroked his cheek with her fingers, then to show Karen holding the dog next to Olivia holding Raph, then of Olivia standing and holding Raph while swaying and patting his bottom. It then goes back to them on the couch. There is a side view, then a front view.**

Audio

[Olivia] In order for that to go well whether it goes smoothly or not there needs to be a level of trust both for you with them but also them with you as well. So like with us you know when we say things aren't going well, she trusted that they weren't going well and she was there when we needed her. And vice versa, when we got there we trusted that once she was there things would get better and they did. [Karen] Couldn't really ask for a better midwife because everyone's different, right.

**Visual**

**There is a slideshow of still photos – the first shows Olivia holding Raph and Karen holding the dog next to them. Both the women are smiling. The slide changes to Karen and Olivia sitting on the couch, Karen holding Raph and both of them smiling down at him. There is a close-up of Raph on his blanket on the floor with his hands up beside his head, and then the credits roll.**