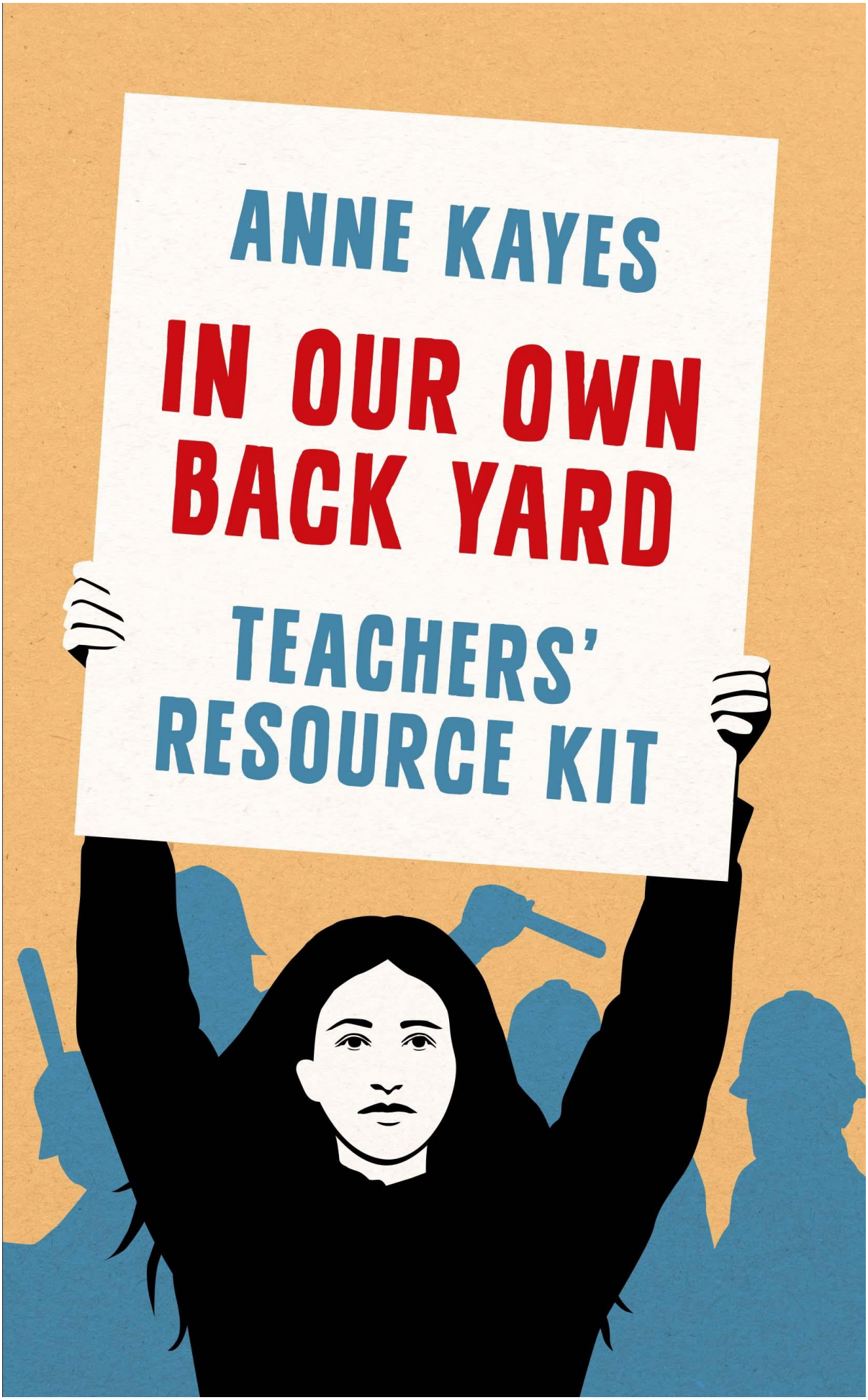
BATEMAN BOOKS



Teachers' Resource Kit for *In Our Own Back Yard*

This novel can be taught in the following subject areas:

- English
- History (could be part of an integrated English/History module). NCEA history standards that are relevant are Level 1 AS91001,91002, 91003, 91004, 91005, 91006 and Level 2 AS91229, 91230, 91231, 91232, 91233, 91234.
- Social Studies - apartheid in South Africa, systemic racism, social change, protest movements, technology and change
- Health - healthy relationships, family violence, sexual agency vs coercion

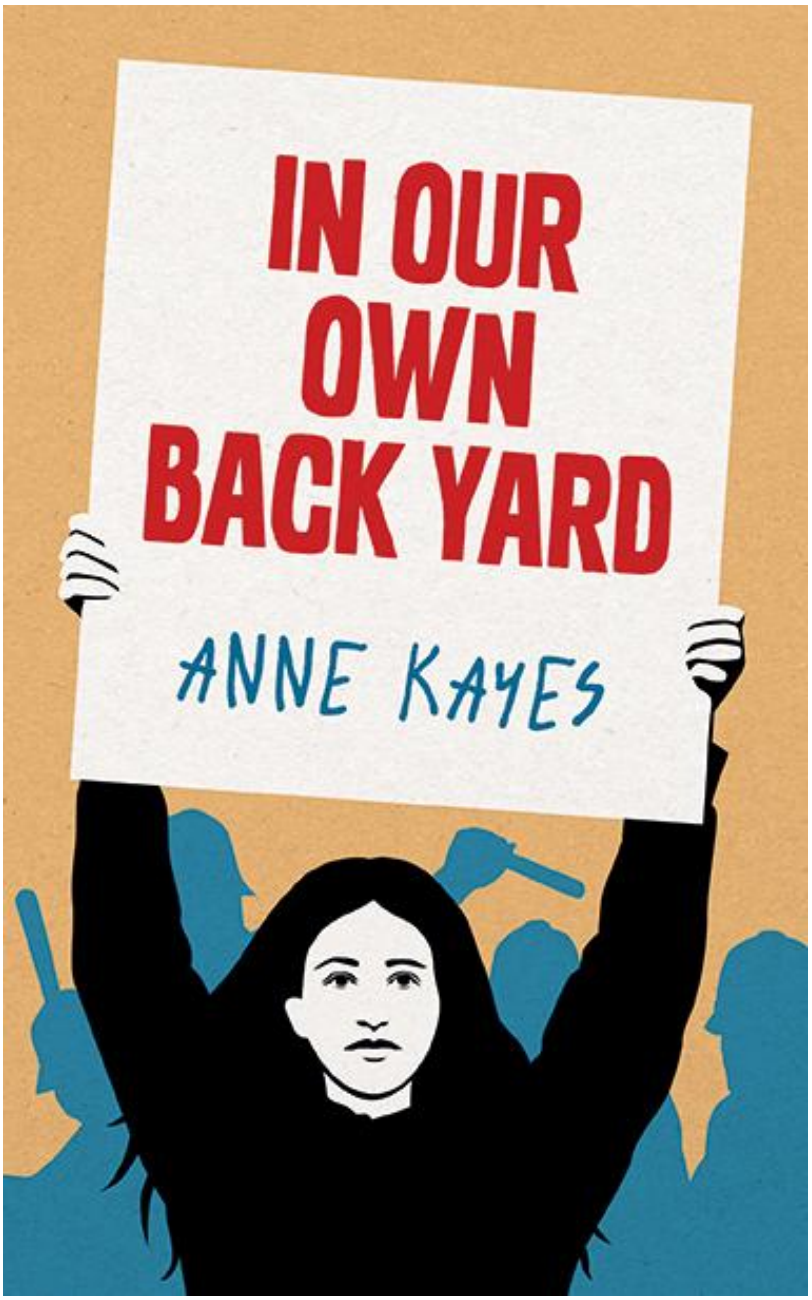
Something to bear in mind when teaching *In Our Own Back Yard* is that it includes family violence and racist events, which may be distressing for some students.

