

When the Treaty of Waitangi was signed in 1840, Māori made up 95% of the population. By 1900 they made up only 5%. This rapid change saw many white settlers believe that Māori were **inferior**. Some implemented policies of segregation as a result.

The community of Pukekohe in Auckland actively segregated Māori from the 1920's until the 1960's, hoping to discourage settlement. The movie theatre made Māori sit in a section away from white residents, the hairdresser's had one **chair** reserved for Māori (so other people would not catch 'Māori illness'), the public toilets and phones were not available for use by Māori and pubs did not allow Māori women to enter - they were made to sit in the field outside. Māori were also segregated from the rest of the community in other ways. Māori could only swim in the public pools one day a week (the day before the water was drained as some whites felt they made the pool dirty). Māori children were forced to attend a Māori only school and Māori families were denied **housing**, with many sleeping in farm sheds leading to increases in disease and bad health outcomes.

This was not the vision of those that had signed the treaty. Much progress has been made since the 1970's to bring about the equality that Article 3 of the treaty guarantees to all New Zealanders.



### Questions (look in the text for highlight clues!)

- 1) What was the reason for having a Māori only **chair** at the hairdressers?
- 2) Which part of the treaty deals with equality?
- 3) What was the percentage of Māori people in New Zealand in 1900?
- 4) How were theatres segregated?
  - a) Māori not allowed entry.
  - b) Māori made to sit away from others.
  - c) Māori not able to buy food.
- 5) What were the three consequences for Māori of being denied **housing**?
- 6) What was the goal of many in the Pukekohe community?
- 7) Can you explain how the segregation in Pukekohe was allowed to happen when it went against the Treaty of Waitangi?

Te Tiriti o Waitangi | The Treaty of Waitangi  
Produced by Paul Tucker@Orewa College (2022)

### New Words (look in the text for highlight clues!)

What do you think the word **inferior** means in the story? Does it mean:

- a) Māori were better than whites.
- b) Māori were weaker than whites.
- c) Māori were the same as whites.

### Describing Action Words (Adverbs)

For each sentence find the describing word for an action.

- 1) They drained the pool quickly.
- 2) Shop owners aggressively refused to serve Māori people.
- 3) Many Māori slept rough in sheds.