This collection of teaching ideas includes:

1) Before Reading activities on the cover and setting
2) Language: 1980s slang language research activity and figurative language activity
3) Close Reading Questions with 'explore more' activities (identified by this magnifying glass symbol 🔍).
4) Themes
5) Character
6) Style
7) Writing
8) Research
9) Visual Literacy

BATEMAN BOOKS

What do we learn from the cover?



Before you start reading, think about the book cover

What do you think is happening in this image on the cover page?

Do you think it's set now or in the past? Why?

The title is *In Our Own Back Yard.* Where do you think it is set?

Using your answers above, what do you think the novel might be about?

SETTING

Before you start reading, get familiar with the setting

(Teachers could make this a research activity, where students make a digital presentation, showing the following things. Alternatively, teachers could simply use the links below to show students.)

1981

1) In Chapter 1, 'The Social', one group of young men are described as 'Skinheads'. These were '…a subculture which originated among working class youths in London, England, in the 1960s and soon spread to other parts of the United Kingdom, with a second working class skinhead movement emerging worldwide in the late 1970s. The movement reached a peak during the 1960s, experienced a revival in the 1980s, and, since then, has endured in multiple contexts worldwide.' (*Skinhead*. (n.d.). Retrieved from https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Skinhead.)
Have a look at this link about Christchurch skinheads:
https://teara.govt.nz/en/photograph/28244/white-power-gangs

2) Also in chapter 1, Liza mentions the *Goodnight Kiwi* theme tune. This was played on TV when all programmes finished, usually around midnight. Here's the video clip that New Zealanders saw every night:
https://teara.govt.nz/en/video/10197/goodnight-kiwi

3) Instead of whiteboards and markers, teachers used chalk and wrote on a blackboard.

4) In Chapter 6, 'The Phone Call', Harry phones Liza for the first time. Hearing the phone ring, Liza says, "I pounced on it, pulling the phone cord as far as I could up the cold hallway, so that Jo couldn't hear me from her bedroom, which was next door to mine." Houses generally had one phone, which was a landline attached to the wall by a cord. Big, chunky cordless phones began to come onto the market in the early 80s. Some images of the old and less old corded phones and some of the first cordless phones can be seen on this link:
https://www.google.com/search?q=1980%27s+phones&sxsrf=ALeKk03WzmHsDIw2-7PE9ZMaV9GvTtfRMg:1614203420578&source=lnms&tbm=isch&sa=X&ved=2ahUKEwi65OmrwIPvAhXZ7HMBHWo1BQ4Q_AUoAXoECBsQAw&biw=1366&bih=657

5) Also in Chapter 6, Liza plays a Fleetwood Mac cassette in her tape recorder. Have a look at these links to see what a cassette and tape recorder looked like:
https://www.google.com/search?q=cassette+image&oq=cassette+image&aqs=chrome..69i57j0j0i22i30l4j0i10i22i30l2j0i22i30l2.7545j0j7&sourceid=chrome&ie=UTF-8

https://www.google.com/search?sxsrf=ALeKk03SFyAabI49HaBr2d8WYkQ7JPIebg:1618976595195&source=univ&tbm=isch&q=cassette+recorder+image&sa=X&ved=2ahUKEwjRkOzmtY7wAhXs4zgGHW0sAGoQjJkEegQIAxAB&biw=1366&bih=657

6) In Chapter 9, ‘Johnny’s Ice-Cream Parlour’, Liza mentions her parents might be putting milk bottles out by the letterbox/gate. This was a nightly task. The Goodnight Kiwi in the video clip above puts out his milk bottle. Money was originally left in the bottles for the milk delivery person, but this changed to tokens, as there were a few cases of money stolen. The bottles were re-used, so empty bottles were taken, and full ones were left at the gate. Here are some images of the bottles: https://www.google.com/search?sxsrf=ALeKk03JCxHT1mWm-nJ8IrVSTLyEKvXCsQ:1614204510069&source=univ&tbm=isch&q=NZ+1980+milk+bottle&sa=X&ved=2ahUKEwiDkquzxIPvAhX7IbcAHawGC2wQjJkEegQIAhAB&biw=1366&bih=657

7) In Chapter 10, “Early Morning Visits’, Liza describes the different types of shoes teenagers wore to school. Here’s an image of these: https://www.pinterest.nz/pin/364791638556768692/

8) In Chapter 12, at the first mobilisation, Harry calls the police ‘pigs’. This was a commonly used term to insult police officers.

9) There were no mobile phones in 1981. In Chapter 23, ‘Day of Shame, Gisborne’, Liza’s dad phones the family from a phone box. Coins were placed in the slots and the phone would beep when time was running out, so people had to quickly insert more coins. Here are some images of early 80’s phone boxes: https://www.google.com/search?q=1980+phone+box+NZ&sxsrf=ALeKk02LY2WPO3fSeZ2rCgP1rxP7CFAPow:1614203627072&tbm=isch&source=iu&ictx=1&fir=Qz4pXSHbBUJP-M%252CMU5dzIeNbbiHtM%252C_&vet=1&usg=AI4_-kTBpe9zxrHnVUwLPuXQm19gRakw_w&sa=X&ved=2ahUKEwj2o6WOwYPvAhUo8HMBHfOuAg4Q9QF6BAgMEAE#imgrc=Qz4pXSHbBUJP-M

10) Also, in Chapter 23, Ciara explains that real spaghetti isn’t the stuff we get in a can. For many New Zealanders, pasta was just ‘elbows’ in macaroni cheese or canned spaghetti, and many had never heard of olive oil. International cuisine is much more available and more widely cooked now.

11) In Chapter 25, Ursula says she can’t wear her Phys Ed uniform rompers. Here’s a pair of rompers: https://collections.tepapa.govt.nz/object/1113623

12) In Chapter 26, ‘Ciara’s Party’, before the party starts, Ciara uses a camera with a film in it. There were no digital cameras then. When a film was finished (usually 24 photos), it had to be removed and taken to a shop where the photos were developed. There were camera shops and other shops, such as pharmacies, that offered this service. Here are some images of cameras in the early 80’s: https://www.google.com/search?q=1980+camera&oq=1980+camera&aqs=chrome..69i57j0l5j0i22i30l4.5910j0j7&sourceid=chrome&ie=UTF-8

Here is an image of the film used:
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Film_format#/media/File:Kodak-Max-400-35mm-Film.jpg

Political Background of Apartheid South Africa

Great resources for this are:

1) *Hindsight – Pivotal Moments in New Zealand's History* by Mandy Hager, published by One Tree House
2) Merata Mita's documentary, *Patu.*
3) The following website, which has a range of resources, including images of protest posters, T-shirts, badges, and much more. https://natlib.govt.nz/schools/topics/57fd9962fb002c638c0066d7/springbok-tour-1981

Students could research the following questions in groups:

- What was apartheid? Who were the Springboks?
- Who were these people: Nelson Mandela, Steve Biko, Desmond Tutu?
- Why were New Zealanders protesting the Springboks' visit?

Other 'setting' facts mentioned in the novel that could be discussed:

- It was illegal for men to be in same-sex relationships. When was this law changed?
- There was very little counselling in schools – Why do you think counselling was made available in schools?
- Smoking was a lot more common in the 80s. Smoking inside restaurants, pubs and public buildings was legal and employees could smoke in staffrooms. Since that time, an ambitious government programme has resulted in a significant reduction in adult smoking rates from 33% in 1983 to 14.9% in 2018 (from https://www.smokefree.org.nz/smoking-its-effects/facts-figures). Why do you think the number of smokers has reduced? Should more rules be made about smoking?

2020

Have a quick look at this list of major global events in 2020. Just read the headings. https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/world/rest-of-world/major-news-and-events-from-across-the-world-in-2020/articleshow/79965084.cms

Which ones do you remember? Are there some you think are more important than others? Why?

Do you think life in Aotearoa NZ is better now than in the 1980's? Why? Which groups of people might have been worse off then? Are any groups worse off now?

LANGUAGE

Search online for the meanings of the following 1980s slang words/phrases. Which are still used? Which have a different meaning now? Find contemporary versions of them.

1980s slang

- Giving someone **the fingers** (Second Lockdown Chapter, pg 83), Liza explains how she used to say this when she was younger.

- Being **up yourself** (Chapter 18, pg 120), Harry says to Liza that Ursula's big brothers are "just up themselves".

- **Cruisy** (Chapter 1, pg 15), Liza describes Ms Jefferson as "pretty cruisy".

- **Choice** (Chapter 9, pg 60), Harry uses the word 'choice' and in Chapter 26, pg 203, Rewi says, "Choice!" when he realises he doesn't have to give one of his bottles of beer to Stella.

- **Greaser** (Chapter 5, pg 31), Liza says she didn't put her hand right up in class because she didn't want to look like a "greaser".

- **Going out with someone / going round with someone** (Chapter 12, pg 71), Liza explains that she's not sure whether she and Harry are "going round" with each other.

- **Bad buzz** (Chapter 12, pg 78), Rewi says this about the police being called to check on Harry's father's violent behaviour.

- **Spoon** (Chapter 7, pg 292), Liza says to Rewi, "You're a spoon!"

- **Egg** (Chapter 26, pg 203), Liza says to Rewi, "You're an egg!"

- **Spunky** (Chapter 8, pg 54), Kalāsia asks Liza if Harry is "spunky".

- **Beat da feet** (Chapter 10, pg 65), Rewi says they'd "better beat da feet" if they want to get to school on time.

- **Razz** (Chapter 16, pg 105), Rewi says, "Man, you are so easy to razz, Mum!"

- **Gate-crashers** (Chapter 17, pg 112), Kev and Reece call the uninvited party-goers this.

- **Dude** (Chapter 17, pg 112), Rewi yells at Ursula's brothers that if the "gate-crashers" had been "white dudes", they wouldn't have noticed them.

- **Boogie** (1970s word Liza's mum uses)

- **Groovers** (1970s word Liza's mum uses)

- **Far out** (Chapter 21, pg 155). Rewi exclaims this when Kalāsia chases him and whacks his legs with her umbrella.

- **Get my drift** (Chapter 26, pg 206). Ursula tells Liza she's a good friend and that not all people look after friends. She says, "…if you get my drift."

😊 **Try this: See if you can use every slang word in a story of up to eight sentences. Share them with the class if you're happy to.**

Figurative Language:

1) Pg 97, Liza and Harry are kissing. 'Our breaths merged, scattering across our cheeks like sparks, fluttering through our eyelashes.' Simile? Metaphor? Both? Explain your answer.

2) Pg 115, Liza describes the experience of listening to the Tongan choir: 'It was like biting into a chocolate éclair: the taste was so good, but it would end soon, and I wanted to hold onto the sensation for as long as possible.' Which language technique is being used here? Re-write it using your favourite music and food.

3) Pg 121, Liza explains, 'Harry was like a warm flame sometimes, but he could also burn so fiercely that I wanted to step away from the heat.' How does this simile show us Liza's difficulty with Harry?

4) Pg 268, Liza is hit with a baton in the stomach. She says, "The pain bit through me." What language feature is this? Is it effective? Why? How else could you describe pain?

CLOSE READING

In pairs, take turns asking and answering the questions below as you read each chapter. Do the 'Explore more' exercises and look at the links.

Lockdown

1) How has the lockdown affected Liza and Ross's work?
2) New Zealand is under Alert Level Four Lockdown. What are people allowed/not allowed to do under this level 4?
3) Eva asks her mother if she'd ever experienced anything that affected the whole country like this. What is Liza's answer?
4) Rewi is mentioned. What do we learn about him?
5) What does Liza begin to do at the end of the chapter?

Chapter 1, The Social

1) What do we learn about Liza and Harry through their conversation at the social?
2) Why is Liza uncomfortable around Harry?
3) Who is the fight outside between?
4) Why does Liza get involved?
5) How does the fight end?

🔍 Liza mentions Harry's Mick Jagger lips. Search the internet for a picture of Mick Jagger smirking. Show the class.

🔍 Here's a song by Jefferson Starship, (where Ms Jefferson's nickname comes from), and a few images on the video clip of them too:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AOMuK7YYxeg

🔍 Here's the song that was playing inside during the fight:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p72Z1D1oKbw

Chapter 2, A Drink with a Neighbour

1) What does Liza get into an argument with Pete about?
2) What does Liza like about going to church?
3) What does Father Luke, the priest, liken the Springbok Tour to?
4) On page 23, Liza says, 'No one talked for the rest of the short drive home. For once, mass had given us something to think about.' What were they thinking about?

🔍 Try searching for images of 'Statue of Mother Mary' or 'Statue of Our Lady' to see an example of the statue Liza loves.

Chapter 3, Kalāsia

1) How is 'K' pronounced in Tongan?
2) Why do you think Sister Agnes asked Kalāsia to write her surname on the board?

Chapter 4, Spacies

1) Why does Liza take Kalāsia to the statue of Our Lady every break time?
2) How is St Theresa's different from Kalāsia's old school?
3) Why do the police wait on Rewi's street and ask him questions?
4) How do we know Rewi isn't sure of Ursula?

🔍 Have a look at this link to see how Space Invaders was played:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MU4psw3ccUI

Chapter 5, Taming

1) Liza's class is beginning to read a play by William Shakespeare, called *The Taming of the Shrew.* What does 'shrew' mean?
2) A big wedding is happening in England in 1981. Who is getting married?
3) Kalāsia and Liza talk about how women are 'tamed' or made to behave. What are the examples they discuss?
4) What are the words they find carved into the desk?

Lockdown

1) In this second Lockdown chapter, what is Liza reading to her family?
2) Why does Liza ring her dad?
3) Who does she decide she needs to write about now?

🔍 Here's the Newmatics' 'Riot Squad' song from 1981 that Liza and Ross dance to:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7dDM8X_wfec
This music genre is called 'ska' and was huge in the late 70s and early 80s. Find a definition for ska music.
Notice how they show and describe the riot police as 'blue shadows'. How is this similar to the cover of *In Our Own Back Yard?*

Chapter 6, The Phonecall

1) What do we find out about Harry's parents?
2) Where and when do Harry and Liza decide to meet?
3) Liza can't concentrate on her *Taming of the Shrew* homework questions. Why?

🔍 Search on the internet for Fleetwood Mac's 'Rumours' album cover. Also, search for some images of Stevie Nicks, one of the two female singers in the band.

Chapter 7, Peterson Ave

1) Rewi's dad, Tipene, has painted the Māori flag onto the letterbox. What does the flag mean/symbolise? Find an image of the flag on the internet.
2) Tipene tells them they only have to tell the police four things about themselves. What are these four things?
3) What does the acronym, 'HART', stand for?
4) How do we know Rewi's mum, Mere's photos are a secret?
5) Who is John Minto? Find a photo of him online.

6) What does the acronym, ‘MOST’, stand for?
7) What is a coalition?
8) There will be a mobilisation on May 1st, 1981. What is a mobilisation?

🔍 Search on the internet for an image of 1981 Nomads, the shoes Rewi is wearing.

Chapter 8, Becoming Silent

1) Liza’s class is studying *The Taming of the Shrew*. In the play, Kate is forced to marry Petruchio. Why does Kalāsia think Petruchio wants to marry the wild, ‘shrewish’ Kate?
2) Rewi has drawn Bob Marley’s face on his bag. Search for an image of Bob Marley on the internet. What type of music did he sing?
3) What does Kalāsia explain about Tongan culture and dating?
4) At the end of this chapter, Liza is relieved that the uncomfortable feeling between her and Rewi has gone. Why was there an uncomfortable feeling?

🔍 Ms Jefferson has a black peace sign on her green T-shirt. What does the ‘peace symbol’ look like? Find an image on the internet.

Chapter 9, Johnny’s Ice-Cream Parlour

1) What things does Harry say that show he likes Liza?
2) What do we find out about Sister Agnes in this chapter?
3) When will Harry and Liza see each other again?

🔍 Which songs are played on the jukebox in Johnny’s Ice-Cream Parlour? Listen to each one and explain why you like one or more or none of them.

Chapter 10, Early Morning Visits

1) Why does Kalāsia come earlier than usual to Liza’s house?
2) What were the Dawn Raids? Search the internet to find out.
3) Now, we would say Kalāsia’s recurring bad dream is a sign that she is suffering from post-traumatic stress. What is this?
4) Kalāsia is talking with Pete, Liza’s brother, in the kitchen. Why is Liza surprised and pleased to see she is relaxed chatting with him?
5) The ‘Hail Mary’ is a Catholic prayer. At the end of this chapter, Liza says about Ursula, ‘… I longed to be that daring’. What does Ursula do that Liza can’t help but admire?

Chapter 11, Banana Skins

1) What is a ‘flyer’?
2) What is a trade union?
3) Why is this chapter called, ‘Banana Skins’?
4) What does the woman speaking into the microphone say that reminds Liza of Father Luke?
5) Watch earlier scenes in ‘Patu’ to see the Bantu shack Auckland university students erected in the quad: https://www.nzonscreen.com/title/patu-1983
6) Why did many African countries pull out of the 1976 Olympics?

Chapter 12, Mobilise May 1st

1) Search online for '1981 anti-tour posters' and see if you can find the poster Liza describes as they walk down Queen Street. Do you think it is an effective poster? The poster can also be found on https://the1981springboktour.weebly.com/
2) Who was Robert Muldoon? Have a look at this video clip to see what he was like in an interview. https://teara.govt.nz/en/video/1479/robert-muldoon
3) What does the acronym CARE stand for?
4) Harry and Rewi have their first conversation in this chapter. Why is this conversation uncomfortable? Give examples.
5) The next day, Liza's dad talks about how much harder it is for people in small towns to protest against the tour. Why is it harder?
6) What does 'Amandla ngawethu' mean?

🔍 Liza describes the top she's wearing. Search online for an image of a '1980s off the shoulder top'. Also, search for an image of a Stevie Wonder 'Master Blaster' T-shirt. Have a listen to a song from the album.

Lockdown

1) This is the third lockdown chapter in the book. Jesse asks his parents if his friend, Adam, can come to live with them. Why?
2) Why is Ross not sure that Adam should move in?
3) At the end of the chapter, Adam's situation reminds Liza of Harry's situation in the past. What is the connection between the two boys and their fathers?

Chapter 13, Madness

1) Search online for an image of a 'ghetto blaster'. People walked around with these on their shoulders, blasting music. What were they?Why is Ursula told off by Sister Agnes?
2) Ursula and Liza use slang words and phrases to describe someone who is mad. What are these?
3) The Madness concert is one reason this chapter is titled, 'Madness'. The other reason is that in the play, *The Taming of the Shrew,* Petruchio acts as if he's mad. He treats Kate badly. Why do Liza's classmates think he does this?
4) Ms Jefferson writes words to describe an unmarried woman on the board. Do you think unmarried women are made to feel ashamed of this nowadays?

🔍 Search online for the song 'My Girl' by Madness and have a listen to it. Do you like the song? Why/Why not?

Chapter 14, The Mountain

1) What do we learn about Harry's attitude to school here? Give examples.
2) When Liza and Harry are kissing, a passing motorbike makes them pull away. Liza thinks maybe this was a good thing. She says, 'I hadn't wanted to stop but I didn't know where I was going.' Do you think most teenagers today are well educated about sex and relationships or do you think they need more education? Explain your answer.

Chapter 15, Christian Living

1) Sister Agnes tries to discuss the importance of charity work, but there are two issues the students are more interested in. What are they?
2) What did New Zealand agree to do when it signed the Gleneagles Agreement?
3) What is Lucy, one of the girls in Liza's class, worried about?
4) What does Liza realise as she watches Kalāsia write?

Chapter 16, Snapshots in the Laundry

1) What is a snapshot?
2) The police are using a new way of interacting with Rewi now. What is it?
3) How does Mere protect her photos from the police?
4) Watch earlier scenes in 'Patu' to see the Auckland Metropolitan School enacting the Soweto student protests: https://www.nzonscreen.com/title/patu-1983
5) Why is Liza frustrated with her school and church?

Chapter 17, Wolf's Teeth

1) Describe Ursula's brother, Reece's tattoo. Why do you think he chose this tattoo? (Think about what wolves represent in fairy tales.)
2) When Reece is yelling at Rewi, what does the tattooed wolf seem to be doing?
3) Again, we see Harry behaving in an uncomfortable way because Rewi is present. Give examples of Harry's behaviour that show us he is not very happy about Liza's friendship with Rewi.
4) Liza tells us that 'People don't always have to be like their families.' Do you think it's possible for a person to have very different ideas and live differently from the rest of their family? Explain.

🔍 Listen to 'London Calling' – The Clash, 'Too Much Too Young' – The Specials, 'She's So Cold' – The Rolling Stones, 'Roxanne' – The Police, 'Black Dog' – Led Zeppelin. Which do you like best? Why?

Chapter 18, Tongan Choir

1) Liza compares listening to the Tongan choir to eating a chocolate éclair. Have a listen to this hymn: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=G0TXUhyk9hY
2) What has happened to one of the men in the Tongan choir?
3) What does Father Luke say that makes Liza feel worse about last night? Quote this.
4) Search for images of ta'ovala, the fine mats being worn by choir members. Bring one from home to show the class, if you have one.
5) Later, after mass, Liza and her mum go to Rewi's house. Rewi says, 'I feel like a dick. Feel stupid.' Why do you think Rewi feels this way? Do you think racism makes people feel shame and embarrassment?
6) Later, Liza talks with Harry on the phone. Harry thinks Ursula's brothers just think they're better than everyone else. He says, 'Rewi shouldn't let it get to him.' Do you think this is the best way to handle racism or sexism?
7) Harry shows he doesn't like the way Liza went to see Rewi that day. Find a quotation to show this. Find another quotation to show how Liza feels about Harry's jealousy.

Chapter 19, The July Mobilisation

1) Over breakfast, Pete and Dad talk about three men who opposed apartheid in South Africa. Explain what happened to these men.
2) Which NZ boys' school voted to pull out of school rugby if the tour went ahead?
3) Which rugby players do Dad and Pete mention, who refused to play rugby with South Africa?
4) Search online for images of the TV programme, 'The Dukes of Hazzard'. Compare how women are shown in these images to how they are depicted now. Have things changed for women in the media?
5) Why doesn't Pete go to this second mobilisation?
6) Rebecca Evans is one of the speakers at the mobilisation. Later, she changed her name to 'Ripeka'. Why do you think she did this?
7) Rebecca Evans says that 'we can't argue for apartheid to come to an end in South Africa while ignoring the oppression of Māori in New Zealand.' How do her words link to what happened at Ursula's party?
8) What does 'non-violent direct action' mean?
9) On the march, a group of university students is chanting in te reo. What does it mean and what is the history of this chant?
10) Listen to Herbs' song, 'Azania' online.
11) Why does Liza hope that a child in Soweto might hear Herbs faintly in the wind?

Lockdown

1) This is the fourth Lockdown chapter. New Zealand is at Alert Level 3. What are people allowed to do now?
2) How did Hamilton protest at the July mobilisation in 1981?
3) Why are the people in Liza's street upset about the new neighbours?
4) Adam and Liza discuss anger. What has Adam's experience of anger been? What does Liza say in response?

Chapter 20, Dinner at Harry's

1) Where is Dad working that night? Why will protesters be there?
2) How does Raewyn react to the sound of a key in the door?
3) Liza says that Mike had brought a different mood into the house. What is the mood in the house now?
4) Search online for posters of the bands and singers that Sophie discusses. The bands/singers are: Cold Chisel, Bruce Springsteen, The Clash, Duran Duran and Debbie Harry's 'Atomic' album. Which poster is the most interesting and effective? Why?
5) Search for images of the two games they play: 'knucklebones' and 'Hungry Hippos'. Have you ever played these games?
6) Why does Liza decide not to tell her mum about Mike's behaviour over dinner?

Chapter 21, Passports and Visas

1) Find an example of personification in the first paragraph of this chapter. How does it help us to imagine the sort of rain that is falling?
2) What experience has Kalāsia's dad had at work? What do you think of this?
3) Liza doesn't want to say to Ursula that her brothers' behaviour was racist. Do you think she should or shouldn't? Why?
4) Liza asks Ursula, 'Do you think the same as your brothers.' What do you think of Ursula's answer?

5) After Stephanie Lulich talks to Liza about Harry, Liza thinks about how Harry had said, 'I want you all to myself.' She wonders whether that's possessive or romantic. What do you think? Why?
6) Liza compares Petruchio's treatment of Kate to the torture of political prisoners in South Africa. Do you think they are similar to each other? Explain your answer.
7) Ms Jefferson asks, 'How are we tamed, girls, how are we tamed?' Can you think of things we are 'tamed' not to do?
8) Search 'Bob Jones fingers' on the internet to see the picture of him 'giving the fingers' to the protesters.
9) What date are Rewi and his mum, Mere, going to the airport to see the Springboks fly into Auckland?

Chapter 22, Disruption

1) Why is Harry annoyed with Liza? Do you think this is fair?
2) What is Pete's view of the royal wedding? What is Jo's view?
3) Liza says, 'My fingers loosened around the receiver.' Why did they loosen?
4) Have a look at some moments from the movie *For Your Eyes Only* and listen to the theme song at the same time: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RkZf-Hfqx_A
   Liza says, 'It was if she was singing about us.' She is being romantic but think about the title of the song. Is this true in a non-romantic way? Explain.
5) Dad is excited after reporting on a MOST meeting. A) Why? B) How will protesters stretch the police? C) Where will protests happen during the two weekly games?
6) Liza compares how Petruchio controls Kate to how white South Africa controls black South Africans? Do you think this is true? Explain.

🔍 Search for The Eagles' 'Hotel California' online to get an idea of their music

Chapter 23, Day of Shame, Gisborne

1) Why would welcoming the Springboks on a marae anger some Māori people?
2) What were some disruptive protest actions in Gisborne?
3) Find the Gisborne scenes in *Patu:* https://www.nzonscreen.com/title/patu-1983
4) Search online to see and hear uillean pipes on a video clip.
5) What does Susan Leighton start an argument about before the English exam?
6) What is Ursula's view of the Springbok Tour? What do you think of her view?
7) What happens to Kalāsia on their way home? How does this affect Kalāsia? Find a quotation to show how she feels.

Chapter 24, Hamilton

1) What was Operation Everest?
2) Look at the Hamilton scenes in *Patu.* https://www.nzonscreen.com/title/patu-1983
3) Which group is the biggest danger to protesters now that the game has stopped?
4) At the end of this chapter, we are told that Prime Minister, Robert Muldoon, left NZ to fly to London for the royal wedding. Explain why this angered some New Zealanders.

Chapter 25, New Plymouth and Molesworth Street

1) Why do Liza and Pete yell at each other?
2) Two violent incidents happen on the evening of the royal wedding. What are they?

🔍Search online for a video clip of Prince Charles and Lady Diana's wedding. Then search on *Patu* for the scenes on Molesworth Street.

Chapter 26, Ciara's Party

1) What has the army done to protect the Palmerston North rugby ground?
2) What does the acronym COST stand for?
3) At the protest, what does Alick Shaw insist on?
4) What does the acronym MAST stand for?
5) Look at the Palmerston North protest scenes in *Patu.*
6) At Ciara's party, Liza wants to have fun with Ursula but says, "…something was blocking me." What was blocking her?
7) On page 207, Harry says that asking Liza not to talk to other guys isn't too much to ask for. Do you agree? Why/Why not?

🔍 Find all of the songs Liza mentions that are played at Ciara's party. Play them aloud as a class. Discuss which genre you think they belong to. Which do you like best and why?

🔍Search online for an image of the HERBS T-shirt Rewi wears to the party.

Lockdown

1) This is the 5th Lockdown chapter. What does Eva show her parents?
2) The racism behaviour of some American police reminds Eva of racist police behaviour towards Kalāsia's sons. What happened to them?
3) Liza says Kalāsia's sons were victims of racial profiling. What is racial profiling?
4) What is the 'Māori Death Chase Policy'?
5) What happens to Adam's friend, Hemi, at school?
6) What does a BLM spokesperson say on the radio about the right to breathe?

Chapter 27, Kalāsia's Father

1) Why is it especially great that Kalāsia has done so well in her English exam?
2) Why was Kalāsia's dad arrested?
3) How did two university students help her dad?

Chapter 28, Whanganui and the Lower South Island

1) The Whanganui protest is peaceful, and Harry too is trying to make peace with Liza. She says, "Maybe Harry really was sorry. Maybe we could put the party behind us, and he'd be different from here on." a) Do you think Harry really is sorry? Explain. b) Do you think he can be different from here on? Explain.
2) On page 225, Rewi realises his front door is unlocked. Why?
3) Disruptions happened in the build-up to the Dunedin game and during the game. What were they?

🔍 Search online for an image of the cover of Herbs 'What's Be Happen?" album? It is a photo of the Bastion Point protest.

Chapter 29, First Test, Christchurch

1) What disruptions happen in the build-up to the Christchurch game?
2) Why do the groups on the bus remind Liza of the social?
3) What happens on the bus?

4) Why does Harry not like to get involved in any trouble?
5) On page 234, why does Liza's mum say she's amazed no-one is dead?

Chapter 30, Nelson and Napier

1) Is Ursula racist? She likes Rewi and Kalāsia but won't commit to saying she is open-minded about all people of other ethnicities. Explain your answer.
2) Why do you think Sister Agnes asks Kalāsia to say the 'Hail Mary' in Tongan and then asks her questions about the meaning of Tongan words in the prayer?
3) What do Kalāsia's parents give Liza's family?
4) Why were some Māori people protesting about the rugby game in Napier?

🔍 Search online for some images of Cook Street Market in Auckland.

Chapter 31, Second Test, Wellington

1) Dressing up in Victorian clothes makes Ursula think of Kate and Petruchio. Which freedoms do they realise they have now that Kate didn't have?
2) What had COST organised to make their protest more effective?
3) Look at the Macalister Park scene in *Patu*.
4) Why does Pete yell at the TV?
5) What happened at Riddiford Street?

🔍 Listen to 'Dreams' by Fleetwood Mac online.

Chapter 32, Three North Island Games

1) What two things happened on Wednesday 2nd September? Which one will Liza and her classmates remember best? Why?
2) On page 252, Liza says the Te Arawa Trust wouldn't allow the Springboks to visit their tourist sites. Why does this make Liza think of Rebecca Evans and Donna Awatere?
3) Why doesn't Liza protest at the Auckland vs Springboks game?
4) Give examples of Harry's dad, Mike's difficult behaviour during the barbecue.
5) MOST separated protesters into three squads. What were these called and which groups tended to be in each squad?
6) What happened between police and Patu Squad?

Chapter 33, Final Test, Auckland

1) What does the acronym AAA stand for and what did the AAA organise the night before the game?
2) Look at the scenes in Fowlds Park of the build-up to the protest on the day of the game in *Patu*.
3) Why is 'Remember Steve Biko' particularly relevant on this day, September 12th?
4) Liza and her family and friends join Tutu Squad. What has Tipene found out about Tutu Squad?
5) Who are the Biko Memorial Group?
6) What is the plane doing over the rugby ground?
7) Why does an elderly man fall over?
8) Sum up the behaviour of the riot squad towards Harry, Liza and Rewi as they try to get the old man away from the chaos.
9) Why does Liza say to Harry, "I don't feel like holding your hand."?
10) Is pinching someone's hand violence?

11) Look at the Marlborough Street scenes and clown/bumblebee scenes in *Patu.*

🔍 Click on this link to listen to the song, 'Biko'
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jWNEr4eHL18

Chapter 34, Afterwards

1) On page 274, Liza's mum says, "Nothing will ever be quite the same again. This is a turning point for New Zealand." a) Do you think race relations have improved? b) Has police behaviour improved?
2) On page 276, Liza is surprised when she sees the Biko Memorial Group on the news. Why?
3) On page 278, a Red Squad officer tells the camera person to stop filming. Why do you think he does this? Look at this scene in *Patu*.
4) Why are protesters smashing up a car?
5) What happens to the two clowns and the bumblebee?
6) Pete decides they all need to sleep in the lounge. Why?
7) What do we find out about Harry's family when he phones Liza?
8) Do you think Liza does need to break up with Harry? Why?
9) Describe how Harry responds to the break-up with Eliza. Why do you think he responds this way?
10) On page 284, Rewi compares Harry to South Africa. How does he think they are similar?
11) On page 284, Mere speaks in the last paragraph. Is what she says true?

Lockdown

1) This is the final Lockdown chapter and last chapter of the novel. What two good things have happened at the start of this chapter?
2) When Eva asks if Liza had ever been more than a friend to Rewi, Liza says, "If we'd gone out together and then broken up, we'd both have lost our best friend." Do you think people can still be friends after breaking up? Discuss.
3) On page 288, Ross says that key protest leaders from 1981 should be given some sort of award. Do you think they are seen as heroes now? Explain.
4) Ross says he thinks race relations in New Zealand have improved. What examples does he give?
5) The Black Lives Matter movement led to the removal of monuments linked to slavery. Search online for the Hamilton statue that was removed around this time in 2020.
6) On page 288, Ross says, "Funny how pro-tour people said politics shouldn't mix with sport in 1981, but it was sportspeople who started taking a knee." Do you think sportspeople are leading in the movement for racial equality now? Find some examples.
7) On page 289, why do you think Liza has tears in her eyes?
8) At the end of the novel, Liza says, "I've told the story, because some stories have to be told." Do you agree that Liza's story had to be told? Why?

THEMES

Power and Control

Family violence:

Harry's father is violent and controlling. Harry also starts to behave in a controlling way with Liza, for example, he warns her: "Don't talk to other guys". Perhaps he has learned this behaviour from his dad.

Group discussion: Do you think violence is natural or learned?

In pairs:

a. Find signs that Harry's jealousy is becoming controlling.

b. Using page 2 of the resource *This isn't love…this is control*, make a list of the signs that a relationship is unhealthy. https://www.familyplanning.org.nz/media/304208/a4-tinl_sept19_folded-to-75x70mm.pdf

c. Using the same resource, now look at the features of a healthy relationship. Which relationships in the novel are healthy? For each relationship, give two examples of dialogue and/or actions that show that the relationship is a healthy one.

d. Where could someone go for help if they were in an unhealthy relationship?

Police violence:

1) Find examples in the novel of ways police use power over people in an inappropriate and unjust way.

2) Were there times in 1981 when you think it was appropriate for police to use violence? Explain.

3) What were the Dawn Raids? Why is the NZ government being asked to apologise for these? (Look at this link: https://www.rnz.co.nz/international/pacific-news/438821/call-for-nz-govt-to-issue-dawn-raid-apology)

4) Some people think that the protest group 'Black Lives Matter' should change their name to 'All Lives Matter'. What do you think? (At the BLM march in the final chapter, some protesters debate this with some bystanders.) What are the different meanings behind the two slogans?

5) When do you think it might be appropriate for police to use violence now? Explain.

Speaking up against injustice/Social activism

Liza gives herself a hard time for not intervening in the fight that brews between Rewi and Ursula's brothers at Ursula's party. But Rewi's parents say she did the right thing by leaving the party and going home with Rewi.

Ideas for 'Think-pair-share':

1) Do you agree with Rewi's parents? Explain your answer.
   What would you have done?

2) Many of the Springbok Tour protesters risked personal injury by taking a stand.
   Would you put your body on the line for something? What?

3) Pete, Liza's brother, doesn't join the family on the anti-tour marches. Why?
   If you'd been there in 1981, which side would you be on?
   What about your family?
   How would your friends have reacted?

4) In Chapter 33, pg 265, Liza feels exhilarated to be part of fighting for a common cause. She says, "We were all part of something special, one large, loud voice, just like at the mobilisations."
   Have you ever been part of a group protest?
   How does collection action achieve change?

5) Do you think a protest movement has to be large to achieve change or can individuals and small groups make change happen? Support your answer with examples.
   Watch this video about the power of activism:
   https://www.facebook.com/thespinofftv/videos/453555215875874/ (Mike Smith, chopping down the pine on One Tree Hill / Maungakiekie)

6) What is non-violent direct action (NVDA) and how does it achieve change?
   List all the different tactics that the Springbok tour protesters used.
   Which do you think were most effective? Were they always non-violent? If not, was their violence justified in a situation like this? Explain.
   Create a continuum from least violent to most violent.

7) Think about contemporary social movements like Black Lives Matter and School Strikes for Climate. What actions do they use that are similar to HART's? What is different now?

8) Think about impact of protest actions in New Zealand on apartheid in South Africa:

   In Chapter 19, pg 132, Liza is dancing to Herbs at the July mobilisation. She says, "A school child in Soweto might have heard Herbs faintly in the wind."
   How does this link to the quotations about and from Nelson Mandela below?

   When Nelson Mandela came to New Zealand, after becoming President of South Africa, he met John Minto in Auckland and told him that "… when he was in prison in 1981 and they heard that the [Springbok tour] game [against Waikato]

had been stopped by protest, all the prisoners rattled their doors throughout the jail and he said it was like the sun came out."
https://www.stuff.co.nz/world/africa/9485493/Nelson-Mandelas-New-Zealand-legacy

Here's something else Nelson Mandela said, "The people of New Zealand played a crucial role in the international campaign against apartheid. I wish to express our gratitude for that generous support". (Hager, M. (2019). *Hindsight – Pivotal Moments in New Zealand's History.* One Tree House Ltd.)

Racism:

Racism definitions:
In pairs, find definitions for the following terms: **racial profiling, casual racism, unconscious bias and institutional racism.**
Thinking about each of the following events in the novel, decide which of the terms best fits and why:

- The police's behaviour towards the Māori and Pacific young people at the Social
- Ursula's brothers' behaviour at the party
- The boys on the bus
- The police monitoring Rewi and his family
- Kalāsia's dad being arrested for "stealing" bread
- The way Kalāsia is singled out in class
- Hemi's topknot

Class discussion: Liza finds some graffiti written on the side of a desk at school, saying *Keep NZ White*. Would you find this sort of graffiti now? Where do you see it? Has racism got better or worse since the 80s? How would you find this out? (If you were a social scientist, what could you measure?)

What does it mean to be anti-racist?
In pairs, look at this link: www.hrc.co.nz/resources/responding-racism/
Write down the four tips for being anti-racist.
Now, watch the video on this page. Think about a racist incident in the novel. Using the information below the video, create a short roleplay to show how you would respond if this happened now. Show the class.

What's changed?
Do Māori experience more equality now compared to the 1980s?
In the last chapter, Liza's husband, Ross, lists the changes that point to more equality. He says that statues of racists have been removed from town centres, there is more te reo spoken in the media, Pākehā are making more effort to correctly pronounce Māori words. Is this enough? Brainstorm what else needs to change.

Gender expectations:

The novel deals with expectations about how girls and women should behave in the class discussions about *The Taming of the Shrew* and the wedding of Prince Charles and Diana.

What was different for women in the 1980s compared to today?
In pairs, open this document showing a timeline of the history of women in Aotearoa NZ:

file:///C:/Users/anne_/Downloads/A+timeline+of+the+history+of+women+in+NZ%20(2).pdf

Scroll down to 1981 and record four events from then until 2005 that you think are the most important for equality for women.
Share and compare your list with another pair. In this larger group, discuss the following questions:

1) How are conditions for women better now?
2) Do you think it's the same for all women?
3) Which particular groups have experienced the most change?
4) In which area/s is change still most needed?
5) What measures would a social scientist use to show that life is better now for women in Aotearoa NZ?

Whole class discussion questions:

1. How are women tamed today?
2. Is it still true that the perfect woman is demure (modest and shy)?
3. In what ways does Liza resist the expectations of her as a young woman?

CHARACTER

1. Which character do you relate to most closely and why? Explain what qualities they have that are similar to your own. Think of a key scene they were in. Would you have behaved similarly or differently?

2. Describe a main character in the novel. Discuss how s/he is or is not a good role model for young people.

3. Describe two contrasting relationships in the novel. What does the novel teach us about human relationships?

4. Describe a conflict in the text. Explain how the conflict helped you to understand human nature.

5. The left-hand side of the table below has some quotations that show Eliza's development as a character. They show her internal conflict about speaking up for herself and others. ('Internal conflict' means the battle she has inside herself). At the beginning, Liza is a reasonably happy young woman, but is unsure of how to speak up for her own rights and the rights of others. When she is treated in ways that are upsetting by Harry, she begins to lose her relaxed, happy feelings about herself. Over time, however, she learns to use her voice to save herself from this unhealthy relationship, as well as to challenge the injustices she sees around her.

    a) Answer the questions on the right-hand side of the table below.
    b) When you finish answering the questions, see if you can use some of the quotations and examples to write a few paragraphs on the topic: 'How does Liza change throughout the novel?'

Quotations that show Liza's growth in confidence about speaking out against injustice	
Earlier in the novel	**Answer/Explain**
In Chapter 18, pg 117, Liza's mum asks what's wrong and Liza tells her about the racist abuse Rewi experienced at the party but doesn't tell her it was Ursula's brothers who hurled abuse at Rewi. She says, '**It was like a dirty secret. I wasn't sure if I was trying to protect Ursula, or whether I just didn't want to deal with who she might be.'**	Do secrets cause internal conflict? If Liza was open about this with her mum and with Ursula, do you think she would feel better? What are the risks if she is open about it?
In Chapter 18, pg 121, Harry says he thinks it's strange that Rewi and Liza are friends. Liza explains that she is holding the phone so tightly, her knuckles are white. '**He's my friend**,' she says. When the phone call ends, she explains, '**Harry was like a warm flame sometimes, but he could also burn so fiercely that I wanted to step away from the heat.'**	Do you think if Liza was older, more confident and this wasn't her first relationship, that she would 'step away from the heat'? What might she say to Harry to show she isn't willing to put up with this jealousy?
In Chapter 21, pg 156, Liza doesn't want to say to Ursula that her brothers are racist. She doesn't want Ursula to **'feel attacked'**.	What does Liza's decision not to use the word 'racist' tell us about Liza? Do you think a friendship can handle honesty? Do you think it works to 'call people out' on racism or does it make them feel attacked?
In Chapter 22, pg 163, Liza tells us, '**I almost said I was sorry, but I hadn't done anything wrong, so I just said bye and he put down the phone.'**	Why doesn't Liza say sorry? Explain.
In Chapter 22, pg 168, Liza says, **'There was another reason I didn't go to the airport with Rewi though: I didn't want to make Harry jealous.'**	Do you think people should change their behaviour like this to keep their partner happy?
In Chapter 22, pg 170, Liza says Kate has **'sold out'** in *The Taming of the Shrew* and that Kate has lost her **'free spirit'** because of Petruchio.	Can you see a parallel with Liza and Harry? Explain.
In Chapter 26, pg 201, Liza explains that she wishes she could walk to Ciara's party with Harry and Rewi, **"…but the thought of them walking together made me anxious."**	How has Liza changed from the Liza we meet at the beginning of the novel, the one who yells at her brother Pete that at least he can be a priest?

In Chapter 26, pg 207, Liza explains that Harry told her, **"…he just couldn't handle seeing me chatting with guys…"**	How does Liza respond to what Harry says? What does this show us about how she has changed?
In Chapter 29, pg 232, Liza says, **"We have to get involved sometimes to stop crappy things happening to people."**	This quotation shows that Eliza is now speaking out against injustice. On the bus she speaks up for the Pasifika boys who are being racially abused. Why do you think she's becoming more determined to speak out?
In Chapter 34, pg 281, when Harry begs Liza not to break up with him, Liza says, **"I have to, cos I worry too much about you getting angry. I feel panicky when you get annoyed with me. I don't want to feel like this anymore."**	How has Liza changed here? What is more important to her now? Do you think she has made the right decision? Why? How has she changed her pathway from that of Kate in *The Taming of the Shrew*?

STYLE

- *In Our Own Back Yard* is written from Eliza's point of view, using the first-person narrative technique, (I, me, we). Rewrite a short scene from the novel in the third- person narrative (he, she, they). What difference does it make? Which narrative style do you prefer and why?

- The novel alternates between 1981 and 2020. Does it make the novel more interesting? Explain why.

WRITING

Creative writing ideas:

What happens to Harry between 1981 and 2020? Write a timeline of the significant events in Harry's life.

Choosing one of the main characters (Liza, Rewi, Kalāsia or Harry), write a diary entry for the evening of an important moment in the story. For example, a march, a party, a racist incident, the final game in Auckland, the day of the Black Lives Matter march.

Choose a significant event in the novel and describe it from Rewi's point of view.

Write a script where Liza and Harry meet again as adults and discuss their teenage relationship.

Write a dramatic monologue from a character's point of view - eg Liza, Harry, Rewi or Kalasia

Write a poem about the final test match from the point of view of either Harry, Liza or Rewi.

Formal writing:

Write a news report on a Black Lives Matter protest in New Zealand.

Write a brief biography of Nelson Mandela, Desmond Tutu, Steve Biko or John Minto.

Expository essay:

Humans are naturally violent. Discuss with reference to the novel.

"The arc of the moral universe is long, but it bends toward justice." (Martin Luther King). Discuss this quotation, showing what it means and whether or not you agree with it. Use examples from *In Our Own Backyard* to support your ideas.

Is violence ever justified to achieve change? Discuss with reference to recent protests either here or around the world.

"The whole world's watching" – This was one of the anti-tour protest chants. Nowadays, this is even more true with social media. Discuss how the media and social media can both support and discourage social change.

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"Some stories have to be told" – Liza says this at the very end of the novel. Do some stories have to be told? Explain and give examples.

RESEARCH

Research these examples of when sports and politics are connected:

2) Taking the knee - US sports people protesting about police brutality against African Americans
3) The Black Power salute at the 1968 Olympics
4) The controversy the first time the national anthem was sung in Te Reo Māori at an All Blacks game
5) 1972 Summer Olympics in Munich
6) 1976 Montreal Olympics - 25 African countries boycotted in protest at apartheid in South Africa, and over 300 competitors withdrew from the games
7) The debate over the use of the Haka by the All Blacks and other NZ sports teams

Research other protest movements in the world today. Give some examples of things New Zealanders are protesting about now.

Research the laws around public protest

- Is it legal to march on the road and stop traffic?
- Can you get arrested for marching?
- What information do you have to give if stopped by police?
- What are your rights if you get arrested?

VISUAL LITERACY

Search '1981 anti-tour posters', then search 'Black Lives Matter' posters.

1) Are there any similarities?
2) Choose one or two posters from each search that you think are especially effective. Why do you think these work so well? Think of colour, size of lettering, font, choice of words, choice of image, composition.
3) Design your own poster for either the 1981 anti-tour movement or the BLM movement. Explain your choice of colours, lettering size, font, words, images and composition.

CONNECTIONS

Here are a few suggestions:

Amanda Gorman's poem at Biden's inauguration: The Hill We Climb
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LZ055iIliN4

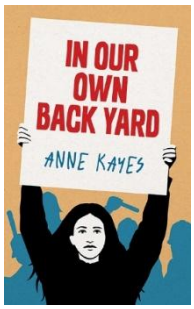
The Hate You Give (book + movie)

Blinded by the Light (movie)

The Taming of the Shrew (play)

Roar (NZ movie)

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NOTE FOR SCHOOLS: Please contact Unity Books at kids@unitybooksauckland.co.nz for extra discount on school sets (10+ copies)

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